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RECORD ATTENDANCE EXPECTED FOR 2008 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2008 PMICOS 5th Annual Conference

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to join us at the Project Management Institute College of Scheduling Fifth Annual Conference *Scheduling: The Winds of Change* this May 4th – 7th at The Drake Hotel in Chicago, Illinois. This is a terrific opportunity to judge for yourself the merits of several brand new innovations in planning/scheduling unveiling at the conference, get in on recent trends, practice some advocacy with your peers, and participate in this year's premier planning and scheduling conference.

I am thankful for the arduous work many have done for us to have a terrific program, speakers, and panel discussions, planned to give everyone a chance to participate. We have a guest program for your traveling companion and something special planned each evening. Sunday night is the sponsor/exhibitor reception, Monday night is our Gala dinner, Tuesday night we're hosting an event at Shedd Aquarium, and the Conference ends Wednesday with an optional golf tournament.

With an anticipated record attendance this

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Your erstwhile editor has become your errant editor—it's been six months since the last issue of *Schedule Update!* My sincere apologies, but let's move on to catching up.

First, congratulations to the new officers for 2008. Rod Dawson, Finance, Dana Wise, Membership and Doc Dochtermann, Publicity; these and other positions changes and additions since last August are highlighted in our *Organization Structure* table on page 2.

Next, check out the PMICOS website recent news, job listings and the most recent copy of *SEER*, the newsletter of the *Scheduling Excellence Initiative*. Jeff Honeycutt continues to do a superb job on keeping the site up-to-date. However, you might note that there have been no *Topic of the Month* articles contributed since last year; let's go people, you're the pros and we want you to share

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HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

For members of PMI, the annual membership fee is \$20. If you are not a member of PMI a fee of \$149 covers a one-year membership to both PMI and the College of Scheduling. For more information or to join, please visit the PMI website at www.pmi.org.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

College of Scheduling
Membership

1,597 Members

Representing over
50 Countries

COLLEGE OF SCHEDULING ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Functional Title	Individual	Functional Title	Individual
Chairman	Stuart Ockman	Director of Scheduling Excellence	Chris Carson
President	Gui Ponce de Leon	VP of Scheduling Excellence	Phil Apprill
Vice President of Finance	Rod Dawson	Scheduling Practice Std. Team Liaison	Mike Mosley
Director of Communications	Jeff Huneycutt	Vice President of Communications	Derek Mason
Vice President of Global Services	Richard K. Faris	Director of Global Services	Keith Pickavance
Vice President of Programs	Janice Staley	Director of Conference Technical Track	Fredric L. Plotnick
Director of Programs		Director of Critical Chain Scheduling	Mark Stanton
Director of Programs		Director at Large	Rebecca Andert
Vice President of Publicity	Doc Dochtermann	Director at Large	Russ Archibald
Director of Publicity	Reza Nikain	Director at Large	Patricia D. Galloway
VP of Education & Training	Jim O'Brien	Director at Large	Pradip M. Mehta
Vice President of Membership	Dana Wise	Director at Large	J. Gordon Davis
Director of Membership	Lana Becker	Director at Large	Jon Wickwire
Director of Member Retention	Rhonda Polk	Director at Large	Murray Woolf
Director of Volunteers	Pradip M. Mehta	Director of Standards	Open
Director of Risk Management	David Hulett	Director of University Relations	Fredric L. Plotnick
Director of Certification	Bob Jacobs	Topic of the Month Editor	Thomas Fertitta
Director of Empl. Opportunities	Glen Palmer	Director of Information Technology	Peter Dimov
Editor of Newsletter	Paul Levin	Director of Aerospace & Defense	Mike Dahlberg
Director of Campus Affiliates	Tim Cermak	Director of Awards	Lee Peters
Director of Government Relations	Jim Quilliam	Webmaster	Cynthia Lo
Director of Webinars	Kristine Aubut	Webmaster	Melanie Lok

Note: Highlighted entries are changes since the August 2007 issue.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PMI COS 2008 Annual Conference

4-7 May 2008

The Drake Hotel

Chicago, IL



SCHEDULE UPDATE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

year based on early registrations, this is one event not to be missed. Check out the conference brochure and visit <http://www.pmicosconference.com/> to register for the conference and reserve your hotel room, now! Finally and most importantly, make your hotel reservations while rooms are still available at our special group rate (\$235 per night).* If you have any trouble at all registering for the conference or obtaining hotel reservations, through the website or by phone, please call 734-769-0530 or email Renee Woolley and, if there's still a room available, we'll make sure you get it. Please register as soon as you can, as we are expecting a record-breaking attendance.

