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**Project Management Institute
Michigan Capital Area Chapter**

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Michigan Capital Area Chapter Newsletter

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www.pmi-mcac.org

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Message from the President

Stanley Samuel, MBA, PMP

Welcome Dear Members and Friends,

Summer is almost here and my son has already asked me; Dad can we go to Michigan Adventure? Somebody said it correctly; if you are in Michigan then you love winter. Yes we love winter, but after a six month long winter, we all yearn for the wonderful summer and look forward for the well deserved break!!! I am really glad summer is here.

I am not sure if you visit the PMI website frequently? PMI website has a lot of valuable information. Did you know how PMI began? Here is what I found in the "Hall of Fame" of PMI website.

See President, continued on page 2

Time is Running Out to Register for Professional Development Day!

**Wednesday, April 19, 2006
Radisson Hotel, Lansing, MI**

Register at: <http://www.pmi-mcac.org/>

Great Opportunity to Acquire PDUs!

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President, continued from page 1

It began as a dinner in early 1969 among three men at the Three Threes Restaurant, a small, intimate gathering place just a few blocks from City Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. The dinner was a continuation of several months of discussions between two of the men, Jim Snyder and Gordon Davis. By the conclusion of this meal, it was decided that a new organization should be formed to provide a means for project managers to associate, share information and discuss common problems.

Ensuing discussions resulted in the first formal meeting at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, on 9 October 1969. The by-product of this meeting was the birth of the Project Management Institute. Shortly thereafter, articles of incorporation were filed in Pennsylvania, signed by five persons, who are officially recognized as the founders of PMI - James Snyder, Eric Jenett, Gordon Davis, A. E. "Ned" Engman and Susan C. Gallagher.

I hope you all got to see the new "PMP Passport" that PMI had sent to all PMP's through email, if not check it out at <http://www.pmi.org/passport/mar06/index.html>

Did you know that PMI is looking for volunteers for the 2007 PMI Board Sub-Committee and the criteria for nomination of appointees is mentioned in the PMI Website.

- minimum of ten years professional experience
- must be a PMI member in good standing for a minimum of three years
- currently not volunteering for any other PMI committee, component, project, etc.
- has no conflict of interest with PMI (further information at PMI's Web site)
- goes "above and beyond the call of duty" in their current professional position
- willing to be change agents and risk takers in their organizations, their professional societies and personal lives
- committed to life-long learning and a long-term commitment to PMI

MCAC's Professional Development Day is round the corner; based on all the registrations we are expecting about 250 attendees. If you have not registered, please do it now, before you miss this awesome event. See you all on April 19, 2006.

Cheers!!!

Stanley Samuel, MBA, PMP

Vice President – Logistics

Pam Sawatzki, PMP

We are gearing up for the 2006 Professional Development Day to be held on the 19th of April at the Radisson in downtown Lansing. I am sure from all the registrations that we have been receiving that we are going to have a wonderful turnout.

In addition to the Professional Development day we are looking forward to the May dinner meeting at the usual spot, the Lansing Clarion. We will be recognizing some of the best presentations that we had over the last year. This will be held on the 16th. I hope to see everyone there before we break for the summer months.

Vice-President – Programs, continued on pg 3

Vice President – Membership

Dan Buonodono, PMP

Membership Info:

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new/rejoining chapter members: Ms. Aparna G. Agrawal (Michigan Department of IT); Mr. Lawrence J. Dolimonte, Sr. (Tenneco); Ravi Babu Gunti (Jackson National Life Insurance Co.); Mr. Dace N. Koenigsnecht (EDS); Mr. Randy E. Smith, PMP (EDS); Mr. J. Vincent Swift (Consultant); and Ms. Candace M. Winslow (Michigan Public Health Institute).

I would like to congratulate the following chapter members who have recently attained their Project Management Professional (PMP®) designation: Mr. Zack Mitchell, PMP (Siemens Medical); Mr. Ryan Sadler, PMP (Accenture); and Ms. Kameswari Yeleswarapu, PMP (Shakti Solutions).

Our Chapter currently has 217 members, including 148 PMPs. That's up from 173 and 102 respectively from April of 2005!

Elections Info:

As the Chapter's Immediate Past President, I am tasked with running the annual election process, which take place at the Annual Business Meeting. The Annual Business Meeting will be held at the beginning of the May 16th Program Meeting.

MCAC is soliciting nominations for Chapter Board positions for terms beginning July 1, 2006. Serving on the Board provides the opportunity to work with experienced Project Managers from a variety of disciplines. As a maturing Chapter, you have the opportunity to influence the direction for program and professional development.

The open positions include:

- President (12 month term)
- VP – Programs (24 month term)
- VP – Professional Development (24 month term)
- VP – Communications (24 month term)
- VP – Logistics (24 month term)

The time commitment for these positions is typically 5 to 10 hours per month, and can vary depending on your commitment to the organization.

- Why volunteer for the PMI Michigan Capital Area Chapter Board?
- Gain Professional Development Units towards maintaining PMP certification (10 per year!)
- Opportunity to influence the direction of the chapter, and possibly the global organization
- Gain a greater understanding of the Project Management Institute
- Meet project management practitioners from multiple organizations
- Advance your career!

The roles and responsibilities for each open position are detailed in the Roles and Responsibilities document, located on the Chapter website under Chapter Business / Election Info.

If you are interested in running for one of the above open positions, please complete the Board Election Candidate Form located on the Chapter website under Chapter Business / Election Info, provide a recent resume (if available), and send these documents to membership@pmi-mcac.org by Friday, May 5th.

Vice-President - Membership, continued on pg 4

Vice-President – Membership, continued from pg 3

If you would like to nominate someone else for a board position, send us their name by Friday, May 5th and we will contact them for biography and resume information. Candidates must be current members of PMI and the Michigan Capital Area Chapter.

