



Welcome to the PLC Partners Q2 edition of our Newsletter

Difficult times these but we are firm believers in setting clear business goals and objectives and delivering on them.

*"Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal."
Henry Ford.*

In this edition we outline our thinking to Recession proofing through the Project Management Office (PMO) see article below.

Our latest success stories:

PLC Partners has been selected as a candidate to provide General Professional Services (GPS) support for the Centre for Higher Education Information Management An Cheim Computer Services Limited ("**An Cheim**") and the Institutes of Technology ("**IoT**") in Ireland, in the provision of:

- ICT Programme & Project Management
- ICT Software Development
- Specialist ICT Skills
- Procurement and Contracting.

PLC Partners are working with one of Ireland's leading **Asset Finance Companies** providing Delivery Consultancy Services, in Software Development, Project Management and Business Analysis, to a range of key projects and initiatives across their ICT operations and business.

PLC Partners **Project Management Course** gains FETAC certification. In collaboration with **Waterford Chamber Skillnet** PLC Partners conducted a 2-day FETAC certified Project Management course in April.

In This Issue

- [Welcome to the Qtr 2 edition of our Newsletter](#)
 - [PLC Partners latest success stories](#)
 - [A view on the benefits of the Project Management Office in recessionary times](#)
 - [Dairy Date: Project Management Training](#)
 - [New Partnerships](#)
-

Diary Date

June 09 – Project Management Course & MS Project course. Please contact us if you would be interested in attending.

This course is designed for people who have been assigned the responsibility for leading or managing a project. This course will give you the skills, knowledge and tools you need to start running your own successful projects.

Partnerships

PLC Partners are engaged through their partner **IS Options** in the implementation of a new banking solution on behalf of St. Raphael's Garda Credit Union. IS Options provide focused strategic advice and solution delivery to banks, credit unions and institutions offering financial services.

TEKenable has teamed up with PLC Partners in a software license and bespoke development agreement.

Recession Proofing through the Project Management Office

How the PMO can deliver results and positively impact on Corporate Performance

We all wish to protect our businesses during periods of uncertainty caused by recession. In difficult times many organisations lose sight of their core objectives and potentially talk themselves into recession.

During these times it is of utmost importance to work towards strategic objectives aligned to the needs of the business to deliver real benefits.

Although most companies have adopted a management by projects approach there still remains a disconnect between what the organisation wants (the benefits) and what is delivered.

This is where the Project Management Office (PMO) delivers real value to an organisation, by asking questions such as; Are the projects still in line with the strategic objectives? How will this project help us achieve those objectives? Should we continue with this project if they don't?

Organizations differ greatly in their approach to and use of Project Management practices.

At one extreme are organizations that have no formal Project Management process at all. In these organizations projects are dealt with on an ad hoc basis with whatever staff and skill that happens to be available at the time. In general, project success in these organizations is truly a hit or miss proposition.

At the other extreme are organizations that have integrated Project Management process into their very fabric. Project Management process is full integrated into all other corporate systems and the entire staff is engaged in continuous improvement of every aspect of Project Management. Project success in these organizations is a more routine occurrence.

Essentially a PMO centralises, coordinates and oversees the management of projects and programs. The PMO provides both operational and strategic support and facilitate current and future projects and the mentoring of programme and project management skills and techniques.

PMOs should take their strategic plans to everyone, ask them what their problems are and what solutions they can come up with. That's how you build buy-in and ownership of the management process.

PMOs are not ends to themselves, but rather vehicles through which organisations pursue their strategic objectives. To be effective they need a sound business case, to enjoy strong executive support from the organisation, have strong leadership within the PMO and be willing to challenge the way things are done currently to create something better.

The PMO must deploy repeatable project management best practices and processes to drive down project cycle time, flow more projects through the organization and work towards enhancing project manager success through training, coaching and mentoring. This includes the development and utilization of tools, templates and checklists. Additionally the PMO should establish metrics to measure the performance and risk of the projects and focus on continuous improvement.

An effective PMO addresses project governance, stakeholder management and benefits realisation, thereby significantly enhancing their organisation's ability to deliver results that positively impact corporate performance ... essential during recessionary times.

*Neil McGrory, MSc, PMP, PgMP
Director of PLC Partners.*

Contact:

www.plcpartners.com

PLC Partners, 31 Mespil Road, Dublin 4. Tel: +353 1 442 9126

info@plcpartners.com

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line