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Project Management Update from Italy

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Project Risk Management: International Conference in Rome

On November 6th 2009, **PMI, Risk Specific Interest Group (SIG-Risk)** and the **PMI Rome, Italy Chapter**, in cooperation with the Italian energy company ENI organized an international conference on risk management: **"Project Risk Management: An International Perspective"**, the major event in Project Management held in Italy for

2009. The focus was on the role of the importance of Risk Management as a hot topic in project management, one of the main challenges that any organization faces today to be competitive and successful.



private sectors like energy, environment, construction and manufacturing industries.

The conference was hosted by ENI, one of the largest companies in Europe in energy, at their headquarters in Rome. More than 250 people attended the Roman events, showing an overwhelming interest in risk management. In attendance, were representatives from public and

More than 12 international speakers were part of the conference from all Europe, USA and Middle East: expert managers, academics, and government officers, lead by **Aldo Gebbia**, President of the PMI chapter in Rome and Vice President of Saipem a subsidiary company of ENI, and **Charles Bloser**, PMI Risk Specific Interest Group (SIG-Risk), Chairman.

The two intensive days event brought international and very well knowing speakers presenting the latest trends and developments in risk management.

Amra Balic, Director, of Standard & Poor, Corporate Credit Ratings Group, explained “The *Rating Agency's View on ERM*”. She shared her experience of the development and completion of the Standard & Poor’s Transparency and Disclosure study. **David Hillson**, internationally recognized as a risk management expert and Director of Risk Doctor & Partners, outlined the actual trend and best practices of project risk management. She described the latest developments that enable project managers, project sponsors and others responsible for managing risk in projects to do so effectively.

Marco Giorgino, full Professor of Financial Markets and Institutions at the University Politecnico di Milano, and author of a brilliant book on Enterprise Risk Management, “Il risk management nelle imprese italiane”, presented a panoramic view of the State of Risk Management in Italian Corporations and future prospects. **Daniel Hofmann**, Chief Economist of Zurich Financial Services Group gave an overview of the economic outlook. He offered an assessment of how risks interconnect with other risks and how they may evolve over time.

Tom Kendrick, Senior Project Manager for Visa Inc. and author of the book, “Identifying and Managing Project Risk” discussed how to identify and manage program-level risks, particularly risks that involve cross-project dependencies, potential resource contention, or program “showstoppers.” He explained how to understand and comply with organizational enterprise risk management requirements and better comprehend the interrelationships between project-level and enterprise-level risk management.

Ronan Murphy, Risk Manager at the RPA in Dublin, Ireland presented the **4E Risk©** which correlates the success criteria defined by dozens of leading project risk management authorities into four leverage categories: risk efficiency; effectiveness; economy and expected value.

Alfonso Bucero well known author and internationally recognized PM expert presented a viable approach to risk management implementation that can be applied in any environment and through all levels of an organization.

Aldo Gebbia president of the PMI chapter in Rome emphasized the importance of Project Management growth in Italy and the effort that the chapter is making to involve more professionals in this field. “We are glad to have the participation of 250 people, including prestigious guests and speakers that came from nine different nations making the event a truly international symposium” -.



Aldo Gebbia, President of PMI Chapter Rome

The Rome, Italy Chapter represents the convergence of a variety of business entities and academic organizations in support of the Project Management discipline. Founded in 1997 by 35 professionals coming from several Italian companies and universities put

together c/o IAFE, known today as ENI Corporate University. This was the first nationwide PMI Chapter in Italy. It currently has 610 members (406 of whom are PMP certified) belonging to major Italian business organizations. The Chapter promotes the discipline of Project Management, in agreement with the mission of PMI, with the goal of increasing interest of this discipline in all organizations, especially those who still do not adopt the practices of Project Management.

About the Author

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Antonello Bove is an International Correspondent for PMForum and PM World Today. Based in Washington, DC and Rome, Italy, Mr. Bove is also an Consultant for the Inter-American Investment Corporation (IIC), the private investment arm of the Inter-American Development Bank. At IIC, he is leader of a program designed to strengthen European ties with Latin America and the Caribbean; he spends his time equally between Italy, Latin America and the USA. Antonello was previously CEO of Robur Corporation, a manufacturer and marketer of gas absorption air-conditioning technology based in Indiana. He was also previously a Partner at Proginvest in Rome, Italy, and a business development & government affairs manager at Iniziativa SpA (Milan-Rome, Italy), today Ernst & Young. He is a visiting professor at ABITA - Project Management University of Florence, Italy. Antonello is the author of the project management book, *La metodologia dei 12 Step* www.lametodologiadei12step.com, published in Italy by Hoepli in 2008. Antonello has a degree in Economics and Business Administration from the University of Rome "La Sapienza" (1987) and is a graduate of the Executive Program on General Management from the University of Michigan (2002). A member of the "Italian Association of Journalists" since 1987, he is also a member of the Project Management Institute (PMI®) and the American Management Association (AMA). Additional information about Antonello can be found at <http://www.pmforum.org/pm%20forum%20team/index.htm>. Antonello can be contacted at: antonellobove@aol.com.