I look forward to seeing you in Chicago in May.

Regards,

Dr. Gui Ponce de Leon, P.E., President
PMI College of Scheduling

Drake Hotel

For room reservations or information, call 800-528-1668. Let Stu Ockman know, at 610-566-1241, if you have any problems..

Chicago



EDITOR'S NOTES (cont'd.)

(Continued from page 1)

your knowledge! How else can we learn?

With less than 30 days to go, it is time to make your plans and reservations for the 5th PMICOS annual conference. Each year they get better with age, reflecting the collective wisdom of both our wise old members and interested new schedulers. Don't forget to take a look at our annual "Paul's Ten Tips for Maximizing Conference Attendance Value" article on page 4.

On the radar

In closing, please remember *Schedule Update* is your communication tool. Feel free to send in your comments, suggestions, articles, resource leads, scheduling tips and accomplishments for publication. [Please send e-mail to plevin@wpl.net.]

Paul Levin,
Editor

Articles Wanted

Short articles wanted for *Schedule Update*. Share your knowledge and experience. Tells us about a best practice recently discovered or implemented at your organization, such as:

- ... Scheduling Techniques
- ... Primavera 5.0/6.0 Experiences, or
- ... Favorite Claims Analysis Technique.

Let us know if you've read any good scheduling books you're read lately. Don't be shy. Write something today. Send your manuscript or proposed ideas) to Paul Levin at plevin@wpl.net.

SCHEDULE UPDATE

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PAUL'S CONFERENCE TIPS

PAUL'S TEN TIPS FOR MAXIMIZING CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE VALUE

Here's a list of ideas to make your conference experience more enjoyable, productive and rewarding.

- 1. Plan Your Sessions.** Take time to read through the program thoroughly, prioritizing the sessions you want to see and plan an agenda for the three full days. Select the sessions that will most improve your skills or will bring you into contact with recognized leaders in the industry. Make these the "A" list. Then prepare a "B" list; including some sessions that are out of your main-stream but sound interesting and offer an opportunity to broaden your vision and meet new people. The "C" list is for filler and "D" is for sessions you rule out.
- 2. Logistics.** When you register on site, pick up the latest schedule to check for any changes, and study the hotel layout so you don't lose valuable time looking for rooms or events. Stay at the conference hotel to maximize your conference experience and networking opportunities.
- 3. Conference buddies.** Find a person or small group of informal conference buddies. In addition to comparing notes, it helps to coordinate and to share experiences on the sessions you are unable to attend. Set up plans to meet for lunches and dinners.
- 4. Business cards.** Bring plenty of business cards and plan on collecting as many as you can. This helps to follow-up with email or phone calls.
- 5. Network, and then some.** Network, converse, communicate and participate. In classes, ask questions and participate. Introduce yourselves to, and thank, speakers and the conference organizers. Participation doubles the value you receive in a session, and often shared ideas develop into ongoing projects. Potential employers, clients, business partners and good friends
- abound, one of the best benefits of the conference.
- 6. Changes.** Don't be afraid to leave a session after it is started that just isn't doing it for you. Go on to another session or use the time to catch up on business calls.
- 7. Conference tapes.** Follow through, purchase if you must, conference materials, tapes and books by speakers that will help you better understand and retain knowledge learned at the sessions.
- 8. Visit the exhibit hall.** Even if you don't need a particular product at the moment, talking to sponsors and other attendees at the booths offers more one-on-one opportunities to learn and network. Also, the sponsors value your interest; it helps justify their support of our conference.
- 9. Forgot your phone charger?** If you forgot to bring your AC adapter for your cell phone, check the hotel's lost and found. These are often left in rooms and you have a good chance of finding one that matches your phone! Beats running around looking for a cell phone shop. (Sorry Gordon, I read about this after the last conference.)
- 10. "Print" your boarding pass.** Southwest and some other airlines let you get a higher priority seating if you go online 24 hours before the flight. Don't worry if you can't actually print out the boarding pass in your hotel room. You can still secure your boarding group and pick up the boarding pass at the airline. Many hotel business centers now have internet-connected printers that will print out a boarding pass for a fee.
- 11. Bonus Tip.** If you haven't been to Chicago in awhile, plan on checking it out. Many new buildings have been constructed and walking along the canal, particularly this time of year, is a very pleasant and relaxing experience.

