

REGIONAL REPORT – FRANCE – JULY 2010



Project Management Update from France  
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**Table of Contents**

➤ **Passed Manifestations:**

- Eurosatory, Paris, June 14-18 2010
- ECI Annual Conference, Paris, June 24-25 2010

➤ **Incoming manifestations:**

Reminder about some manifestations coming soon in France:

- SKEMA International Workshop and Research Seminar in Project & Programme Management, Lille, August 16-20 2010

## Passed manifestations

### Eurosatory, Paris, June 14-18 2010.



As explained in our previous PM world today regional reports, Eurosatory is a major international meeting of the defence sector.

In spite of the general economical context The 10th Eurosatory Exhibition, with the specific theme 'Gathering the World Defense Market', news seems to be excellent in term of influence for its 2010 session.

We are actually waiting for the official data from the organisers about the session.

Next session will take place as usually in two years, leaving the place next year to the 49<sup>th</sup> edition of the famous Paris Air show at Le Bourget, from June 20<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.

Well known for its popular frequentation, this air show is also one of the most important meeting for the worldwide aerospace industry and its clients.

Eurosatory official website: <http://www.eurosatory.com>

Paris Air Show official website: <http://www.paris-air-show.com/en>

## ECI Annual Conference, Paris, June 24-25 2010



**PMForum** a Media Partner for **ECI's Global Construction Summit: "Construction Project Management Best Practice 2010 - A Springboard for the Next Decade"** was present 24th & 25th June 2010 at the conference which has taken place in the Marriott Rive Gauche Hotel in Paris, France.



For 20 years, the ECI is in Europe the only transnational learning and improvement network covering the entire project cycle for engineering and construction.

This event was the result of a partnership developed between the European ECI and the American Construction Industry Institute (CII) in conjunction with other organisations involved in different aspect of construction and project management as, Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB), Constructing Excellence in the Built Environment, and the International Project Management Association (IPMA).

As the result of such an association, the Congress effectively reflected a real willpower of the participants to generously share knowledge of leading edge construction practices.

The event has incorporated an intense programme of speeches, workshops and presentations by leading project management professionals with many opportunities for discussion, debate and networking.

The distribution between speakers coming from the educational and university world, consultants, and the effective project construction practitioners was harmonious.

This balance creates an interesting place where the first one exchanged ideas and studies' results, while the others profited of this interlude in their everyday professional activities to share their experiences, proposing to their peer interesting cases studies, techniques, or management tools.

Thus, as a sample to illustrate the quality of this congress, we can notice the very interesting case study presentation proposed by Steve Hamman from Fluor Corporation: a successful story around risk management of a project portfolio and supply chain concerns.

In few words, the risk exposition analyse of a set of refinery expansion projects bring the project portfolio management team to a close study of one particular bottleneck of their supply chain, common to all these projects: coke Drums.

Anticipating a possible overheating of the fabricators' capacity of production, The Fluor team has studied the construction process of the coke drum and its market. The team also remarks that coke drums are made from special clad plate material, also in limited supply.



The mitigation solution developed brings the company to transform the supply chain by integrating it vertically, allowing the management team to strongly reduce the probability of its break.

*Steve Hamman, from Fluor Corporation, presenting an interesting risk management strategy mixing project and supply chain concerns.*

This initiative becomes a project in itself: secure of the clad plate supply, qualification of additional coke drum fabricators, standardization of the coke drum design, contract with ship-owners in capacity to transport those giant equipments, and so on...

In resume, by this open-minded initiative which in fact has increased the scope of the project portfolio, the management team has not only mitigate a supply chain break risk, but also deliver substantial cost and schedule benefit, creating a real competitive advantage, and even developing new business opportunities.

As Steve Hamman says in his conclusion:

*“The initiative has demonstrated that added value to clients can be accomplished by thinking “out of the box” and by collaborative teamwork of experienced and dedicated professionals”.*

Other interesting exposures addressed by their themes some other interesting best practices or techniques used by the construction industry to develop their project.



Multiple other topics were addressed as reflexions around contracts and procurement, or still about safety health and environment concerns in construction projects.

We can notice some interesting presentations around project governance and decision making.

Steve Morgan, from BAA, exposing a reflexion about stakeholders Management, inspired from Heathrow's Terminal T2 project.



