

REGIONAL REPORT – URUGUAY – JULY 2009



Project Management Update from Uruguay

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*With the Cooperation of
Board of Directors of the PMI® Montevideo Chapter:
Armen Santurian - President
Gloria Folle, PMP – Communications Director*

Introduction

For the past months I have been bringing news mainly focused on the major projects being held in Uruguay and the status of the local economy and its impact in local projects. This month, in order to bring local project management news, I want to share with the global project management community an interview with two Board of Directors of the major and only Project Management Association in our country, the Montevideo Chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMI®).

Project Management Profession News

During the interview with **Mr. Armen Santurian** and **Mrs. Gloria Folle**, other than sharing about the successful PMI Montevideo Chapter Project of the Year Award commented in the Project Updates section below, they also shared some of the PMI Montevideo Chapter plans for 2009 to benefit the PMI members in the local community as well as project management practitioners and stakeholders as a whole.

They are planning to continue to promote project management as a profession and to promote the Project Management Institute (PMI®) and the PMI Montevideo Chapter among the community to present the benefits and opportunities that their membership to PMI and PMI certifications brings to them. For that there will be a series of initiatives

to include monthly conferences as well as the National Project Management Congress, which will be part of the regionally known initiative “2009 Cono Sur Tour”. This is an initiative organized by the PMI Chapters in the South of Latin America, that is expected to attract in 2009 over 2.500 attendees.

The chapter has major initiatives for this year in promoting the profession in the academic, professional, and business environments, to continue to grow the PMI membership and sponsors who support the PMI Montevideo Chapter to enable the growth and support to members. The congress mentioned above will be one of the key areas of focus of the Chapter as it has been for the past 4 years, and they also have other initiatives to strengthen the position of the chapter and its operations in the longer term. They are implementing strategic and business plans to work locally in alignment with the PMI® Strategic Plan, and to be recognized in the local and regional market as one of the best preferred sources regarding the Project Management Profession and PMI® Standards.

Project Management Events

The PMI Montevideo Chapter hosted a conference on June 22nd, 2009 about the **IBM Case on how to survive a crisis**. The conference included a presentation by the engineer **Olga Mattos**, IBM Services Support Manager at Uruguay, who is also a member of PMI and the local Chapter.

IBM suffered an important crisis at the end of the eighties and beginning of the nineties, but not only got to survive but also reinvented itself. Today it remains in undisputed leadership positions worldwide. The recovery is an example today of business transformation, and this is what the conference was about. More information at www.pmi.org.uy



Montevideo from the sky

Project Updates – News from Important Projects

On May 29th, 2009, the PMI Montevideo Chapter, as a result of a new initiative, awarded the company **Scanvaegt International**, a member of the **Marel Food Systems** group, the **PMI Montevideo Chapter Project of the Year Award**. This is an award recognizing Uruguayan projects for achieving great results and performance.

This is the first time that the PMI Montevideo Chapter organized this initiative, and after a thorough evaluation, the selected project was "*Black Boxes: The electronic systems for the meat industry*".

The Project created a system to register and capture data that at the factory allowing for a better handling of the information to the industry management, and at a national level it provides a tool to assess the actual status and the planning of the industry.

During the Award reception hosted by the local Chapter, representatives from the enterprise and customers presented the major characteristics of the project and its project management. Marel Food Systems is the worldwide leading group in manufacturing equipment and systems for the industry of meat, fish, and chicken processing. Around seventy people attended the reception and it had an important impact in the local press and newspapers like El Pais, La Republica. The Director of INAC (*National Institute of Meats*) also announced the award in the "National Day of the Meat".

Related to INAC, it is important to share that **Uruguay was the worldwide pioneer in the meat industry regarding traceability projects**, given there are similar traceability projects implemented in Europe, Australia and New Zealand, however, none of them got to do it at a national or country level as was implemented in Uruguay. In Uruguay the project went beyond three different government administrations and was initiated six years before the Traceability Law existed.

About the Author:



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Liliana Buchtik, PMP is the President of Buchtik Global, a consulting and training firm in project management (PM) and information technology (IT) based in Uruguay and providing services globally in Spanish and English.

She is also an International Correspondent for PMForum and the global **PM World Today** eJournal. Liliana holds a Bachelor's Degree *in Information Systems Analysis* from ORT Uruguay University. She is certified by PMI® as a *Project Management Professional (PMP®)*. Liliana has a *Diploma in Directing People* from ISEDE School of Business in Uruguay, and is a graduate of the PMI Leadership Institute Master Class of 2007 in USA. She has worked for North America, Europe and Latin America in the IT and PM fields for the past fifteen years, in private industry, government, and not-for-profit organizations. She has been a Project Manager for the Project Management Institute (PMI) in USA and provides training services to PMI. Liliana worked in the Uruguayan Department of Justice, in the *Uruguayan Judicial System Fortifying Program*, and in the *Project of Improvement of the Service in Tribunals*. She also managed the Jurisdictional Software Development area of the Technology Division of the same corporation. She has taught International PM in the Masters Program of the Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences in Austria. She has dictated IS classes at ORT Uruguay University, and has taught PM at the ISEDE School of Business in Uruguay. She also delivered PMP® prep courses for the PMI Montevideo Chapter. She has published articles on PM in various international publications, and has been a keynote and speaker at various regional and international PMI events. In 2007 she was part of the PMI Component Mentor Program Member Advisory Group, and in 2006 she was the *PMI Component Mentor* for Southern Latin-America. She integrated the *PMI Board of Directors Other Committee Ethics Appeals Committee* in 2005 and was *PMI® Montevideo Chapter President* in 2004. She is a PMI® member, PMI IS SIG member, and former Government SIG member of PMI. She is bilingual English-Spanish and understands Portuguese. Liliana lives in Montevideo, Uruguay and can be contacted at Liliana@buchtik.com.