

Building professionalism in project management.TM

100's Nugget

Project Management Institute Eastern Iowa Chapter

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Remembering the past in Post Project Reviews.

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2009 Issue 5 May 2009

Our Next Chapter Meeting - May 12th

This month's chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 12th, 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Clarion Hotel and Convention Center at 525 33rd Ave SW in Cedar Rapids. The Clarion Hotel and Convention Center phone number is (319) 366-8671.

Program: The program for the May 12th meeting is a presentation entitled "**Managing Yourself and Your Projects through Change**", presented by Beth Combs.

About the Program: With today's world of constant changes ranging from small items such as a change in scope of a project or to significant changes such as company ownership, what are keys to success or maybe just survival? This presentation will provide insight into managing through changes based on 2 significant mergers, 1 bankruptcy, and then 5 boss changes within 2 years.

About the Speaker: Beth Combs is a 17 year veteran at Verizonbusiness; 14 of those years have been spent been managing teams of project managers within information technology (IT). Beth holds an Accounting Degree from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa and received her CPA in Colorado in 1989. Beth has continued in her management role focusing on managing staff and projects supporting an annual investment of approximately \$20 million of new product development as the company and leadership morphed from MCI to MCI WorldCom back to MCI and now the current Verizonbusiness.

Program Schedule:

7:15 - 7:45 Registration, breakfast, and social time

7:45 - 7:50 Opening by chapter president / chapter officers

7:50 - 8:40 Presentation / Discussion

8:40 - 9:00 Final announcements, wrap-up, and social time

Our Menu (subject to change):

- English Muffin Sandwich w Eggs and Bacon
- Fresh Fruit
- Regular / Decaf Coffee / Hot Tea
- Milk

Cost: \$10.00 to chapter members and \$15.00 for guests.

Please note that the Chapter's attendance policy has changed to include a registration fee for all attendees. This is different from the previous policy of allowing attendees who were not eating to attend free of charge. If you have not done so already, please RSVP no later than May 7th to programregistration@pmieasterniowa.org. Once you send a RSVP, cancellations *must* be received by **noon**, Friday, May 8th to avoid being invoiced as a no-show for this chapter event.

Muthuraman M, PMP, Director of Logistics, PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter



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President's Corner

NETWORK YOUR WAY TO SUCCESS!

Networking is more than just a buzzword. Networking is a great way to explore new career options, learn more about a specific industry, gather insights from peers on critical business issues and grow professionally.

It is expected that falling consumer demand, rising unemployment and ongoing credit crunch will fuel downturn through end of this year. Further job cuts are a possibility. When it comes to job hunting, it's not just what you know matters. But it's who you know that determines your success in securing a new job. While new networking avenues open up every day, even tried-and-tested methods of touching base with old friends will prove to be useful and perhaps even essential. It is estimated that as many as 70% to 80% of the best jobs come from effective, consistent networking, as opposed to using headhunters, blind resume mailings and job ads. At the Harvard Business School, for example, 80% of alumni find jobs via networking. Networking is the art of building alliances. It's not contacting everyone you know when you are looking for a new job and asking if they know of any job openings. Networking starts long before a job search and you probably don't even realize you are doing it. Networking is also consistently cited as the Number 1 way to get a new job. It's much better done on a more informal basis, but it must benefit both persons to be most effective. Social networking sites like Linked In are gaining from the downturn. In order to promote the use of such mediums, our chapter has formed a group by the name of "PMI Eastern lowa Chapter" on the Linked In website. Here is an opportunity for professionals involved in project management to become members of the group and network to counter the recession and create an advantageous platform for themselves, once the revival times begin! With this we hope that our efforts help you meet your long term career goals!

Network with a Goal in Mind (Short term vs. Long Term)

Think about what you want to accomplish by joining a particular networking group. Are you looking for a job, trying to develop new business or do you want to expand your network of contacts and become known as the go-to person in the industry? You can choose to be either an active or passive member of the group, but will get the most out of the experience by regularly attending and participating in the activities. While your short term goal could be to get a job, the long term objective should be to build a long lasting relationship with a person or a group.

