

**Paper**  
**Project Management Institute in the past**  
**A promotional folder resurrected**  
**By R. Max Wideman**

***Introduction***

I have discovered, with personal misgivings, that sooner or later as you grow older, you can no longer handle the independence you once had. Like your own home in a house or apartment with or without a family, but at least master of your own destiny. It was a time when you tended to collect a lot of personal belongings, for hobbies, for fun, for satisfaction, and even the tools required to earn a living and general survival.

But no longer, for one reason or other, you have to move – somewhere less demanding, perhaps somewhere less expensive or at least somewhere less demanding in an effort required to maintain your place. It is known as "down-sizing". It's a terrible project you have to undertake and, if you survive for long enough, you may find you have to do it more than once. For those not familiar with the exercise, let me explain.

Down-sizing means going through all of your belongings ranging from cars, to furniture, to clothing, but worst of all, all your books, documents, records, papers, treasured letters and mementos. It means a really thorough review and drastic action to segregate the absolutely-must keep from the would-very-much- like-to-keep. As for the rest, don't even look, just toss.

But then, in my execution of this exercise, I came across a little bit of PMI history that only a few will remember. It goes back to the days, 1985 in fact, when the president of PMI was chosen from one of its members, based on their background knowledge of real project management, and their obvious capability in managing meetings. However, we did have a paid office manager who was central in organizing the annual seminar-symposium, the main activity of PMI in the year.

So, for your remembrance (or enlightenment, depending on when you joined PMI,) I am happy to reproduce the four sides of a promotional letter-sized single-pocket folder of the day. This was a very useful and inexpensive item for conveying all the promotional material provided with your ticket on arrival at the early conferences. It enabled you to work quietly though all the conference stuff when you have time. Or, maybe I should have said: IF you have time!

So, here they are. The images are self explanatory.

*Front side*

# Project Management Institute



*"... building professionalism  
in project management ..."*

## The Project Management Institute

The Project Management Institute (PMI) is dedicated to advancing the state-of-the-art in the profession of project management.

The principal objectives of PMI are to:

- Foster professionalism in the management of projects.
- Advance the quality and range of project management.
- Identify and promote the fundamentals of project management and advance the body of knowledge for managing projects successfully.
- Provide a recognized forum for free exchange of ideas, applications and solutions to project management challenges.
- Stimulate the application of project management to the benefit of industry and the public.
- Provide an interface between users and suppliers of hardware and software project management systems.
- Collaborate with universities and other educational institutions to encourage appropriate education and career development at all levels in project management.
- Encourage academic and industrial research in the field of project management.
- Foster contacts internationally with other public and private organizations, which relate to project management, and cooperate in matters of common interest.

Project management is the art of directing and coordinating human and material resources throughout the life of a project by using modern management techniques to achieve predetermined objectives of scope, cost, time, quality and participant satisfaction.

### History

The seeds of PMI were cast in 1967, when a handful of project management professionals from various fields met to discuss the need for such an organization. Many professional societies had attempted to serve this need through the creation of sections, divisions, or special interest groups. However, these efforts did not seem to provide a satisfactory focus and thrust for project managers and project management specialists.

Over the next two years, the idea of an organization devoted solely to project management was established, and a non-profit organization founded in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, on October 3rd, 1969. In the same year PMI was launched officially at a

seminar in Atlanta, Georgia. Since then membership and the number of local PMI chapters have grown steadily.

### PMI's Members

A variety of industries and professions are actively represented by the membership. These include construction, engineering, architects and developers; electronics, computers, hardware and software; chemicals, petrochemicals, power generation and utilities; pharmaceuticals, medical; research and development; government, education, communications; transportation, aerospace; iron and steel; irrigation and agriculture; food and beverage; finance, insurance, law and many others.

Membership in PMI is open to those interested in furthering the purposes for which PMI was founded and who are actively engaged in the application, teaching or research of project management principles and techniques. Members have full voting rights and privileges.

### PMI's Activities

#### Local Chapters

PMI actively encourages the formation of strong local chapters to provide an opportunity for meetings and discussion throughout the year. Chapters have the same objectives as PMI. Each chapter is autonomous, but chartered by PMI, and forms part of an interacting network of project management knowledge centers of worldwide proportions.

PMI actively encourages chapters or groups of chapters to hold their own regional conferences and seminars.

#### Project Management Journal and Publications

For its members, the PMI regularly publishes the *Project Management Journal (PMJ)*. This professional periodical contains a variety of articles covering the broad spectrum of project management... from detailed descriptions of specific management techniques and systems, to broad ranging discussions of alternative management structures and personnel motivation. The *PMJ* also provides news about Chapter activities and PMI members.

PMI has produced a selection of books and handbooks for sale. Specific topics, such as the roles and responsibilities of the project manager, implementation of project management and conflict management, are dealt with comprehensively.

#### Education and Certification

PMI has established the first accredited graduate degree program in project management at a North

American University, and has introduced a certification program for project management professionals. The certification program consists of a two-part qualification and examination process leading to a six-year period of practice before re-certification is required.

#### Code of Ethics

PMI has published a code of ethics in project management, to which all PMI-certified project management professionals must subscribe. This code, together with its enforcement provisions, is the product of a three-year study of ethics, standards and accreditation requirements in the project management field, and was conducted by a specially constituted task group of PMI officers and members.

