

DECEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

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



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Project Management Quote

"When we go into that new project, we believe in it all the way. We have confidence in our ability to do it right."

- Walt Disney

CEO Message

As 2015 comes to an end, we reflect back to learn lessons from failures and successes of the past. Our featured article goes deeper into this topic with examples of influential projects that struggled or succeeded in 2015. This article provides valuable learning that you can use to improve your project delivery capability in 2016.



NK Shrivastava, CEO

Our featured blog post provides 8 tips for tightly managing the project schedule. Project scheduling is critical to plan and track project progress, which is why more than 90% of project managers use a project schedule to manage their projects. Project milestones and the entire project may slip if the schedule is not managed tightly.

We are finalizing our training calendar for 2016, introducing many new training courses in various cities. Stay tuned. Enjoy reading all the other sections in this issue, and don't forget to join our next [FREE webinar](#) on "Project management trends for 2016" on January 6 at 12:00pm CT.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Project Challenges and Successes of 2015

2015 was a year of exciting change, with many successful projects. Along with these, there were some struggling projects. No matter the size or complexity of the project, there are common threads in the successes and struggles of these projects. Two examples of struggling projects and two examples of successful projects are examined. Common themes of the struggles and successes are described, and links to basic processes are drawn to illustrate how successes can be enhanced and struggles can be avoided with solid execution of basic

processes. | [Read More](#)



8 Tips for Tighter Project Schedule Management

Managing the schedule is a critical function of project managers. Most stakeholders want to know when they can expect value to be delivered from a project. If project managers do not have tight control of the schedule management process, they cannot relay this valuable information and are at greater risk of schedule slippage, delays, and project failure. | [Read More](#)



Community Engagement

RefineM showed its support as a sponsor of the [PMI Southwest Missouri Chapter](#) at their dinner meeting on the evening of November 19th. It was a wonderful event with good food and great conversation. We're glad to be a sponsor of our local PMI chapter, and look forward to future events.

Social Media Spotlight

For our December Social Media Spotlight, check out our [YouTube channel](#). We have short clips on basic project management and agile principles, as well as full-length recorded webinars worth 1 PDU! By subscribing to our YouTube channel, you'll be the first to know about these newly added videos. We look forward to seeing you soon on YouTube!



Project Management Fun Corner

Project Management Jumble: Schedule Management

Instructions: Unscramble the words on the left into the boxes on the right. The highlighted letters are clue letters to solving the puzzle below.

A	L	K	C	S
H	C	S	R	A
L	T	A	O	F
S	S	A	T	K

○	○	○	●	●
○	●	●	○	○
●	○	○	○	●
●	●	○	○	●



Race car drivers commonly do this with their project schedules (two words):

(Please email marketing@refinem.com for the answer to this jumble.)

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



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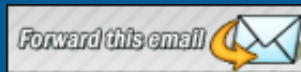
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