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SEI TOWN HALL MEETINGS

SEI TOWN HALL MEETING PREVIEW

Town Hall Meetings – Your Time to Shine Again!

The Town Hall Meetings originated at the 2006 COS conference in Orlando gave COS members something new – an opportunity to have an active role in debating important topics and issues. Last year in Vancouver, the THM's were a continued success so SEI is hosting the THM's again this year, and your participation will continue to be vital to the core purpose of the College.

SEI is charged with developing the Best Practices and Guidelines (BPG) manuals for the College and we are going to use the THM's in Chicago to get as many COS members as we can "signed on" as active contributors to the BPG. Our collaboration platform allows contributors to work at the time in place of their choosing, so with a little training any (and all!) COS members can get directly involved in creation of our BPG manuals. In the THM's we will be showing you how the system works and we will do "group input" on several topics. You can expect the same lively, high energy exchange of ideas we had last year, but this time the outcome

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Support your Conference Sponsors

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Silver Sponsor



Bronze Sponsors



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SEI TOWN HALL MEETINGS (cont'd.)

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will translate directly into the PBG.

This is a significant opportunity for COS members to make a real contribution, and we are confident that YOU will want to be part of it! I am looking forward to seeing you in Chicago and working with you on the input for our Best Practices and Guidelines manuals.

Phil Apprill
V.P. Scheduling Excellence

This year's Town Hall Meeting session highlights include:

- Presentation of the First SEI Best Practices Product
- AACE Recommended Practice 29 (Forensic Schedule Analysis) & SEI Product
- Schedule Design & Development Tricks
- Sarbanes-Oxley and Electronic Discovery
- Common Schedule Review Issues
- Tips for Schedule Resource Loading

PMICOS MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Pradip Mehta's Project Controls Article Featured in the February 2008 Issue of Cost Engineering Journal

Pradip Mehta's (our director at large and a past board member) article on the "Effective Implementation of a Project Control System" was selected as one of the two technical articles in the 50th Anniversary issue of the *Cost Engineering Journal* published this month.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

This paper examines some of the elements which contribute to the success or failure of a Project Control System. It also touches on different ways in which Project Control professionals can maximize effectiveness and usefulness of the system.

This article is a compilation of seven different presentations that Pradip has given on this particular topic at different venues. These presentations are listed in the journal."

For a copy, please contact Pradip at: pradipnwg@aol.com.

Using the Risk Register in Schedule Risk Analysis with Monte Carlo Simulation Presented at 2nd Annual Oil & Gas Conference by David Hulett

PMICOS risk expert David Hulett presented this paper at the referenced conference in Kuala Lumpur this past October. The method starts with the risk register risks and allocates them as factors to various activity durations during simulation. David has used this method on a multi-billion dollar refinery for a client in Houston, and is using something similar on the NASA Constellation program's Ares project, the way to the moon (and beyond?) after Shuttle.

For a copy or more information, please contact David at: David.Hulett@projectrisk.com.

SCHEDULE UPDATE

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PMICOS CONFERENCE AGENDA

PMICOS CONFERENCE AGENDA SUMMARY

Here's a summary and highlights of this year conference:

Sunday, May 4, 2008

Registration, AACEI PSP Certification Exam, Basic Scheduling Course, PMICOS Public Board Meeting and Sponsor/Exhibitor Welcome Reception

Monday, May 5, 2008

Breakfast

Gregory Balestrero, Project Management Institute Chief Executive Officer, will give the opening keynote speech

Morning (Session 1)

- Town Hall Meeting: First SEI Best Practices Product
Maintaining Overlapping Activities in PDM
Critical Schedule Design Process-Planning
Making CPM More Transparent
Owner Driven Project Controls
Utilizing Schedule Constraints—What are the Risks?
Case Study—Project Alliance

Lunch & Annual Business Meeting

Afternoon (Session 2)

- Town Hall Meeting: AACEI Recommended Practice 29—
Forensic Schedule Analysis and SEI Product
Is there an As-Built Critical Path
Roadmap Approach for Schedule Implementation
Case Study—Cost & Resource Loaded Schedule on Texas State Highway 130
Basic Schedule Analysis Techniques
Lessons Learned—Enterprise Based Cost and Schedule System
Defining Metrics for Screening High Risk Projects

