

welcome



Welcome to the third edition of the PSA Way, PSA Project's newsletter. The first few months of 2012 have been busy and exciting, with new projects and partnerships developing.

latest



Find out the latest developments at PSA.

POST GRADUATE LECTURING IN POST DISASTER PROJECT MANAGEMENT & MICROSOFT PROJECT SCHEDULING AT RMIT.

PSA has a history of passing on knowledge to others so that they may gain more out of their Project Management skills and methods in a simple way that can be applied at what level that they operate in.

In 2012 the PSA team will once again be using their skills and experience in Microsoft Project to teach Postgraduate, Masters, students the fundamentals in project planning, resourcing and delivery.

Dr. Paul Steinfort will also be the course lecturer for RMIT's new elective course in Post Disaster Project Management. Paul will be leading the first implementation of this course for semester 1, along with several guest

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speakers. This is an exciting development in the field of Project Management, as disaster response and recovery is a global need. Paul will be teaching students best practice in Post Disaster Project Management, using methodologies and examples which have proved to be the most successful and to deliver the greatest value to communities affected by disasters. This course content can be made available to organisations or individuals that want to get more out of their project management. Please contact us to discuss how these can be tailored to suit your needs.

AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL - TRAINING IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT

In March, PSA teamed up with AVI (Australian Volunteers International), an Australian non-profit organisation which recruits and mobilises Australian volunteers to developing countries to work in a variety of jobs and environments. AVI participated in training workshops on project management, held by Dr. Paul Steinfort from PSA. Training included Rapid Environment Assessment, Stakeholder Engagement and Communication, Project Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation.

PSA is passionate about bringing best practice in project management to other organisations. If you would like to know more about the training and other services we offer, please contact PSA at psa@psaproject.com.au

MENTORING PARTNERSHIPS

PSA has recently partnered with several Non-Government Organisations working in the development and non-profit sector, in order to provide them with mentoring and advice in the areas of project management. PSA is currently working with The Oaktree Foundation (www.theoaktree.org), an entirely youth-run development organisation which has projects operating in South Africa, Papua New Guinea, East Timor and Cambodia. PSA is working with Oaktree to provide its young projects team with professional advice and mentoring on practices including monitoring and evaluation, as well as giving further Community Project Management workshops and PM mentoring to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (Australia's largest asylum seeker advocacy, aid and health organization promoting and protecting the human rights of asylum seekers.- see asrc.org.au).

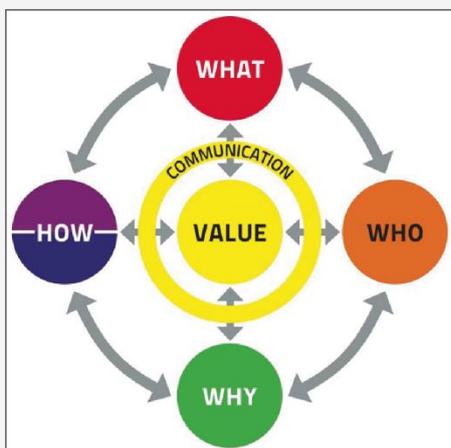
PMI IDCOP AND ASIA PACIFIC WEBINAR

Dr. Paul Steinfort has recently been asked to lead the Post Disaster Project Management Methodology for the PMI IDCOP, as well as to be their Host for the Asia Pacific Webinar, also on the topic of Post Disaster Project Management. Contact PSA to find out more about the webinar at psa@psaproject.com.au.

A Recent Discussion on Project Management in International Development

A review on the article, "Why Donors Should Care More About Project Management", by Walter Hekala on 27 February, 2012

An article on LinkedIn caught our attention recently, entitled "Why Donors Should Care More About Project Management", by Walter Hekala, a Project Manager with decades of experience. In this article, Hekala describes the lack of donor representatives from the largest international professional project management organisations. He argues that the large percentage of development projects which are not delivered successfully are primarily because of the high risk involved in international development projects, and the many contributing factors such as environment, different cultures, etc. Hekala outlines the principal causes of failure to be poor project planning and inadequately skilled project managers. Delivery of projects, though difficult within a development context, need to improve as donors and general public increase their demand for accountability. The full article can be viewed via [Devex on LinkedIn](#).