Access and Exposure - "It's not who you know, it's who knows you."

Joining a professional networking group is an opportunity for you to gain access and exposure to people you might not otherwise meet: a company executive in an industry that you've always wanted to learn more about, a keynote speaker who's an expert in your field, and yes, even someone who may be in a position to offer you a job, or who can connect you to the hiring manager at a company where you've always wanted to work. You can find out when and where networking groups meet by scanning the business-events section of your local newspaper or business weekly. Visit the website of the networking group before going to the first event to learn more about their members, mission and focus. Armed with this information, you can go to the next breakfast, lunch, or after-hours function prepared with questions.

Continued on next page



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President's Corner—Continued

Listen First

An easy way to relax at a networking function is to take the focus off yourself by first listening to the other person. This technique also helps you gain insight as to how that contact can help you, making the connection that much stronger. It's not about collecting the most business cards; it's about collecting the right ones. If you take advantage of all that networking has to offer, and if you have joined the right networking group, you'll find that suddenly, you seem much more visible. People will seek you out and recognize you as a valuable resource. If you're networking correctly, you'll find you have more visibility, greater knowledge, and a wider circle of reliable contacts; and that you can leverage those assets to further your career.

Follow up

A handwritten note or email letting someone know you enjoyed meeting them and worth every minute. Your goal is to solidify your initial impression as a savvy professional - and to be remembered, when they hear about a job opportunity that might suit you. Thank-you notes and quick follow-up to requests for information are little courtesies that mean a lot. Your professionalism will be noted, your calls returned and your referral business will blossom. It also signals to the parties involved that you are committed to success -- yours and theirs.

We, PMI Eastern lowa Chapter volunteers, would like to hear from you regarding how we can help you in promoting your project management career and how local PMI chapter can help you achieve your goals. Please feel free to talk to me or any other chapter volunteers.

Paddy Puthige, MBA, PMP President PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter

PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Fun Night

By Suzanne Prymek, PMP

The PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter will be sponsoring a Fun Night event, slated for Tuesday, September 8th. Planning is in process, and as more details are finalized, be sure to watch for event details.

Mark your calendars now for September 8th. Plan to join us for a fun filled evening and participate in the "Who wants to be a PM Millionaire" trivia game. This event is being hosted by the PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Leadership team.

There will be prizes galore, with a grand prize drawing of one free pass to attend the chapter sponsored Professional Development Day that will be hosted later this year. Appetizers will be provided. A cash bar will be available for the event. The best part of all is that for the Fun Night, there will be no fee charged to attend this event!

More details will be published in subsequent newsletters and on our chapter website about this event as they are finalized. If you have question please contact the VP of Education at education@pmieasterniowa.org.



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Beyond the PMP: PMI's Family of Certifications

By Carol Meeks, PMP

Many of us are familiar with the Project Management Professional or PMP Certification but how about the others? Are you a project member in more of an SME role? Perhaps you manage Programs? Do you find yourself focusing on scheduling or risk management in particular?

The following are certification options outside of the PMP route. All are PMI-driven, follow similar apply-test-renew procedures, and earning one proves your knowledge and abilities in the world of project management! Click on the title to go to that certification's handbook to learn more or <a href="mailto:emailto:mailto:em

Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)

Introduced in 2003, the CAPM credential is for those that "contribute to projects as subject matter experts and team members [and] may also serve as project sponsors, facilitators, liaisons or coordinators." If you are responsible for project tasks in your function/department and looking to earn a certification sooner rather than later (this is particularly attractive to project members currently building their experience and knowledge in project management), this could be a great fit for you!

Program Management Professional (PgMP)

The PgMP became available in October 2007 in response to an overwhelming demand to recognize the value of program management. This credential is for "those who manage programs that contain complex activities that span functions, organizations, geographic regions and cultures; build credibility, establish rapport and maintain communication with stakeholders; possess advanced skills in finance, cross-cultural awareness, leadership, influence, communication, negotiation and conflict resolution." If you are accountable for a program's success with the expectation to modify and adapt the project plan to ensure objectives are fulfilled while employing industry standards on multiple projects, read more about the PgMP to see if it's the right fit for your skill set and help advance your career!

