

SEPTEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

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



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PM Quote

"Danger should be feared when distant, and braved when present."

- Indian proverb

CEO Message

Estimating a project is not a trivial task. Several teams and companies struggle to estimate how much time and cost it would take to finish a project. The good news is that there are several techniques that can provide very close estimates. Our article featured in this newsletter discusses the challenges of estimation, as well as the techniques to create reasonably good estimates.



NK Shrivastava, CEO

The blog post featured in this newsletter provide tips to pass the CAPM® exam. This certification may be useful to you or your company if you or your team members are planning to take the CAPM exam soon. Use these tips to help you pass the CAPM exam on your first attempt.

Enjoy reading all the other sections in this issue, and don't forget to visit our [training page](#) to learn about our upcoming PMP® exam prep, Agile, and other courses offered in Atlanta, Kansas City, Springfield, and also over the web. Join our next FREE [webinar](#) on "Early Warning Signs of IT Project Derailment" on October 7 at 12:00pm CT.

How to Estimate Projects

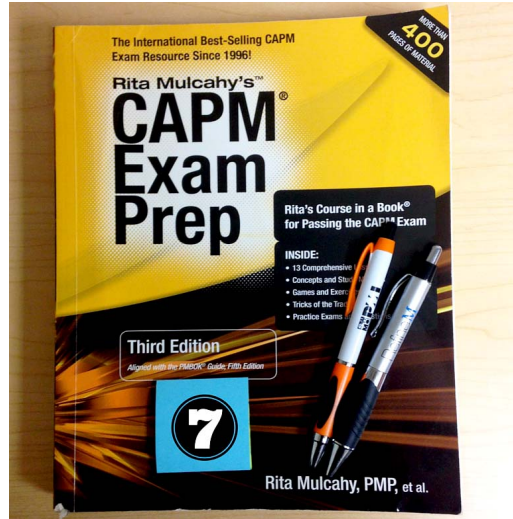
Providing accurate and effective estimates on software projects is a unique challenge due to the fluid nature of these projects. Hardware issues, cybersecurity threats, and many other unknown factors can make planning difficult, and software projects are often under pressure to deliver to market as quickly as possible. In this article, we present ideas on how to overcome difficulties in estimating software projects to help project managers and their teams achieve greater success with these projects. Software projects present many unique challenges for project managers because they are intangible and often need to incorporate new technology that is difficult to keep up with. | [Read More](#)



Seven Tips for Passing the Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)[®] Exam

The Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)[®] certification is for project managers who want to show their credibility or start taking on more project management roles. Anyone who has a secondary degree and at least 1,500 hours of project team experience, or at least 23 hours of project management education, is eligible...While the CAPM exam is not as involved as the PMP[®] exam, it is not an easy exam. Candidates need to develop a strong study plan and study routine. In addition, they need to develop strategies to manage their confidence on the day of their exam. In our experience, candidates who cannot devote regular time to study or manage their time and confidence during the exam are more likely to fail.

These tips help you prepare for and take the exam with confidence. | [Read More](#)



Recent News

RefineM is looking forward to exhibiting at two innovative events in Springfield, Missouri, this September. The Missouri Manufacturing Summit and tech IT out 2015 both bring together experts in their fields to exchange knowledge and ideas. As an exhibitor, RefineM will be sharing the value of project management in enhancing the value and quality of companies within these industries. RefineM is excited to participate in advancing the knowledge, connections, and innovation of these industries within Missouri. | [Read More](#)

Social Media Spotlight

Every month, we highlight one of our social media networks. We do this to provide you with more opportunities to connect with us and with other project management professionals.

For our September Social Media Spotlight, we're giving away a \$10 Amazon gift card! Follow us on Twitter and retweet our graphic with #SimplifyPM through September 28, and you will be entered in our prize drawing for a \$10 Amazon gift card.



BE ENTERED TO
WIN A \$10 AMAZON
GIFT CARD FROM

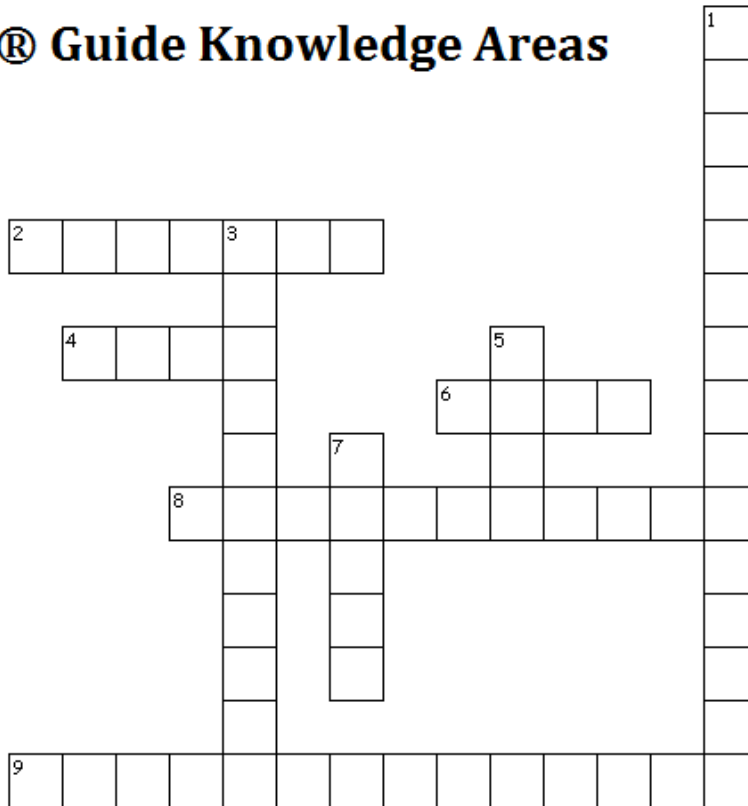
RefineM
PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

RETWEET #SimplifyPM until September 28!

Follow us on [twitter](#)

Project Management Fun Corner

PMBOK® Guide Knowledge Areas



Across

2. Helps satisfy the needs for which the project is undertaken.
4. Involves estimating, budgeting, and controlling.
6. One objective is to decrease the probability and impact of negative events.
8. Needed to purchase or acquire products, services, or results from outside sources.
9. Includes processes that organize, manage, and lead the project team.

Down

1. Where project managers spend the majority of their time.
3. The processes and activities needed to identify, define, combine, unify, and coordinate activities.
5. Helps set goals for completion of project from beginning to end.
7. All and only the work required to complete the project successfully.

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.

BUY NOW

Featured Training - Leading SAFe: SAFe Agilist (SA) Certification Training

This course teaches the Lean-Agile principles and practices of the Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe), a framework for scaling agile across the enterprise. You will learn how to execute SAFe and increase the value that agile brings to the customer through individual projects across the whole enterprise. Other topics will include agile release trains, building the agile portfolio, and leading SAFe across the enterprise. You will leave with the knowledge and skills needed to schedule your SAFe Agilist (SA) certification, obtain the certification, and lead a SAFe transition in your company. | [More Information](#)

When & Where: November 18-19, 8:30am-4:30pm in Springfield, MO

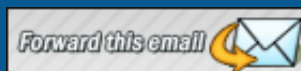
Earn: 14 PDUs/Contact Hours

Cost: \$895 until October 22, \$1,150 afterwards

Sign Up ▶

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



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