Note that you must be present at the May Program Meeting in order to cast a vote. You are not required to register for the program meeting if you plan to only participate in the annual business meeting (voting).

If you would like to assist with the voting process during the Annual Business Meeting, or if you have questions relating to the elections process, please contact me at membership@pmi-mcac.org.

I look forward to seeing you all at Professional Development Day on April 19th!

Vice-President - Reports, continued on pg 4

There's still time!

**Register for Professional Development Day
Wednesday, April 19, 2006
Radisson Hotel, Lansing, MI
<http://www.pmi-mcac.org/>**

Please submit newsletter articles / information / advertising to publicity@pmi-mcac.org before the first of each month to be considered for that month's publication.

For additional information, please visit our website at
<http://www.pmi-mcac.org>

Vice President -- Finance

Karl Meier



Michigan Capital Area Chapter PMI Balance Sheet As of March 31, 2006

Assets	
Current Assets – Checking/Savings	\$27,464.42
Total Assets	\$27,464.42
Liabilities & Equity	
Liabilities	\$0
Equity	
Retained Earnings	\$18,530.98
Net Income	\$8,933.44
Total Equity	\$27,464.42
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>\$27,464.42</u>

Note: The jump in net income is due to cash deposits from Professional Development Day registrations. The bulk of the expenses for Professional Development Day will be incurred in April.

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Published Monthly prior to Chapter Meetings

Charlie Kidd	Managing Editor
Dan Buonodono	Contributor
Pam Sawatzki	Contributor
John LeTourneau	Contributor
Karl Meier	Contributor
Amy Piper	Contributor
Stanley Samuel	Contributor
Judy Walsh	Contributor

Publicity@pmi-mcac.org

Michigan Capital Area PMI Chapter Mission

The Michigan Capital Area Chapter (MCAC) is established to provide a professional forum dedicated to promoting project management excellence by:

- Increased value of project management profession by encouraging the development of Project Management Professionals (PMPs)
- Promoting project management as a critical function in organizations
- Ensuring project management is recognized as a profession.
- Having MCAC recognized as experts in project management area locally.
- Providing project management education and training.

Michigan Capital Area PMI Chapter Vision

The Michigan Capital Area Chapter (MCAC) is the professional organization of choice for all project management professionals in the Mid-Michigan area. MCAC will strive to create an environment that enhances the profession of project management, such that project management will be recognized within organizations as a critical functional area.



Zero Chance of a Zero-Risk Project

© March 2006, Dr David Hillson PMP FAPM

david@risk-doctor.com

The word “risk” is a common and widely-used part of today’s vocabulary, relating to personal circumstances (health, pensions, insurance, investments etc), society (terrorism, economic performance, food safety etc), and business (corporate governance, strategy, business continuity etc). One area where risk management has found particular prominence is in the management of projects, perhaps because of the risky nature of projects themselves.

So why are projects risky? There are some factors which are found in all projects, and which make them inherently risky, including:

- *Uniqueness*, involving at least some elements that have not been done before
- *Complexity* of various kinds, including technical, commercial, interfaces or relational
- *Assumptions and constraints* about the future, both explicit (open) and implicit (hidden), which may prove to be wrong
- *Objectives*, defining the measures by which project success will be determined, which are usually fixed and sometimes conflicting
- *People*, including project team members and management, clients and customers, suppliers and subcontractors, all of whom are unpredictable to some extent
- *Stakeholder requirements, expectations and objectives* that can be varying, overlapping and sometimes conflicting
- *Change*, since every project is a change agent, moving from the known present into an unknown future
- *Environment* within which the project exists, including both the internal organisational environment, and the external environment where changes outside the project’s control can occur

These risky characteristics are built into the nature of all projects and cannot be removed without changing the project. For example, a “project” which was not unique, had no constraints, involved no people and did not introduce change would in fact not be a project at all. Trying to remove the risky elements from a project would turn it into something else, but it would not be a project. Indeed projects are undertaken in order to gain benefits while taking the associated risks in a controlled manner. It is impossible to imagine a project without risk.

Of course some projects will be high-risk, while others have less risk, but all projects are by definition risky to some extent. The “zero-risk project” is an oxymoron – it does not and cannot exist. This of course is why risk management is such an important part of effective project management: since all projects are exposed to risk, successful projects are the ones where that risk is properly managed.

To provide feedback on this Briefing Note, or for more details on how to develop effective risk management, [contact the Risk Doctor \(info@risk-doctor.com\)](mailto:info@risk-doctor.com), or [visit the Risk Doctor website \(www.risk-doctor.com\)](http://www.risk-doctor.com).

Events Schedule

April 19, 2006 – Professional Development Day

May 16, 2006 – MCAC Board Elections

Planning and Executing Lansing's Common Ground, Speaker: Kevin Meyer

August 4, 2006 – 7:05 PM – Lansing Lugnuts Baseball Game -- MCAC-PMI Night

Tickets for the game are \$8.00 per person. Seating is limited. Contact Dean Feldpausch at (517) 373-9792 for additional information.

September 2006 -- General Motors Plant Development Process

Speaker: Roman Lazuk

October 2006 -- "Titanic Lessons for IT Projects"

Speaker: Mark Kozak-Holland

For the 2006 program year, the MCAC Chapter Program Meeting will be held at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, 3600 Dunckel Drive, Lansing, MI 48910

MCAC Chapter Program Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, excluding December. Bonus Programs are often held prior to the Program Meeting (normally from 5:15 to 6:00). Please go to <http://www.pmi-mcac.org> for additional information.

Costs: \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. Anyone who does not register in advance will be charged an additional \$5 at the door. If you are not pre-registered, we may be unable to accommodate you due to restaurant limitations.