PMI Scheduling Professional (PMI-SP)

One of the newer certifications introduced just last May, the Scheduling Professional is for "project team members with advanced expertise in project scheduling management." Scheduling is critical to project success and directly impacts a company's competitive edge in delivering products and services. If you are responsible for creating and maintaining the project schedule, this is could be the right choice for you!

PMI Risk Management Professional (PMI-RMP)

And last but not least, June of 2008 brought us the newest certification focusing on risk management. "Pressures to complete projects on accelerated schedules and the call for innovations to stay ahead of the competition are among the reasons why qualified risk management professionals are needed... [and this] credential will substantiate the applicant's knowledge, skills and experience in this area." Do you analyze and manage risk in your work today? Are you thinking two steps ahead and planning mitigation tactics if an event were to derail your project? If so, what better way to reduce risk than to be PMI-RMP certified!

All quotes pulled from the "<u>PMI Credential Overview</u>" section of the PMI website where you can also learn more about preparing for the exams, application qualifications, credential maintenance, and much more.



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Do You Have What It Takes to be a Mentor?

By Suzanne Prymek, PMP

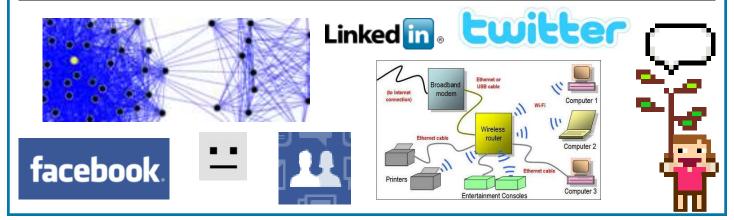
Are you a Chapter Member who is PMP certified? If so, would you be willing to volunteer as a mentor to help those who are seeking guidance in preparing for the PMP certification exam?

We would like to create a list of mentors to post on our site so that other members may contact you with questions. Or perhaps would you be willing to provide a paragraph or two on what worked for you? For example, someone may want to look at the resource list of mentors and see who would be willing to help get a study group started, or perhaps someone is looking for advice on how to prepare "crash course" style.

If we receive enough interest, we would be willing to provide a mechanism for listing you as a contact. Much of the contact between the mentor and mentee could be via phone and email, and would not take a great deal of time. If you would be willing to partake in an effort of this nature, please contact the VP of Education at education@pmieasterniowa.org. Let's help others with tips and tricks that worked and we can increase our number of certified PMP members within the PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter!

Network and explore job opportunities by:

- ♦ Attending professional or trade association meetings (Like PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter monthly meetings)
- ♦ Volunteering for a local Community activity (Including PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter activities) This is a great way to meet new people and network!
- Talking to parents when attending your child's school events, neighbors and people from your social or religious clubs
- ♦ Visiting with members of your social clubs or religious groups
- Using online social networking opportunities such as LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook



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The New Website is a Success

By Tammy Sweat, PMP

The new PMI Eastern Iowa chapter website went live on April 14th. If you haven't visited the new website yet, now would be a good time. The website is located at: http://www.pmieasterniowa.org.

Special thanks goes to our Director of Website, Mark Bazzell, for doing such a fine job. Mark started this position in February and by April has implemented a website for us that brings us up to the 21st century! As with all new technology implementation, there were bugs to work out with questions and answers being sought from our host provider. Through all this, Mark has demonstrated his leadership and determination for our chapter success. Hats off to Mark Bazzell!

If you experience any problems with the site, or have general content questions, please contact Mark at web-site@pmieasterniowa.org.

April 2009

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Website Tidbits—The Calendar

The calendar that is located on the website highlights days in which a new posting was made, not necessarily the date of events. Under the title of every new posting there is a calendar date of the day it was posted. This is the day that will be highlighted on the calendar.

The date under the posting can be changed to the date of the event, however, if this is done then the posting will not display until that date. (not suggested)

The calendar does not allow a forward month search, therefore if it is displaying April you cannot forward to May.

