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RefineM Newsletter - June 2014

RefineM PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTING   **PMI** Project Management Institute *R.E.P.*

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Dear RefineM,

In this issue we bring to you an article on a very important and current but challenging topic - Agile Contracts. Most of the project teams/organization that have adopted agile still struggle to write contracts that are more suited for agile projects. Our first article provides key differentiators between the two types of contract and also suggests ideas on how to write a contract that is well suited for agile projects. I hope it provides tips to write an agile contract for your projects.

The second article is part of a series - project schedule management, which is the fifth out of eight processes that every project manger should implement in his/her project. These eight processes are the part of our first toolkit for project managers, *Essential Gear for Project Managers*. In addition, enjoy reading all the other sections in this issue, and don't forget to join our next *FREE webinar on July 8*, which is about Agile contracts.

Agile Contracts

There are numerous benefits of Agile methodology to both developers and customers. By using Agile, customers get constant, immediate value in the form of usable software delivered and improved through sprints. Developers, through using Agile, form self-motivating teams that deliver constant value and embrace change by adopting the fixed-time, fixed-cost, flexible-scope approach. To get the most out of these benefits, though, the contract for the Agile project needs to be structured in a way that allows for maximum benefit and does not needlessly restrict the Agile process. This type of contract should also have the added benefit of fostering an environment of trust and positive relationship-building. In this article, we will examine the key features of Agile contracts and look at some examples.
Read on.

8 Most Powerful Project Management Processes: Part 5-Project Schedule

The project schedule aligns project milestones, activities, and deliverables with planned start and end dates, and the process to create it links these items by dependencies and scheduled events. It is arguably the most commonly-used project management process. In our recent survey, over 97 percent of

Our Next Free Webinar

Agile Contracts
Virtual Lunch and Learn
07/08/2014
12:00-1:00 PM CST

Our Upcoming Trainings

PMP Exam Prep Class
07/15-07/25, 2014
9:00 AM-1:00 PM CST
Eight 4-hour sessions
Instructor-led Virtual

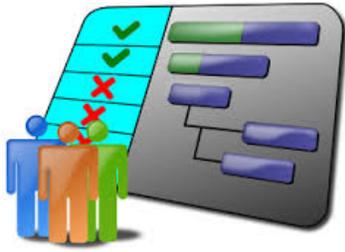*A Project Manager's Toolkit*
07/30-07/31, 2014
9:00 AM-1:00 PM CST
Two 4-hour sessions
Instructor-led Virtual

PMI-ACP Exam Prep Class
08/28-08/29, 2014
8:30 AM-4:30 PM CST
eFactory, Springfield, MO
In-person class

Early Registration is open for all trainings.

respondents reported using a project schedule on the majority of their projects. It is easy to see why so many project managers use a schedule. The schedule allows a project manager to align the team around the delivery of key milestones. It is a key part of managing stakeholder expectations, since most stakeholders will expect a schedule.
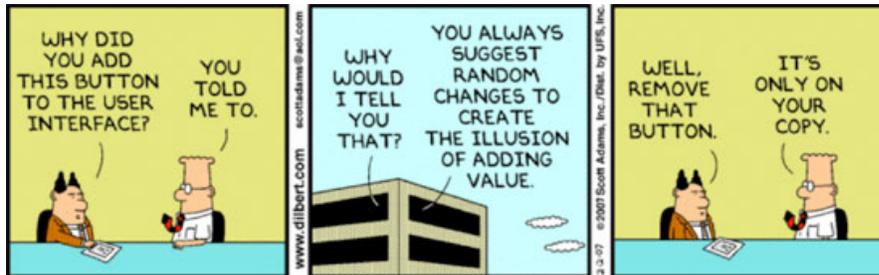
Read on.

Community Engagement

On April 23rd, 2014 the team at RefineM held a launch event for our first product, **Essential Gear for Project Managers**, a complete package of project management processes delivered via intuitive templates and a handbook that describes how to execute best practices and avoid pitfalls.

Fun Corner

Introducing
Essential Gear for Project Managers
Level 1

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.

Our Free Knowledge Base

Project Management Templates
Here you'll find several useful templates to carry out project management activities in an effective and efficient manner.

White Papers & Articles
These are related to critical topics in project management.

Presentations & Slides
These slides can be used to make a presentation on a particular project management topic.

Other Useful Knowledge Centers
This is your entry into the huge body of project management knowledge.

Upcoming Project Management Events

Agile 2014
July 28-Aug 01, 2014
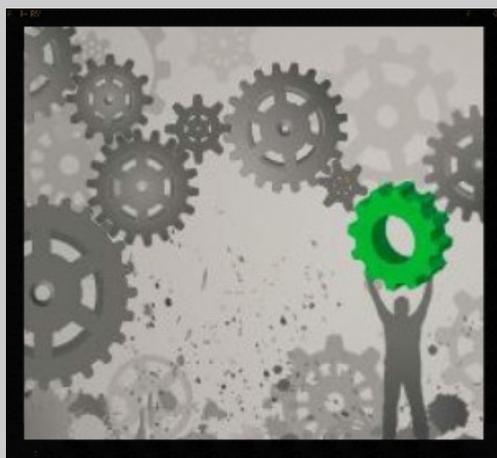Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center
Orlando, FL, USA

PMI® Global Congress 2014-North America
October 26-28, 2014
Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, AZ, USA

PMO Symposium
November 16-19, 2014
Fontainebleau
Miami Beach, FL, USA

PM Quote

"We will either find a
way, or make one."
- Hannibal

Newsletter Archives

May 2014

April 2014

More

Our Blogs

**Eight Powerful Project
Management Processes
Part 4: Resource
Allocation**

**Eight Powerful Project
Management Processes
Part 3: Work Breakdown
Structure**

**Eight Powerful Project
Management Processes
Part 2: Stakeholder
Analysis**

More

Expand your Project Management and Agile Knowledge with us in 2014!

Thanks for Subscribing!

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