PSA's methodology, the PSA Proframe, focuses on stakeholder engagement, their values, and communication for project success.

This ensures all key stakeholders, from beneficiaries and those affected to the donors and implementing organisations, are involved in the project cycle and have their values recognised and needs met.

project success



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

THE MARYSVILLE HEART PROJECT

The Marysville Heart Project, a bushfire reconstruction project in Marysville, is scheduled to be opened to the public this month. This project uses interpretive elements that celebrate the town's history and identity. It is the site of the former police station and will now become a central focus for the community and visitors to the town.

In the photo above, the statue of a man with a child bushwalking was previously located out the front of the visitor information centre. The statue was damaged in the 2009 Black Saturday fires and will be restored by its original creator, a local Marysville artist. It now stands close to where it previously stood, in the new public landscaped public space.

GLENBURN HALL

Is almost complete and is scheduled to open on the 14th of April. Replacing the original building, this will provide a community hub where people can meet and hold local events. To learn more about how to make your projects simple, effective and ultimately successful, contact a project manager at PSA at psa@psaproject.com.au.

psa associates



Josh Whiteley
B.AppSci (Proj, Mgmt. Hons)
Dip. Build & Const.

PSA STAFF ARE PARTNERS IN THE ORGANISATION. TOGETHER THEY PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN DELIVERING EXEMPLARY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS.

Josh began at PSA in 2009 and since then has proven to be a valuable asset across a range of projects of different sizes and in different roles.

Gaining initial experience in project planning, time management and on-site support for large commercial construction projects, Josh has since worked with the State Government and bushfire local affected local Governments to manage and assist with the planning and delivery of several community-based regional reconstruction projects.

Josh has conducted extensive stakeholder engagement, working directly with community representatives to deliver the best valued outcomes.

Josh is currently managing several bushfire reconstruction projects, including Glenburn Hall, Flowerdale Youth shed, and Castella Park.

flashback



The MCG Diaries: Third Instalment

CHALLENGES OF CONSTRUCTION ON THE MCG NORTHERN STAND.

The Northern Stand was split into sections which were redeveloped, in order to allow other sections to continue to accommodate patrons of events. Despite the massive endeavour to redevelop the MCG, important events such as annual AFL Grand Finals needed to go on.

With a contractor signed in mid-2002 there was a lot of work to do to ensure that the staged delivery model could be implemented effectively before the demolition works of the Ponsford Stand were scheduled to commence immediately after the 2002 AFL Grand Final. The first test for the project team was to measure the minimum number of seats required for the 2003 AFL Grand Final in order to maintain the income required to pay for it. By mid 2003, key indicators of the site team's progress to stages 1 and 2 showed a potential delay of between 50 to 100 days to achieve the seats required for the Grand Final. The Grand Final is not a date which can be easily rescheduled, and so notices to accelerate works were issued under the contract to the contractor. With known and agreed key success criteria, a framework was produced which enabled innovative thinking and a revised sequence of works and methodology, which would allow the project to meet the deliverables.

did you know?

Hints & tips on project management tools & techniques.

HINT: KEEP IT SIMPLE!

Project management doesn't need to be rocket science; keeping it simple and effective, particularly in communication and reporting, is the key to project success. When things are overcomplicated, people can easily misunderstand and this can lead to different interpretations of what you're setting out to achieve. PSA's Project Management methodology is based on the understanding that project management does not need to be overcomplicated and confusing in order to be effective. Engaging with key stakeholders to define a clear, simple goal is the first step in ensuring there are no misunderstandings and everyone is working with the same outcomes in sight.