#### Annual Seminar/Symposium

A Seminar/Symposium of several days' duration is held at different locations each year, and PMI encourages maximum member participation. The program includes guest speakers, panels, technical papers, ad-hoc discussion sessions, workshops and tours of project sites. Papers presented cover virtually all aspects of project management and are published in the Proceedings given to all registrants. The Proceedings, published since 1972, represent some of the most advanced thought in project management and form a valuable source of reference.

The Seminar/Symposium offers an excellent opportunity for attendees to meet their peers on both business and social levels, and to stay abreast of current thinking in their field. Each Seminar/Symposium includes a program for spouses and guests.

#### Project Management Workshops

PMI sponsors workshops on the fundamentals of project management as well as its more specialized and advanced topics. These workshops are usually conducted in conjunction with the annual Seminar/Symposium.

### PMI's Management

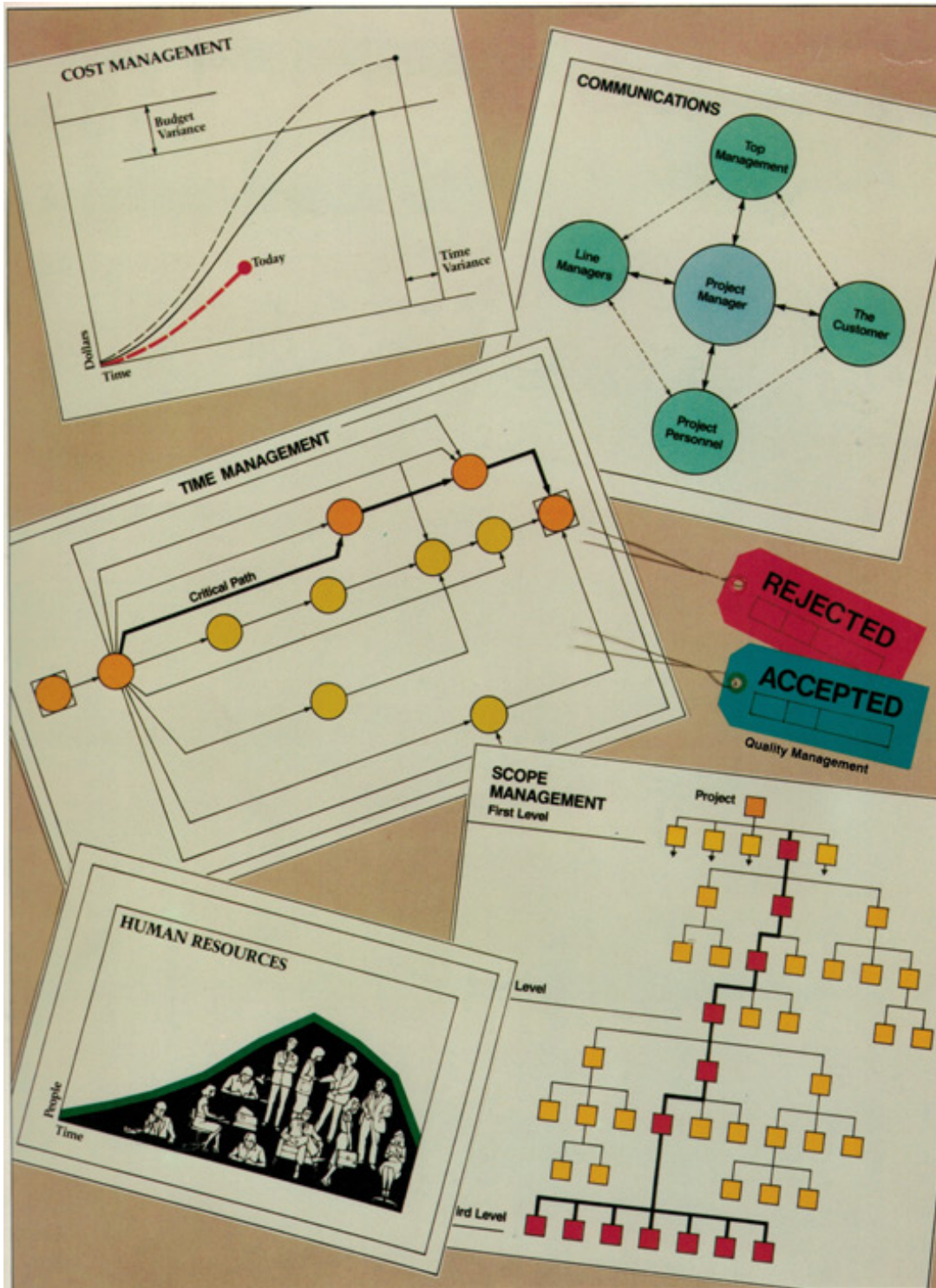
The management of PMI is the responsibility of its Board of Directors, which is elected by the membership at large. The Board consists of the Chairman, President, Vice President-Public Relations, Vice President-Administration, Vice President-Technical Activities and three Vice Presidents-Region. The day-to-day operation of the Institute is under the direction of a full-time Executive Director, who supervises a dedicated staff providing services to the PMI organization. Other appointed officers are the Director of Educational Services, the Director of Certification, and the Editor-in-Chief of the *PMJ*.

*For further information on PMI, or any aspect of its activities, please contact:*

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The illustrations above are drawn from the many fields of endeavor, in which fundamental Project Management concepts (see back cover) are regularly applied.

Back side



In my humble view, in its day it was the most masterful representation of what project management is really all about. Oh, and yes, that is me arguing with the instructor.

R. Max Wideman  
Fellow PMI