Chapter Offers 50% Discount Meetings to Members Temporarily Unemployed

By Tammy Sweat, PMP

The Board of Directors unanimously voted to help out our fellow comrades by allowing any Eastern Iowa PMI member who is temporarily unemployed to attend the monthly meetings for half price during this economic decline. There are two ways to let us know that you qualify: 1. State you are temporarily unemployed on the meeting RSVP or 2. Inform the registration personnel at the door that you are to be 'Half Price' due to temporary unemployment.. Please resume paying fully once you are back to work. (This will not include the PDD event)

Behind the Scenes

By Tammy Sweat, PMP

- The Board of Directors had their last meeting on March 30th. Amongst other discussions, the following decision was made: Sept 8th will be a PMI Fun Night from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm. It was announced at the April 14th chapter meeting. Planning for this event is underway.
- Several Board members and Directors met with Lew Gedansky from the PMI Foundation on April 15th to learn more about the Foundation's activities.
- A conference call was held on April 20th to kick off the planning of the PDD.

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A Chance to Learn about the PMI Educational Foundation

The PMI Educational Foundation (PMIEF) is the philanthropic arm of the Project Management Institute (PMI®). While PMI focuses on the professional needs of its members and *Making project management indispensible for business results®*, PMIEF is focused on bringing the value of project management to the rest of society. To do so, PMIEF has taken the first step in a major expansion of our programs to achieve the most ambitious social responsibility undertaking in the history of PMI.

Our goal is to build better futures with project management and create sustainable, life skill project management programs, which will benefit a global society and help bridge the talent gap.

Because the Foundation is an autonomous, non-profit, charitable organization operating as a supporting organization of PMI, PMIEF is dependent on contributions to provide the financial resources necessary to undertake its purposes.

Through generous donations, PMIEF has implemented new programs. Here are just a few recent accomplishments:

- In 2008 we conferred US\$90,000 plus in scholarships and awards; in 2009 we will confer over US\$150,000.
- We are working with leading international non-governmental organizations through a non-profit organization called LINGOS (Learning for Non Governmental Organizations). The LINGOS project management initiative is called PM4NGOs. To date, more than 200 disaster-related workers from 29 NGOs in 31 countries have received project management training through this initiative.
- The Foundation has funded grants to train primary and secondary school teachers and help develop pilot programs that teach children the life skill of project management.

Current Programs

The Foundation's current program areas are centered on leveraging project management for improving society in three areas:

- A Better Prepared Project Management Workforce of the Future Expanding educational opportunities for future project management practitioners and professionals in related fields through academic and work-based learning opportunities.
- A Better Prepared Society for Future Success Through Project Management Preparing primary and secondary school students, teachers and administrators, and local communities for success in life.

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PMI Educational Foundation—Continued

 A Better Prepared Response in Future Times of Need - Helping relief and development organizations use their limited resources more efficiently and effectively by increasing their project management capacity.

Foundation Products

The following products are available for use locally by PMI Components and all PMI Members by downloading them at no cost from PMIEF.org:

Careers in Project Management was designed to introduce young adults in secondary schools to project management as a career option.

PM Skills for Life was created as a resource to help civic groups apply the principles of project management to achieve their own project objectives.

PMI Project Management Methodology for Post Disaster Reconstruction (PMMPDR) was developed for those in the disaster recovery field who are providing the kind of leadership and clarity of thought needed to help in the reconstruction effort.

Scholarship and Awards

The PMIEF administers scholarships and awards that are funded by PMI Components, corporations, universities, and individuals. These scholarships are available to PMI members, PMI certificants and prospective project management practitioners:

Over 35 scholarships valued at over US\$150,000

Five awards valued at US\$20,000

Grants

The Foundation provides grants in support of projects that align with our goal to build better futures through project management.

You can help

Please help us build a better future by promoting awareness of PMIEF, working with your component to provide volunteers and initiate programs, or by simply making a donation at www.pmief.org.

Contact Information

For additional information please contact:

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Website: www.<u>PMIEF.org</u>



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April Meeting—Recap

The April 14th meeting was a presentation entitled "Black Bag of Tricks", that was presented by Terry Knecht. Mr. Knecht shared various program management tricks that he has used over the years. The chapter thanks Terry as he was able to share ideas that are not found in text books.

