

REGIONAL REPORT – HOUSTON, TEXAS, USA – JANUARY 2010



Project Management Update from Houston

*By Quang Ton, CABM, CGEIT, CISM, PMP
International Correspondent for PMForum & PM World Today
Houston, Texas, USA*

Another year is ending and Houston has been quite lucky not to be hit by the 2009 economic recession as bad as other cities... Looking on the positive aspect, the Project Management Institute (PMI) Houston Chapter, Inc. reached its 3,000-member mark; it was also the celebration of the 35-year anniversary of the chapter offering a spectacular new venue for the Conference & Expo, moving project management from Good to Great with compelling speakers and attractive sponsors.

The chapter also provided a lot of benefits to its members starting with a reduction of the PMP prep class for unemployed members and scholarship donation for students and opening a new meeting venue at the University of Houston.

For more information, check <http://www.pmihouston.org/index.php?mo=cm&op=ld&&fid=10>.



Organizational Structure Changes...



Kathy Ridley is the new President of the PMI Houston Chapter, Inc. in 2010; she is replacing John Gorman who led the organization in 2009 with *"Recognition through Action"* as the theme and with a very successful conference and expo held in April 2009 with this economic downturn.

Kathy will now take on a challenging role, her theme this year will be *"Innovate with PMI"* and it will be with great support that she is surrounded with experienced leaders who will bring the organization to the next level...

As for Quang Ton, he ended his 2-year term as a VP of Communications at the PMI Houston Chapter, Inc. at the end of 2009, Pankaj Gupta is currently his replacement and since June 2009, Quang has been transitioning the various activities related to the Communications Committee. He thinks that change is a good thing, having fresh blood within our Board will help promote creativity and mitigate the risk of variety restrictions; while performing his former duties, he tried to promote and unlock creativity and ideas sharing to strengthen the position of PMIH within the Houston metropolitan area and beyond.

He is now appointed to Director at Large and will handle Special Projects; he will utilize his leadership skills to market the Houston chapter presence and visibility.



The fate of Project Landscape...

End of 2007, the Project Landscape initiative was created so the PMI chapters would have a vehicle to work together for the common good. It started as a joint effort between our two chapters — the Tulsa Chapter and the OKC Chapter, the Houston Chapter joined shortly after to improve the visibility of this project and foster the collaboration among other chapters within Region 6 and beyond.

As we opened the collaboration to other chapters, we had the opportunity to work with over a dozen chapters in our region. Together, we produced 26 monthly issues of Project Landscape, with countless local editions.

As 2009 draws to a close, it is also time for several boards of directors in the Region 6 to relinquish their positions as executive editors of this newsletter: Dotti Patton, Garry Booker and Quang Ton.

Newsletter collaboration between chapters may continue, perhaps under a different newsletter name, and those decisions will be up to the new boards of directors and the editors of the local PMI chapter edition.



About the Author:**Quang Ton***PM World Today International Correspondent**Houston, Texas, USA*

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 and program to secure information and offer physically 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 Schlumberger Limited (Eureka SIG Leader in Process Management). Quang lives in Houston, Texas, USA and can be contacted at pmi.qton@yahoo.com.