Afternoon (Session 3)

- Town Hall Meeting: Schedule Design & Development Tricks
Case Study—Evaluation of Contractor's Delay and Damages
Integrating Lean Thinking with Project Schedules
Establishing the Performance Measurement Baseline
Risk Review of Recovery Schedules
Introduction of RDM to PertMaster V8.2

Night Out on the Town—Shedd Aquarium

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Breakfast & Book Signing

Morning (Session 4)

- Town Hall Meeting: Common Schedule Review issues
Proving Delay Issues
The Five Secrets of Project Scheduling
Case Study — Critical Chain Project to Decrease Work in Progress and Maximize Throughput
Dynamic Minimum Lag (DML) Relationship
Specifying Scheduling Requirement for Enterprise Project Management
Executing an Uncertain Schedule: Adapting to Reality to Maximize Target Completion Attainment

Morning (Session 5)

- Town Hall Meeting: Schedule Impact Analysis Topic Discussion
Resolving an Unapproved Prospective Time Impact Analysis (or what to do when your prospective TIA expires)
Graphical Planning Method
Risk Based Value Planning for Mega Projects
In Search of Risk in Time-Interrogate Your Schedule for Risk
Time is Money But How Do You Calculate it?
Project Schedule Visualization

Lunch & SEI Lunch Meeting

Afternoon (Session 6)

- Town Hall Meeting: Revisions vs. Schedule Cleanup
Analysis of Linear Schedules with Singularity Functions Versus Critical Path Method
The Use of Forensic Animation in Resolving Complex Disruption Claims
Using Pertmaster's Schedule Check Report
Schedule Checks for EPC Projects
Attention PM Superheroes Without Tools and Technology: Is Risk Your Project's "Kryptonite?"

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CONFERENCE AGENDA (cont'd.)

(Continued from Page 7.)

Tuesday, May 6, 2008 (Cont.)

Afternoon (Session 7)

- Mock Trial Part II
 - Application of SDPM, Critical Chain and Portfolio Project Management Principles
 - Monte Carlo Schedule Analysis: the Concept, Benefits and Limitations
 - PMI-Practice Standard for Scheduling
 - Application of Project Controls in Construction vs. Information Technology
 - Town Hall Meeting – SEI Editorial Group Discussion

Gala Dinner

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Breakfast & Book Signing

Morning (Session 8)

- Review of Recent CPM Case Law and How Scheduling is Treated in the New Standard Form Contracts
 - Mock Trial Appeal – SEI Workshop Session
 - A Two-Phased Approach to the Integrated Baseline Review Process
 - What Should Be Included in an Undergraduate College Course in Planning, Scheduling and Project Controls
 - Risk Management in the Construction Industry of the Arabian Gulf
 - Comparative Resource Scheduling using Various Software Packages

Morning (Session 9)

- Update and the Road Ahead for RDCPM – Relationship Driven CPM
 - Aggregate Risk Critical Path Planning: A Discussion of Leveraging Critical Chain Concepts for Critical Path
 - Lost in the CPM Details?
 - Town Hall Meeting – SEI Discussion Group

Closing Remarks

Golf Tournament

SEI BEST PRACTICES GUIDELINES

REQUEST FOR HELP INCLUDING PERTINENT PMBOK INFORMATION INTO THE SEI BPG

As most of you are aware, the SEI Best Practices and Guidelines for Scheduling project is well underway. The forums, found at www.sei.smoothprojects.com, are getting lots of activity, with contributions coming in from across our global community. We sent out an earlier email reminding all authors that you can and should post quotes from any of your publications which capture good scheduling practices, so they can prompt debate.

As a PMI work product to be published by PMI, we particularly need to post relevant material from the Practice Standard for Scheduling and Project Scope and Time Management practices from PMBOK so they can be included in the discussions. In each forum, we need to post quotes from any pertinent areas of the PSS and PMBOK which apply to each specific topic. All quoted publications will be cited in the final volume, and we are setting up a small group whose responsibility will be to solicit and acquire permissions to cite documents.

So, we are soliciting your help for both the immediate need to post relevant PMI material and the longer term need for participation in the solicitation of permission to cite documents.

If you feel that you can assist us with this effort, please email either myself at lwilliams@p-m-m.com or Chris Carson at chris.carson@alphacorporation.com. Please consider jumping into the fray!

Thank you.

Laura Williams, PMP
SM Volume Manager