

PSA PROJECT DIRECTOR'S

WELCOME

Welcome to our Spring 2014 edition of PSA Way and my first as Director.



With the change in seasons we once again look forward to warmer weather, AFL finals, Spring Racing Carnival, gardening, sunshine and beaches...

Over the past few months, I have been reflecting on the critical nature of project communications and their role in achieving successful outcomes for our projects. We at PSA continually strive to make complex project issues more easily understood and then addressed by all range of those involved, from Foreman to Project Manager to Program Director to Client.

Communication (or lack of it) can make or break a project. Good communications will ensure cohesion between all involved on a project, and thereby lead to better overall performance. Bad communication will give rise to frustration, stress, conflict and in general can be very "de-motivating" for team members while at the same time affecting project outcomes. In many ways a former colleague of ours was right when he observed that "communication is the toughest part of the business!"

In this edition we look at how PSA's methodologies and practices have supported our recent project successes, particularly the development of a methodology that simplifies the essentials of project management, to enable community groups to assess, plan and deliver best value for their projects. The methodology was acknowledged recently when PSA received an award at the AIPM awards night for its contribution to internationally funded humanitarian aid projects. The same methodology forms the basis of our Community and Post Disaster Programme

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Management (CPDPM) Cert IV course and also provided the background for a two-day post disaster project management workshop held recently in Manila, at the invitation of the Philippines chapter of PMI.

On a personal note we introduce our two international project staff members, Celia Boyd and Lorenza Lazzati, and find out a little more about their background and experience in project management. In addition we discuss the issues of sharing data between scheduling tools and, in particular, PSA's success in being able to convert files from Primavera format to MS Project and finally, speaking of success, we take a look at the unique and recently completed project at 82 Flinders Street.

Garry Smart

2014 AIPM AWARD SUCCESS!

PSA Project have recently received the accolade of being announced the Victorian winner of the 2014 Australian Institute of Project Management (AIPM) Humanitarian Community Project Management award for outstanding project success in an Internationally Funded Humanitarian Aid Project.

The purpose of the successful project was to address the evident weakness in humanitarian, and post-disaster project management, to arrive at project management practice for aid and development projects that can be effectively applied and transitioned to community.



The project addressed 40 years of Project Management practice and PhD research of project management by working in disaster response areas and situations to address the divergent paths of project management methodology in the traditional and humanitarian contexts i.e. PMBOK and Logframe.

The outcome was a methodology that simplifies the essentials of project management by enabling community groups to assess, plan and deliver best value outcomes for their projects.



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As 2014 Victorian winners, PSA Project have now been put forward for the National Awards which will be held in Brisbane in October.



PHILIPPINES PMI POST-DISASTER MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP



In August 2014, PSA Project's Dr Paul Steinfort and Celia Boyd and associate Megan Genat presented a two-day post-disaster management workshop in Manila, Philippines. PSA were invited by the Philippines chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMI) to deliver the two-day course to over 40 attendees.

Given the recent tragic events in the Philippines, there was strong interest in how the country and its people can be better prepared to effectively deliver the required aid-relief and rebuilding projects in post-disaster situations. The

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course, which was very well received, covered all of the essential elements of post-disaster project management: from rapid assessment and effective stakeholder engagement to project planning and preparing for effective project transition.



MASTERS IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT - APIC

Dr Paul Steinfort has recently been invited to be guest lecturer for second semester 2014 at the Asia Pacific International College (APIC) Melbourne campus in their Masters in Project Management course. The focus of the course is on the core principles of project management.

With his vast knowledge and experience in the project management field Paul is very well suited to presenting a series of lectures teaching students how programmes and projects should be set up, implemented, monitored and, finally, evaluated to ensure not only project success, but project management success.

PSA INTERNATIONAL PROJECT STAFF



PSA Project would like to introduce our two international project staff members, Celia Boyd and Lorenza Lazzati.

Celia has a Masters of Community and International Development and has managed projects in Australia, Papua New Guinea and Kenya. She has previously worked with PSA on bushfire reconstruction projects in Marysville and Kinglake, and has assisted PSA on several post disaster and community project management training workshops for communities and professionals in Australia and the Philippines.

In 2012 - 2013, PSA sponsored Celia on a six month placement in Kenya as a Project Management Support Officer, working with a local team in a rural community to conduct community engagement and project planning for the Odede Community Health Centre, a project funded by World Youth International (WYI).

Celia continues to work part-time managing this project for WYI from Australia, whilst also working on her own projects and now joining PSA's team part-time.



Lorenza, who has a BArch, Dip.QA, has worked in the construction sector for 15 years. She started working as a Quantity Surveyor in Italy on small commercial projects and during the final years of her undergraduate degree she moved to Ireland where she developed most of her professional experience as an architect.

Over the years Lorenza has been involved on various projects including hospitality, healthcare and commercial projects.

Lorenza is currently in the final semester of her Master in International Urban and Environmental Management at RMIT. She joined PSA as an Intern after taking the Post-disaster Project Management elective taught by Paul Steinfort.

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PRIMAVERA TO MICROSOFT PROJECT CONVERSION

A common problem organisations often have is being able to convert project schedules provided by suppliers or consultants, from the scheduling tool they use to the tool your organisation is using.

A client of PSA Project recently had the need for the information and logic of a Primavera Project file to be converted into a Microsoft project file so that ongoing Project monitoring and assessment of extension of time claims could be effectively carried out. PSA Project were able to successfully carry out the complex conversion process and smoothly replicate the Primavera programme in Microsoft Project with all calendars and logic used established.

If your organisation has a need to convert Primavera files to Microsoft Project, contact us on (03) 9529 7500 to find out how we can help.

PROJECT SUCCESS

MAKING PROJECT
MANAGEMENT WORK FOR YOU

PROJECT SUCCESS: EQUISSET CONSTRUCTION 'PHOENIX APARTMENTS' 82 FLINDERS ST, MELBOURNE

PSA is showing the way with their continued successful Programme Management methods and techniques with the completion of this unique building in Flinders Street, Melbourne. The 29 storey development, Phoenix Apartments, is the first high rise of its kind in Melbourne measuring 24.3m x 6.7m wide, making it one of the skinniest buildings on Melbourne's skyline. It contains single-floor apartments and penthouses with spectacular views



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and contains the tallest car-stacker in Australia, where cars are hoisted up and slotted one on top of each other over 9 storeys.

PSA's Programme Manager Garry Smart worked closely with the Equiset team to prove up the feasibility and proposed construction methods during the planning phase through master planning and risk analysis so that clear, informed decision making could be undertaken. During construction Garry worked closely with Equiset Project

Manager Mark Rogers bringing his experience on multi-storey buildings to provide pragmatic and practical detailed design and construction planning and advice.

PSA's proven methodology of regular monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the construction progress identifying critical areas for action along with a solid working relationship and communication with Mark enabled focused effort from the site team in co-ordinating the various sub-contractors onsite and off-site to achieve and successfully deliver the project objectives.

