

PMI Breakfast Northwest Notes – Jan. 13, 2006

Topics

1. PMO – Organizational structure, key activities (15 votes)
2. How Project Manager can crossover to other industries (10 votes)
3. How to get Engineers to understand business and vice versa (10 votes)
4. Can to improve estimating for projects (7 votes)

PMO

- Get clear goals
- Should be program oriented, lots of sub projects
- Context – managing IT projects vs. business projects
- Where should the PMO be in the organizational chart?
- Get agreement to process steps with the business
- Define charter
- Question if adding value
- Extend PMO outside IT PMO boundaries
- Consider stage gates for ongoing approval/support
- Executive support is needed
- Strategic or tactical (provide resources, infrastructure)
- Consider how diverse or homogenous the business units are.
- Involvement in strategic planning
- Mange “rouge” projects

PM Crossover

- Do research on industry
- Focus CV on project management skills vs. specific projects

Engineers Understand Business

- Train engineers on project management; make them PMs
- Define terms and definitions
- Look at methodologies/processes
- Put people in different roles
- Document business so both parties can understand technologies
- Front-end education
- Do research
- Communication
- Understand roles and responsibilities
-