

REGIONAL REPORT – UNITED STATES – FEBRUARY 2010



By **Quang Ton**, CABM, CGEIT, CISM, PMP
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The Project Management Institute – Houston Chapter, Inc. has 6 different venues within the Houston metropolitan area:

- Central Meeting (University of Houston, Caspian Room #87 , Houston, TX 77204)
- Downtown Meeting (Main Houston Public Library Branch, Concourse Level Meeting Room, 500 McKinney Street, Houston, TX 77002)
- Galleria Meeting (HESS Club, 5430 Westheimer Road, Houston, TX 77056)
- North Meeting (Strack Farms Restaurant, 5707 Louetta, Spring, TX 77379)
- Southwest Meeting (Schlumberger Forum Cafe, 210 Schlumberger Drive, Sugar Land, TX 77478)
- Westside Meeting (Sysco, 1390 Enclave Parkway Building 1390, Houston, TX)

The topics in January 2010 were:

"Meet PMI Houston's Board of Directors" - This was an opportunity to interact with the Board, ask questions, and share ideas to continue improving the value that the chapter provides to its members and community, each of the available directors took turn to present their goals and desire for 2010.

"Pardon Me – Your Personality is Showing!" by Joseph A. Lukas, PE, PMP, CCE - Knowledge of project management technical skills such as scheduling or budgeting is not sufficient to avoid project failure. Project Managers need well developed soft skills including leadership, conflict resolution and communications. However, Project Managers will not have good soft skills unless they possess emotional intelligence, which is the ability to recognize and manage your feelings, and effectively deal with the feelings of other people. Emotional intelligence also includes recognizing how you deal with

other people and how you react when under stress. This is your personality style. The successful Project Manager also recognizes the styles of other project stakeholders.

This talk explored how to better understand yourself and others, and give you ideas on how to adapt your personality style to improve interactions with project stakeholders. This presentation focused on two of the more common personality models in use, which are the DISC (Dominance, Influence, Steadiness, and Conscientiousness) model and four-color model, both which define four personality types. Other behavior models including the Myers-Briggs indicator model and Enneagrams were briefly reviewed. The presentation explained the key strengths and weaknesses of the four styles as defined by the DISC and color models. More importantly, the talk discussed how each style responds when faced with a stressful situation. The presentation also provided tips on how to identify the styles of project stakeholders, and explained how to flex your style and effectively communicate with other people based on their personality style. This talk helped you improve communications with your project stakeholders and lead to improved project team performance.



Please go to <http://www.pmi-houston.org/p/cm/ld/fid=17> to view the upcoming events this month.

Project Landscape™
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- Message from PMHI President, Kathy Ridley, p. 2
- Showing PMO Value Through Reporting, Marilee Shyman, PMO, p. 3
- Message from PMHI Communications VP, Parkaj Gupta, p. 8
- Economy and Project Management, p. 11
- What Comes First: the Problem or the Solution, Steve Tobak, p. 12
- Meet PMHI Board members, p. 13
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- The Art Project, Russell Ridley, p. 29

The Project Management Institute – Houston Chapter, Inc. published their newsletter on a monthly basis, the contents are diverse going from the message from one of their Board members, chapter meetings announcements, compelling feature articles to the art project to promote creativity and innovation with the project manager skill set.

The edition for January 2010 is now available on their web site (as well as the archived publications) at: <http://www.pmi-houston.org/download.php?sid=1426>.

If you have any initiatives related to the project management discipline or simply feedback that you would like share with the Houston chapter, do not hesitate to contact Quang Ton at director@pmi-houston.org.

2010 PMI Houston Conference & Expo:



PMI Houston
Conference
& Expo 2010

June 14-16, 2010

George R. Brown Convention Center

The Project Management Institute – Houston Chapter, Inc. invites individuals interested in the project management field to an exciting educational event for project managers, project coordinators, program managers, business analysts, team leaders and mid-to upper-level managers. Join your peers for a dynamic conference June 14th thru June 16th at the George R. Brown Convention Center in downtown

Houston.

Visit the web site for up-to-date conference information: www.pmi-houston.org. Online Registration is available since mid-January 2010.

Conference Features 88 breakout sessions with tracks on:

- Agile Project Management
- Professional Development
- Program Management
- Project Management

2-Day Conference & Vendor Expo to include:

- 3-Day Vendor Expo
- 1-Day Workshops Monday
- Networking Reception Monday & Tuesday – meet the speakers
- 1-Day Job Fair Wednesday
- Onsite Book Store
- Visit R.E.P.s and earn 25 PDU

For more details, please contact Jane Boucher at PMIC.PM@pmi-houston.org.

Top 10 Skills in Demand in 2010:

Linda Leung has recently published on the Global Knowledge web site some information about the Top 10 skills in demand in 2010.

In the Global Knowledge/TechRepublic 2010 Salary Survey, conducted at that end of last year, one of the questions put to respondents was "What skill set will your company be looking to add in 2010?" The skills listed by respondents include the perennial favorites: security, network administration, and Windows administration. Also included are virtualization/cloud computing

and Web development. Meanwhile, an old favorite, business analysis, makes a comeback. Project Management was the skill listed being in the highest demand:

"As we emerge from the recession, organizations aren't likely to go back to the go-go days of throwing money at IT initiatives or taking risks and deploying without careful thought and planning. Organizations are putting pressure on IT to only implement projects that can show real return-on-investment. The first step to achieving a good ROI is professional project planning and implementation.

Project management skills often appear in top 10 skills lists, perhaps because some organizations got their fingers burned in the 1990s through the poor implementation of IT projects such as enterprise resource planning initiatives. But even though the profession is mature (in IT terms), project managers still have work to do to advance their status within organizations. According to an article on the [Project Management Institute Web](#) site, project managers still have to develop their people skills, organizational leadership, and individual professionalism."



For more information, please go to:

<http://www.globalknowledge.com/training/generic.asp?pageid=2568&country=United+States>.

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Quang Ton, CABM, CISM, CGEIT, PMP, is an international correspondent for [PMForum](#) based in the Houston metropolitan area of South Texas, USA. He is also the IT Security Manager – North & Latin America for [Schlumberger Limited](#), the leading oilfield services provider, trusted to deliver superior results and improved E&P performance for oil and gas companies around the world. Through well site operations and in research and engineering facilities, the organization is working to develop products, services and solutions that optimize customer performance in a safe and environmentally sound manner. He has been working on global projects, programs and strategy to secure information and offer security solutions, implementation and integration for the enterprise of 70,000+ employees located world-wide, his main focuses are in service quality, business processes and operational excellence. He currently holds a Masters degree in Computer Engineering from the *Université de Technologie de Compiègne (UTC)* in France as well as a Bachelor degree in Electrical Engineering from the *Institut Universitaire de Technologie de Créteil (IUT)* in France and he has also acquired several credentials such as Certified Associate Business Manager (CABM), Project Management Professional (PMP®), Certified Information Security Manager (CISM®), Certified in the Governance of Enterprise IT (CGEIT®) and Foundation Level in Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL). Quang has been active in leadership positions with the Project Management Institute (PMI®) (Director at Large and VP of Communications) and Schlumberger Limited (Eureka SIG Leader in Process Management). Quang lives in Houston, Texas, USA and can be contacted at pmi.qton@yahoo.com.

