

PM WORLD TODAY – REGIONAL REPORT – ARGENTINA



Project Management News from Argentina

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News From the Project Management Profession 2009 - A successful year for the Buenos Aires Argentina Chapter of PMI



2009 was a year of challenges, hard work and excellent results for the Buenos Aires Argentina Chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMIBA). Since 2007 the chapter has been actively working on its transformation from a one-city-based community into a chapter with presence in various cities of Argentina. As a result, PMI is now present in all the largest cities of Argentina, with the continuing activity in the City of Buenos Aires, the Mendoza Branch (in formation), and the Rosario, Córdoba and San Juan Committees. All gathered at PMIBA, with a resulting increase in memberships growing from 330 at the beginning of the year reaching the **400 members milestone in the last month.**

2009 has been a very active year for PMI in Argentina, supported by the growth of these regional communities. The activities of this year include more than 20 different events through all the country: 5 members meetings in Buenos Aires; 10 conferences in Córdoba, Rosario, Mendoza and San Juan open to members and non-members of PMI; Regional Congresses in Mendoza and Rosario; 2 PMP exam preparation seminars; and 2 stops of the PMI Cono Sur Tour. The topics discussed in these events included traditional PMI topics such as earned value, Risk Management, the PM Office, and

Project Success between others. New trends as OPM3, Non-verbal communications, Front End Loading (FEL) and Agile Methodologies were also presented. Special interest topics for some industries such as Energy, Information Technology, and Construction were the focus for some of these meetings.

The Chapter also hosted two stops of the PMI Cono Sur Tour in the month of November. **400 attendees** to the Tour in Mendoza and **550 in Buenos Aires** represent a great success for the event. Project Managers from different cities travelled to these two events, having the opportunity to learn on Best Practices and Latest Trends. 10 international speakers presented their experiences in Mendoza, while eight Project Managers presented their experiences applying PM methodologies and practices on local projects. **Several authorities of PMI attended these events:** Mr. Betsy Redden, Ms. Liliana Buchtik and Mr. Frank Schetinni from PMI Headquarters, Ms. Linda Salac and Ms. Darlene Williams from the Government Special Interest Group (SIG), Mr. Victor Villar and Mr. Enrique Capella, PMI Mentors for Latin America.

Mr. Gregory Balestrero was the keynote speaker at the Buenos Aires stop of the Tour, offering a strong message of the importance of Latin America for the Project Management Institute. Mr. Balestrero attended several other events of the PMI Tour in Chile, Brazil and Uruguay. According to Mr. Balestrero, **“This has been the most incredible journey for us this year in Latin America. I am invigorated by the members in the region. It is exciting to see how much prosperity is generated through the Excellence in PM in Latin America”**¹.

The Chapter closed this year with the **election of the Board of Directors for the 2010 period**. The election system was adapted to work similarly to the PMI Board of Directors, where volunteers are elected as directors for a three year commitment and there is a yearly renewal of part of the board. Through electronic voting more than 30% of the chapter members made their choice. The 2010 elected Board of Directors includes directors from all regional communities of PMIBA which strengthens the opportunity of maintaining a national growth. Mr. **Jose Esterkin** was elected President, Ms. **Cecilia Boggi** as Vice-President, and Mr. **Alberto Allami** as Treasurer. To view the complete composition of the 2010 Board of Directors visit <http://www.pmforum.org/blogs/news/2009/11/PMIBuenosAiresChapterannouncesnewOfficer.html>

According to Mr. **Oswaldo Ucha**, President of PMIBA, the force behind the 2009 great results is the national growth and the work of volunteers. **The synergy of working nationally is very important:** new spaces for professional exchange have been created, good experiences motivate more events and lessons learned are shared saving time for future experiences. And more volunteers are attracted to cooperate with the chapter, no matter their geographical location.

¹ *PMForum thanks Mr. Balestrero's willingness to share his thoughts with our readers*

The Buenos Aires chapter has definitely move toward a national entity, offering to Project Managers an excellent place for networking in Argentina. This has been an excellent year for PMIBA, with more excellent results to come on 2010.

For more information on the activities of PMI in Argentina visit www.pmi.org.ar

Or Join our LinkedIn group: PMI Buenos Aires, Argentina Chapter (PMIBA) open to members and non-members of PMIBA

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Ms. Ana Maria Rodriguez is founder and manager of ERA Project Management, offering consulting services to the Engineering and Construction Industry in Rosario, Argentina, and is an adjunct professor of project management at the Universidad Nacional de Rosario. Colombian by birth, Ms. Rodriguez graduated with a Civil Engineering Degree from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogota and from the University of Texas at Austin, USA with a Masters Degree in Construction Engineering and Project Management (MSE). Ms Rodriguez has implemented Project Management best practices and managed projects both in the government sector and in the engineering and construction private sector. Ms. Rodriguez is also an active member of PMI in Argentina, and is an international correspondent for PMForum and PM World Today in Argentina. Additional information about Ms. Rodriguez can be found at <http://www.pmforum.org/pm%20forum%20team/index.htm>. Ms. Rodriguez welcomes contact at arodriguezdev@gmail.com also at www.erapm.com.ar.