Some consultants and companies also presents their tools as Patrick McGowan from IDENTEC solutions presenting a tool based on RFID technology to manage assets on construction sites, or Chris Why from Intergraph, presenting a reflection around integration in a same tool of construction work-packages' definitions, planning data and their progress control.

Phil Holland's explanations about project management organisation evolution in Shell Company were listened with attention by several of his peers...

Phil Holland from Shell, explaining the way his company has increased its project management maturity level in some years.

At the end of the first congress day has taken place an award ceremony animated by **Michel Virlogueux**, the ECI president, well known as the designer of about one hundred bridges, among which famous realisations as the Normandy Bridge or the Millau Viaduct.



*Michel Virlogueux, the ECI president, opening the Gala Dinner with the awards ceremony.*

A project lead by CEL WSP & BP Exploration Wytch operations and another one managed by AMEC and its client National Grid Have been awarded as projects of the year.

In both case the capacity, even conducted by different means, to build a collaborative approach between the contractor and its customer seems to be the key point of the judges' choice.

Kevin Ho a 3D Graphic designer from Saipem UK Ltd. And Ian Clarck, a field construction Engineer from Fluor Ltd. were awarded as young professional of the year for their professionalism and competences, the Judges have felt impressive.

Finally, Rick Denehoo has been awarded of honorary fellow of ECI for his personal involvement and support in the organisation activities.

The Dinner was a pleasant moment, and an occasion of networking.

The ECI 2010 Global Construction Summit was the first of its kind on a global scale given the diverse nature of topics covered and the range of major companies and organisations from all sectors of the construction industry worldwide participating.

As speakers or as delegates, in a global context still marked by consequences of the recession, Major Construction Clients, Contractors, Suppliers, representatives of Construction Best Practice Organisations and Academic Institutions have played the game and effectively used this meeting to share their ideas their preoccupations and their vision of the future.

PMForum will certainly aim to be present in the next steps of this initiative, which is interesting by the reflection melting pot aspect and the networking field it represents.

**SKEMA 10th International Workshop in Project & Programme  
Management  
&  
5th International Research Seminar in Project & Programme  
Management  
Special EDEN Doctoral Seminar**



Coming from the recent merge of Ceram Business School (Nice, south of France) and the ESC Lille School of Management (Lille, North of France) in 2009, [SKEMA Business School](#) naturally continue to organise the traditional and famous annual workshop seminar in Project & Programme Management previously developed by the ESC Lille School of Management for 10 years.

The seminar has two aims:

1. To provide a forum for doctoral students in project management from Europe and around the world, where they can share experiences in studying project management, exchanging information on:
  - research and theoretical paradigms appropriate for project management
  - research methodologies appropriate for research in project management
  - literature on project management to inform their studies
2. To explore with doctoral students new directions for research in the field of project management.

This year the event will take place August 16 to 20, at Lille in the SKEMA Business School campus.

The main topic of the 2010 session will be:

*Complex Project Management: facts, stakes and research & practical consequences.*

More details will be soon given in next “breaking news” on PMFORUM website.

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**Emmanuel Laffineur** is an International Correspondent for PMForum and PM World Today in France. He also holds a management position at ISTYA, a Belgian Project Management Consultancy and Training Company. A graduate from the Msc. in Project and Programme Management at ESC Lille, Emmanuel LAFFINEUR is also a PRINCE2™ Approved Trainer, an MSP™ Registered Practitioner, and is P2M certified. A former lawyer, Emmanuel began his career as the manager of a litigation department in a French loan company in the 1990's. Quickly he was involved in project management (activity development, IT,...) as a project board team member and as a project manager. Definitely attracted by the world of projects and its various points of interests, he finally left the legal field for project management as his main activity. Emmanuel is a senior trainer and consultant, and has contributed for more than ten years to the success of various projects in different sectors, including IT, Investment Banking and Logistics. Thus, he was involved in a major French investment bank on IT projects as a lead planner, to create and implement an earned value analysis tool, and development of a risk management process along with the supporting tools. More recently Mr. Laffineur has trained a team of project managers of the French Ministry of Budget, Public Accounts and Civil Service, to the first use of PRINCE2™ in French public services. He has also assisted its Methodology department to deploy PRINCE2™ as the standard PM method of the General Directorate for State Modernization. He is actively involved with companies of both public and private sector in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Slovakia. Emmanuel Laffineur lives in Lille, France and can be contacted at [emmanuel.laffineur@istya.fr](mailto:emmanuel.laffineur@istya.fr).