

June 2012

welcome



“The opening of the Glenburn Hall last month was attended by local community members and dignitaries. PSA, on behalf of Murrindindi Shire Council, managed this project as well as many other bushfire reconstruction projects in rural Victoria.”

Since our last newsletter we have seen two bushfire rebuilding projects, the Kinglake Memorial Reserve and Glenburn Hall successfully completed, which have been significant achievements for us at PSA.

We have also been proud to have provided mentoring and training for local non-government organisations in Melbourne. RMIT's first Post Disaster Project Management elective subject, recently completed its 12 week course with students handing in their final assignments. Paul Steinfort has had a great time lecturing for this course.

Thank you for your continued support of PSA and we hope you enjoy this edition of PSA Way

latest



Find out the latest developments at PSA.

The Post disaster Project Management postgraduate course was held one night a week over 12 weeks, with students learning from Dr. Paul Steinfort and a range of other post-disaster professionals.

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PSA'S NEW SOFTWARE - P2M2: DISCOVER HOW TO TURN YOUR IDEAS INTO PRACTICAL PROJECT PLANS AND ACTIONS

P2M2



Every project starts with an idea. Regardless of whether you work for a major construction company, a government department, an international NGO or a small community group, your project will always start from the same place. But how many times have you had a great idea, and realised months later that it never came to fruition? The challenge for many of us is are moving forward from that idea – to work together within our team and with key stakeholders to identify and agree on a goal, a set of out outcomes, and a plan of action. This can take months of hard work, scarce resource and even then may not get off the ground.

The P2M2, or Program to Project Management Methodology, provides a simple process to turn those ideas into actions and project success. This new development is aligned with global best practice in project management, and follows on from extensive research and over 25 years of practical experience. P2M2 is designed to be used at organisational, program or project level, for a wide variety of users through all phases of the project or program lifecycle – from initiation right through to completion and benefits.

P2M2 also helps you to do the right projects, by developing the plans and actions, you will be able to see more readily whether or not a project will work, or if it aligns with stakeholder values and expected outcomes, funding requirements or environmental factors. Having a project plan in place allows you to understand whether it is realistic, determine how long it will take, and exactly what steps will need to be taken. This enables a much clearer view of each deliverable (the values and milestones to be delivered to achieve the outcomes) which you can easily communicate to stakeholders

The P2M2 software will be available in the coming months. If you would like to find out more about this exciting new development, please contact a PSA staff member at psa@psaproject.com.au

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FIRST RMIT POST-DISASTER PROJECT MANAGEMENT CLASS GRADUATES

The first class of RMIT's new Masters of Project Management elective, "Post-disaster Project Management", have recently completed the 12 week course. The elective subject, also available to the public, uses the teachings of PSA Project CEO Paul Steinfort whose lectures bring his extensive research and practical experience in the field to give students a theoretical understanding of project management in a post-disaster environment.

Throughout the course students have enjoyed a variety of guest lecturers from high profile organisations including World Vision, Red Cross, the Bureau of Meteorology, Murrindindi Shire Council, Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority, PSA Project, and other national and international emergency and disaster relief agencies. For more information on this course, or to register your interest in other similar courses and training workshops held by PSA, please contact us at psa@psaproject.com.au

Mentoring and Training for NGO's in Melbourne

PSA has taken on the role of providing mentoring and training for NGOs who need assistance in improving their project management processes. PSA recently worked with the Oaktree Foundation (www.theoaktree.org) to develop a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, and also provided training on this. The Asylum Seeker's Resource Centre has also recently engaged PSA for training and assistance in project design, planning and implementation.

project success



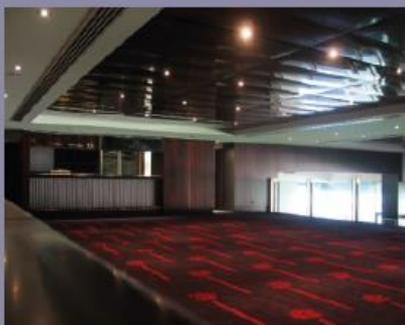
At PSA our projects define our success and here we provide some examples of how we deliver project success for clients.

THE KINGLAKE MEMORIAL RESERVE

The Kinglake Ranges experienced extreme loss of life, property and natural assets during the 2009 Victorian bushfires, PSA Project has since been helping with the rebuilding efforts. Projects have included the Marysville Community Centre, Marysville Heart Project and Information Centre, Flowerdale Youth shed, Murchison Street redevelopment, and many more.

Kinglake Memorial Reserve is the latest completed project managed by PSA on behalf of the local community and the Murrindindi Shire Council. The project is one of the most significant redevelopments and includes a football oval, tennis and netball courts, cricket pitch, modern clubrooms, and entry way and car park. This project began late last year and has recently been handed over to the Kinglake community and user groups of the venue. The new facilities provide a high quality space for sporting groups to practice and hold competitions at, as well as a community gathering place for football and other events.

flashback



The MCG Diaries:
Fourth Instalment

LESSONS LEARNT - PRACTICAL, EFFECTIVE USE OF CONTRACTS

2003 ended with a Boxing Day Test match that saw the Aussies host India and win by nine wickets, with a parochial crowd of over 60,000 on boxing day and almost 180,000 over the course of the match. The minimum seating capacities were effective in enabling the stadium to be used continually despite the major re-development that was going on around it.

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The next milestone was critical and also held a lot of emotion for the key stakeholders. Stage three would see the demolition of the Melbourne Cricket Club's Members Pavilion, a building which had serviced its members proudly for over 50 years. The key for this project to be considered a success from the stakeholders was to ensure that they had functioning facilities come the 2004 football season. This was enabled through the opening of the new dining facilities in the Ponsford Stand.

A positive and productive relationship was fostered between the contractor, project manager and superintendent through a Novated Design and Construct Contract; a more prescriptive contract which outlined various contractual obligations and responsibilities that sought to identify problems and assign responsibilities to action and resolve before they become disputes under the contract. The contract also outlined dispute resolution methods which were previously identified and agreed on and ensured legal action could not take place unless these were fulfilled.

Though times would still be tough, with the eyes of the state and nation on the project, without such pragmatic methods being maintained the outcome may have been different. The contract clauses had been an accumulation of lessons learnt and action learning on other major projects by the team at PSA Project, which ultimately ensured it was incumbent on the contractor to undertake the practical processes and methods on the day to day running of an important landmark project for Australia.

did you know?

Tip for Successful Projects: How to deliver your project on time.

The best way to deliver projects on time is to continually manage them with a well formed project schedule. A schedule should be produced as a preliminarily static document at the start of the project, and continue to be updated within a live framework. Continually update action items, status works, monitor progress, control resources, report on the project and determine what can be completed within the timeliness of the project. Establish and monitor what outcomes, deliverables or activities need to be completed for the project to be successful.

While a superior schedule can be developed early in a project, this is not a guarantee of delivering a project on time. You must then have the know-how and time to continually analyze the critical path of the project and continue to monitor the program and continually manage and control events to ensure the critical path of works is completed as priority, and assign new actions if required to stay on track.

Tip from Josh Whitely, PSA Project