Chapter Meetings Schedule (subject to change)

	Date and Time	Location	Topic and Presenter
	May 12th, 2009	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	"Managing Yourself and Your Projects through Change" by Beth Combs
	June 9th, 2009	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	"Successful Management of Remote Project Teams" by Steve Carney
	July 14th, 2009	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	"Communication & Networking Skills for Success" by Rose Slaymaker

Membership Update - Remember to send in your membership renewals, either through mail or online.

The PMI Eastern lowa Chapter membership stands at 292, with 160 PMP®s and 2 CAPM®.

New PMP®s Congratulations new PMPs: Michelle Klingeman, Holly Ratliff, Sheryl Ryan, Carol Scherrman, Sue Stephens, Geri Stivers and Janine Wasson for passing the certification exam in March.

New CAPM®s Congratulations new CAPM: Brandy Fix, Verizon Business, for passing the certification exam in March.

New Members Welcome New Members Chuck Kroemer, Genova Technologies; Cathy Elings, PMP, Aegon; Ed Green; Albert Jagnow and Lori Lasansky, The University of Iowa Foundation; Stephen Keiser, PMP, Schneider Electric; Gina Prevenas, GreatAmerica Leasing Corporation; Carol Scherrman, PMP, Vangent, and Steve Wright, Xerox Corporation.

PMI Chapter Transfers

If you have a need to transfer chapters because you have moved or relocated due to employment location changes, be sure to update your membership data at the PMI global website, www.pmi.org.

Listed below are the top 5 companies according to membership counts.

Rank	Company	Member Count	PMP Count
1	Pearson	86	53
2	Rockwell Collins	32	17
3	Vangent, Inc.	18	11
4	Aegon	13	8
5	ACT	11	5



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Chapter Sponsored Professional Development (subject to change)

The following chapter sponsored professional development opportunities are available. Note that these chapter sponsored courses are being offered from a non-REP (Registered Educational Provider). Send Chapter Sponsored Professional Development questions and ideas to professional@pmieasterniowa.org.

Date	Time	Cost	PDU(s)	Location	Title
5/11/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Project Integration Management, and Execution
6/15/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Project Quality Management and Six Sigma Delivery
7/20/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Project Risk Management and Proactive Planning
8/17/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Project Communications Management and Performance Reporting
9/21/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Project Resource Management and Soft Skills

Priority Management Training Schedule (subject to change)

The following Priority Management sponsored professional development opportunities are available. Please find more details at http://www.prioritymanagement.com/rsmith/workshop_schedule/ or send questions to rsmith@prioritymanagement.com.

Date	Course ID	PDUs	Location	Title

New Horizons Training Schedule (subject to change)

The following courses are available at New Horizons of Cedar Rapids in the coming months.

Date	PDUs	Location	Title
5/11/09	21	New Horizons	Project Management for Professionals Exam Preparation
5/14/09	7	New Horizons	Microsoft Project 2007 – L1
5/18/09	N/A	New Horizons	ITIL V3 Awareness
6/09/09	7	New Horizons	Microsoft Project 2007 – L2



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PMI - Eastern Iowa Chapter Contacts

2009 Board of Directors

President Paddy Puthige, PMP president@pmieasterniowa.org

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VP of Education Suzanne Prymek, PMP education@pmieasterniowa.org

VP of Finance Brian Thorn, PMP financial@pmieasterniowa.org

VP of Operations Bhaskar Pulikal, PMP operations@pmieasterniowa.org David S Tominsky

Past President Darin Hart, PMP pastpresident@pmieasterniowa.org

outreach@pmieasterniowa.org

2009 Directors

VP of Outreach

Director At-Large Thom Lusardi, PMP atlarge@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Certifications Carol Meeks, PMP certification@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Corporate Outreach Steve Sawyer, PMP corpoutreach@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Individual Outreach Ray Kratville, PMP indoutreach@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of University Outreach Open unioutreach@pmieasterniowa.org

Muthuraman M. PMP **Director of Logistics** logistics@pmieasterniowa.org

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Director of Member Relations Open membership@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Newsletter newsletter@pmieasterniowa.org Open

Director of Professional Development Barry Ehrig, PMP professional@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Programs Open programs@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Technology Open technology@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Volunteers Nita Inani, PMP volunteers@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Website Mark Bazzell, PMP website@pmieasterniowa.org

Other Contacts

Chapter Monthly Program Registration **Program Registration** programregistration@pmieasterniowa.org

Chapter Training Registration Training Registration Online registration.

