

FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

Providing you with the knowledge and resources to take your project management capability to the next level.



In This Issue

Article - Advanced Techniques in Project Management Overview

Blog - Integrating Agile and Waterfall

Community Engagement

Social Media Spotlight

Project Management Fun Corner

Featured Product - Essential Gear for Project Managers

Featured Training - Tips and Tricks for Improving Stakeholder Engagement

Project Management Quote

"Remember: it's not the documentation that needs to be in sync, but the people."
- George Dinwiddie

CEO Message

In this issue we bring you two useful topics related to project management. The first topic is in this month's featured article, giving you an overview of advanced techniques in project management, focusing on key hard and soft skills that every project manager needs to have. These are the skills that will make any project manager stand out.



NK Shrivastava, CEO

The second topic is in this month's featured blog post. Lately there has been a great momentum to move from waterfall to agile methodologies, particularly in IT/Software areas. But, it may not be realistically possible to use agile for 100% of projects, particularly for large organizations and large teams. This month's blog provides ideas about integrating agile and waterfall methodologies for a large team to work seamlessly on a single product. It also describes briefly a model to integrate waterfall and agile teams.

Take a look at our [training calendar](#) for the leadership courses offered in Springfield, Kansas City and St. Louis. This may be a good time to start planning for your and your team's training/skill development in this year.

Enjoy reading all the other sections in this issue, and don't forget to join our next [FREE webinar](#) on "Advanced Techniques in Project Management - An Overview" on March 2, at 12:00pm CT.

Overview

Experienced project managers, especially those who have earned the Project Management Professional (PMP)[®], may be wondering about the next steps in their project management journey. Project managers need to dedicate themselves to constant learning. In this article, we introduce a series of techniques that project managers can apply to take their skills to the next level. Technical skills such as stakeholder management, scope and change management, Earned Value Management (EVM) and advanced risk management are discussed in this article. In addition, we touch on key leadership skills, including effective communication and conflict resolution, and managing stress on your projects. Mastering these skills will help project managers take the next step in their careers. | [Read More](#)



Integrating Agile and Waterfall

Many organizations start implementing agile on a small scale, with one team or department, and expand from there. When organizations starting agile have traditionally used traditional or waterfall approaches before, they face the challenge of integrating agile and waterfall and determining what projects work best for each approach. In this post, we will talk about the challenges of integrating agile and waterfall and explain a model for how the two can integrate, even on large and complex projects. | [Read More](#)



Community Engagement

RefineM's CEO, NK Shrivastava gave a "refill" presentation at [1 Million Cups \(1MC\) Springfield](#) on Wednesday February 3, 2016. Shrivastava gave an update on the company's growth since 2014 as well as project management's relatability to every industry, especially for [new businesses / start-up companies](#). He stated that revenue has grown almost four times and the team has grown two and half times since RefineM's first 1MC presentation. RefineM has certainly grown over the short years since its' inception.



Social Media Spotlight

We loved seeing all the shout-outs from our fellow Springfieldians at 1 Million Cups Springfield on February 3, 2016! Here are a few of our favorites:



The image shows a screenshot of three tweets from a social media event. The first tweet is from ORIGINATE (@originalcscgf) on Feb 3, praising a presentation from @RefineM and @justrightpm at #1MCSGF, mentioning @The_eFactory and NK Shrivastava, PMP. The second tweet is from 1 Million Cups SGF (@1MillionCupsSGF) on Feb 3, praising @RefineM for making project management stress-free, with 5 retweets and 8 likes. The third tweet is from Eric Olson (@EricOlsonSBJ) on Feb 3, asking for a startup template with the question "What are you going to do next month, next week, tomorrow?" and tagging @RefineM, #1MCSGF, and #agileworking.

ORIGINATE @originalcscgf · Feb 3
Great presentation from @RefineM @justrightpm at #1MCSGF @The_eFactory
NK Shrivastava, PMP

1 Million Cups SGF @1MillionCupsSGF · Feb 3
Taking Project Management from stressful to stress free, that's what @RefineM does! #1MC #1MCSGF

Eric Olson @EricOlsonSBJ · Feb 3
Startup template? "What are you going to do next month, next week, tomorrow?" @RefineM #1MCSGF #agileworking

Project Management Fun Corner

Advanced Techniques in Project Management

C B B V J S J C E B P F L N M J H O M R M R P R L K J A X F
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A A O E M M W L R O V F V W Q V E S Y R M J L A D Q I O A O
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J B X T K E N N K K H R S O S E H S X U C R C E C K Z S G U
I I X U Z P F M G H F S A T S W T A R X H X U L C I J O R A

Coaching

Communication

EarnedValueManagement

EmotionalIntelligence

Influencing

Leadership

Negotiation

NetPromoterScore

Relationships

RiskContingencyReserve

StressManagement

VarianceAnalysis

Created by [Puzzlemaker](#) at [DiscoveryEducation.com](#)

Featured Product - Essential Gear for Project Managers



[Essential Gear for Project Managers Level 1](#) is a toolkit for Project Managers and start-up PMOs. It includes only the eight indispensable PM processes needed to successfully execute your project. The kit includes intuitive templates stripped down to the bare essentials as well as a handbook that describes best practices and pitfalls.

more info

Tips and Tricks for Improving Stakeholder Engagement

Are you looking for ways to improve your stakeholder engagement to build positive relationships and get more out of your projects? RefineM's half-day course is designed to help you improve stakeholder engagement through a series of time-tested tips and tricks. Attendees will leave this course with the knowledge and skills they need to enhance their stakeholder management.

When: March 14, 9:00am-1:00pm CT

Where: Online

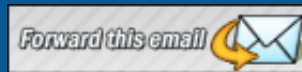
Earn: 4 PDUs/Contact Hours

Cost: \$350 (Earlybird: \$295, ends 3 weeks before course start)

[more info](#)

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RefineM, helping organizations turn their project management capability into a competitive advantage.



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