

REGIONAL REPORT – GERMANY – APRIL 2008



Project Management News from Germany

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By Manfred Rieck, PMP
International Correspondent for PMForum & PM World Today
Wiesbaden, Germany

Introduction

The German landscape on project management is still dominated from PMI and the GPM organization. The triumphal procession of professional project management is visible in every customer discussion as the customer expectation is for high skilled, certified and experienced Project Managers. But a simple certification isn't enough anymore. The Project Manager is perceived as the Swiss Army Knife in the fast changing environment. The role moves more and more into a Change Leader role as the Project Managers are not only responsible for the project content but also for the 'soft' part to "sell" the project within the organization. Here are some tips where you can exchange your experience with other 'knives'.

News from PM Professional Organizations

PMI Chapter News

The **PMI Frankfurt Chapter** has held its regular chapter meeting in Bad Schwalbach at Procter and Gamble. The first speaker was Dr. Ralf Mueller (pictured below) well known from several studies for PMI and studies with Professor Rodney Turner. He presented his recent study "Best fit for Leadership and Project Types" conducted for the Project Management Institute. The energetic discussion with the auditorium complimented the very practical outcome of the study.



The second speaker was Dr. Horst Kötting presenting his book "Anleitung für Projektvernichter" (Instructions for Project Destruction). The book is planned to be published in english in the neartime. In the following discussion the focus was on cultural differences between American and German project culture.

The Frankfurt Chapter implemented a very interesting tool on is website to get a statistic on their membership development.



© PMI Frankfurt Chapter

The statistic differentiates between new members, total members, and non renewals to get a view on the membership development of the chapter – a helpful tool to identify the popularity of the chapter. For further information visit www.PMIFC.de

The **PMI Munich Chapter** implemented a regular “Stammtisch”. In March they met in a restaurant in Munich to discuss the topic “Usage of Project Management Methodologies in Organizations”. The Munich Chapter is one of the pilots for PMIs Performance Measurement Framework (PMF), a framework to plan and measure chapter activities on a global standard. With this more transparency of the chapter activities is expected to become more attractive for the members. In 2009 the PMF has to be implemented from every chapter worldwide. For more information please visit www.PMI-muc.de

The **PMI Berlin Chapter** plans its next Profession Circle April 17th in Berlin at TietoEnator. The agenda is in planning, for more information please visit www.PMI-berlin.org

The **PMI Cologne Chapter** held its chapter meeting at LOGICACMG presenting the topics “The Conclave Method” from Reinhard Walter and “International Projects, Groups, Culture, Courage for Changes” from Hanno Kakosch, KI-EC Ltd., Hong Kong, Kakosch International. The coming event is in planning. For more information please visit www.PMICC.de

GPM News

GPM plans the 24th Expert Days April 1/2 in Maritim Hotel in Würzburg, Germany. It is the yearly marketplace for project management tools and applications presented from 20 experts.

The female Project Managers meet at April 6/7 in Würzburg, Germany to discuss the topic "Gender Diversity in Project Management".

GPM and Gesellschaft für Informatik plan the interPM 2008 April 18/19 in Glashütten/Taunus. The conference covers the topic "Innovations through Project Management – or not?!". The program can be downloaded at www.interPM.de.

Project Updates – News from some German Projects

The 7th Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (FP7) is the financial tool offered from the EU to support research and development activities. The programme runs since 2007 till 2013 and some examples for interesting projects can be found at the Technical University Dortmund, Germany, where Professor Marwedel get EU support for his research on embedded systems. He has started three projects, one is PREDATOR, a cooperation with Bosch and Airbus investigating the time behavior of embedded systems, the second one works on European activities on the Excellenznetwork ArtistDesign working on parallel systems and the third one is a cooperation with the Informatik Centrum Dortmund. The European Union invests 1 Million EURO into these research activities. Professor Marwedel is looking for interested parties supporting his activities.

Other News Affecting Projects & PM in Germany

According to BITCOM organization the German high tech market is still growing (+2% in 2007) and the CeBIT fair was a successful selling fair generating more contract signings than during the past years. In 2008 a 1,6% growth is expected and 2009 a 2% growth.

Green IT seems to be a market motivator to reduce CO2 and drive energy efficient data centers or use video conferencing instead of traveling.

However, there is a tendency that the production industry is still leaving Germany, as an example Nokia needs to be named as they are closing their factory for mobile phones and move to Rumania.

The good news is that in 2007 17.000 additional jobs in the software and IT services industry were created and 43.000 open jobs are currently counted for IT Specialists – there are surely Project Managers searched to manage them, too.



Manfred Rieck
International Correspondent – Germany



Manfred Rieck, MSc, PMP, is an International Correspondent for **PMForum** and **PM World Today** in Frankfurt, Germany. Mr. Rieck is also Manager at IBM Corporation for IT-Business Development and Project Delivery in the finance, automotive and public sectors and holds an IBM Senior Project Manager certification. He was previously Program Manager in IBM's Project Management Center of Excellence (PM/CoE) responsible for EMEA. Mr. Rieck is specialized on recovering critical complex projects in international environments and on the development and implementation of change management programs. Manfred has a Master of Science in Computer Science from University Bonn, Germany and is enrolled in the Masters in Business Administration (MBA) program at Henley Management College, UK. His research investigates change management studies. He is also a member of the 2007 PMI® Leadership Institute Master Class. After being Vice President of the Frankfurt Chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMI®) for several years Manfred is actively engaged in the PMI® Component Mentor Program Mentor Advisory Group (CMP MAG) advising the European Component Mentors in PMI related topics to promote professional project management across Europe. Manfred Rieck can be contacted at Manfred.Rieck@de.ibm.com.