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Project Management Update from Finland

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Introduction

This report includes the following topics in addition to the standard items:

- Vuosaari Harbor project
- Talvivaara project
- Olkiluoto3 project
- 23rd IPMA World Congress in Helsinki June 15 ... 17 2009

PM Profession News

The two major Finnish PM associations, Project Management Association Finland, and PMI Chapter Finland, are going very strong. There are some signs of global recession in the association membership figures following the urgency for some organizations to cut back on spending.

Project Management Association Finland (PMAF), established in 1978, is the leading project management association in Finland with over 200 corporate and 2600 individual members.

PMAF is the national Member Association for Finland in the International Project Management Association (IPMA). Mr. Osmo Härkönen is the current chairman of PMAF board of directors, and Mr. Jyry Jyry Louhisto, also the project director for the 23rd IPMA World Congress in Helsinki, the general manager.



PMI Chapter Finland, established in 2005, is the second major project management association in Finland with more than 200 individual members.



The chapter is recognized by society as an important contributor in developing the project management profession and advantages from its practical applications. PMI Chapter Finland is recognized by business organizations, practitioners and future practitioners as a contributor in developing, supporting and enhancing the project management profession and discipline, and promoting the PMI offerings in Finland. Mr. Seppo Halminen is the current President of PMI Chapter Finland.

PM Education & Research News

Project management education is on the rise, as there is a growing demand for a university level program majoring in project management. The most likely candidates for such a program are Helsinki University of Technology (professor Karlos Artto), Oulu University (professor Jaakko Kujala) and Åbo Akademi (professor Kim Wikström).

Vuosaari Harbor Project

Vuosaari Harbor project, one of the largest infrastructure projects in Finland in the recent history, has been completed within the agreed time schedule and budget. Harbor traffic started on November 24, and the official inauguration took place on November 28, 2008. The cargo harbor operations of the Port of Helsinki moved to Vuosaari Harbor in their entirety at the turn of the year. Passenger harbors still operate in downtown Helsinki, including the cargo operations with the ferry traffic.



The Vuosaari Harbor offers a competitive and modern service package for roro and container traffic with a seamless integration of efficient port operations with other logistics operations. The Vuosaari Harbor complex comprises the main harbor area, the adjacent business and logistics zone and the gate area.

(photo courtesy Vuosaarensatama.fi)

Talvivaara Project

Talvivaara Project, is organized by Talvivaara Mining Company Plc. which is constructing a large open pit nickel mine in Sotkamo, Finland. Talvivaara is aiming to become an internationally significant base metals producer with its primary focus on nickel and zinc using a technology known as bioheapleaching to extract metal out of low grade ore. Bioheapleaching makes extraction of metals from low grade ore economically viable. The Talvivaara deposits comprise one of the largest known sulphide nickel resources in Europe. The ore body is sufficient to support anticipated production for a minimum of 24 years. Talvivaara has secured a 10-year off-take agreement for 100 per cent of its main output of nickel and cobalt to Norilsk Nickel.

Talvivaara announced 19.2.2009 the first delivery of approx. 100 tonnes of nickel product from the Talvivaara mine in Sotkamo to the Norilsk Nickel Harjavalta refinery.

(photo courtesy Talvivaara.com)



Olkiluoto3 Project

OL3 (short for Olkiluoto3) – Project is organized by Teollisuuden Voima Plc., which is constructing the fifth Finnish nuclear power station at Olkiluoto, Finland. OL3 is the largest construction project in Finland and one of the largest worksites in Europe. At present a total of 182,000 m³ of concrete has been poured. All the main components of the turbine-generator combination; turbines, generator, exciter and intermediate superheaters have been taken into the turbine building and their installation is in progress. The installation and welding of large pipelines continues. All the large components for the reactor plant are under fabrication and their acceptance tests are starting.



(photo courtesy Teollisuuden Voima Plc)

With almost 4000 workers on the site, the manpower of the Olkiluoto 3 project has almost doubled since the beginning of 2008. The largest nationality is Polish, about 30%, followed by Finnish, ca. 23% and German, ca. 16%. The peak in manpower is to be reached shortly, as the number of workers is expected to increase to 4500.

The size of the worksite results in major challenges regarding occupational safety. The occupational safety index has remained at a fairly good level - the accident frequency on the OL3 site is about 15 per one million working hours. This is significantly less than on Finnish construction sites in general, which have an average index of more than 80. Efforts continue to be focused on the achievement of the zero accidents target.

23rd IPMA World Congress in Helsinki June 15 ... 17 2009

The Finnish project management community main focus is in the up-coming IPMA World Congress, which will take place in Helsinki on June 15 ... 17 2009.



23RD IPMA WORLD CONGRESS
15.-17.6.2009. HELSINKI

The theme for the Helsinki congress is "**Refresh Yourself**". The event will be aimed at regenerating one's professional career, organization and personal development. The congress website is www.refresh09.com.

The event will bring together highly targeted top managers and professionals from all fields in emerging and leading economies. Exclusively designed networking opportunities will connect partners to decision makers, leaders and senior management and all levels of delegates, while helping expand contacts in a "Refreshing" atmosphere. Congress partners can participate in a partner exhibition or sponsor specific activities at the Congress. Four partner levels are offered: Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze. Interested companies should visit www.refresh09.com/partners for benefits and pricing information.

IPMA»

international
project
management
association

Founded in 1967 and registered in Switzerland, the International Project Management Association (IPMA) is the world's oldest project management professional organization. IPMA is an international federation of more than 45 national PM societies in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. IPMA's Annual World Congress is one of the largest and most important gatherings of project management authorities and leaders each year.

About the Author:***Jouko Vaskimo****Author*

Jouko Vaskimo is Projects Director at Ixonos PLC, a major Finnish IT consultancy. Jouko is also an International Correspondent for PMForum and *PM World Today* in Finland. Mr. Vaskimo graduated from Helsinki University of Technology in 1992. Since then he has held project and PM related assignments with increasing levels for responsibility at Sinebrychoff, the oldest brewery in Scandinavia; Kemira Engineering Ltd, a major chemicals company; DNA Finland Ltd, a major Finnish mobile phone operator; and for Nokia. At Ixonos PLC since 2006, Jouko is responsible for project management methodology and competence development within the Ixonos group and at Ixonos clients. Jouko holds the IPMA Level C (Project Manager) and Level B (Senior PM) certificates and is an IPMA assessor for Project Management Association Finland (PMAF). He is a member of the PMAF Board of Directors and a founding member of PMI Finland Chapter. He received the PMP certificate in 2003. Since October 2007, Jouko has been head of the Finnish delegation to ISO for creation of the new ISO 21 500: Project Management: Guide to project management – standard. Jouko resides in Helsinki, Finland and can be contacted at [jouko.vaskimo“at”ixonos.com](mailto:jouko.vaskimo@ixonos.com). Additional information about Jouko Vaskimo can be found at <http://www.pmforum.org/pm%20forum%20team/index.htm>.