Chapter Website Administrator Webmaster Contact Director of Website.





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New Horizons Computer Learning Center of Cedar Rapids

They have changed the PMP certification exam as of June 1st, our class will instruct and prepare participants to pass the newest version for certification.

PMP Exam Prep 5/11-13 8:30-4:30pm \$1,725

This course has been designed to prepare participants to take the Project Management Institute's Project Management Professional (PMP®) exam 2009 4th edition. This is not an introduction to project management course. If you are interested in a practical introduction to the profession look to the Introduction to Project Management course. This course will review all of the material covered on the PMP exam and provide over 300 practice questions to prepare participants to succeed.

Length: 3 Days PDUs/Contact Hrs: 21

Martin VanDerShouw is our instructor. Here is information on him

Project Management is much more than a software package. Project management relies on professional standards, advanced tools and real-world industry experience to ensure success. Few firms have the ability to bring all these components together as an integrated solution. Martin VanDerShouw is a Microsoft Partner and PMI-Project Management Institute Global Registered Education Provider specializing in providing complete project management solutions for organizations of all sizes.

He is also affiliated with the University of Denver. This relationship allows participants in our training to receive academic credit towards a certificate.

bachelors, or masters degree with DU. (Please ask your Account Representative for more details)

- Materials provided with our PMP prep exam course are: Rita Mulcahey's PM book, a study placemat that maps out various items needed for the exam, the PMBOK Guide Q & A book and the course binder.
- We have worked with organizations of all sizes to develop customized methodologies, which are in full compliance with the internationally accepted ANSI and IEEE standards for professional project management.
- Mr. VanDerShouw makes extensive use of the internationally accepted standard for measuring organizational project management

maturity to develop and deploy the right solution the first time.

• Mr. VanDerShouw has provided high quality project management training and consulting services to firms such as Qwest Communications, Intel, ChevronTexaco, Sun Microsystems, General Electric, First Data Corporation the U.S. National Nuclear Security Agency, NorthCOM, the U.S. National Parks Service, Hewlett Packard and many others.

With nearly 20 years of experience as an executive and information technology professional, Mr. VanDerSchouw also serves as a member of the International Board of Directors for the Project Management Institute, as a member of the prestigious President's Business Advisory Council for the President of the United States, and as a member of Colorado's Commission on Information Management as appointed by Colorado Governor Bill Owens. Additionally, Mr. VanDerSchouw was recently named one of the top business executives in Colorado under the age of 40 by the <u>Denver Business Journal</u>. Previously, Mr. VanDerSchouw served as Chief Technology Officer (CTO) for the countries' 3rd largest interactive agency where he worked with firms such as Amazon.com, HotMail, Sun Microsystems, and ESPN.com. Prior to his CTO posting he was an information technology executive with Wells Fargo & Company in San Francisco, California.

Mr. VanDerSchouw and his work have appeared in publications such as <u>Forbes Magazine</u>, <u>Interactive Week</u>, <u>Virtual Finance</u>, <u>PM Network</u>, the <u>LA Times</u>, the <u>San Francisco Chronicle</u>, and the <u>San Jose Mercury News</u>. He has lectured at the Daniels School, the Kellogg School, the Krannert School, the Price School and many other colleges and universities throughout the United States. Mr. VanDerSchouw has earned the prestigious Project Management Professional designation and is a Professional Member of the National Speakers Association. Martin is an active member of the American Society for Training and Development, is listed in the National Register Who's Who for Executives and Professionals and teaches at the graduate level for one of the top 50 colleges and universities in the United States

View Class Schedules @ www.newhorizons.com ph: 319.294.9035 x 314