

EPM 1 - Project Management-Past and Present

This chapter introduces project management as an important activity in many different careers and industries.

The chapter presents a brief overview of the history of project management tools and project management professionalism.

Careers Using Project Management Skills

1. Everyone carries out projects and every role in every organization.
2. Projects can be any size from one person doing his or her homework to thousands of people working together with billion-dollar budgets.

Project management skills

1. Planning
2. Communication
3. Delivering results
4. Monitoring risks
5. Managing resources

Industry sectors

1. Business owners
2. Agriculture and Natural Resources
3. Arts, Media and Entertainment
4. Building Trades and Construction
5. Energy and Utilities
6. Engineering and Design
7. Fashion
8. Finance
9. Health and Human Services
10. Hospitality, Tourism and recreation
11. Manufacturing and Product Development
12. Education
13. Public Services
14. Retail and Wholesale Trade
15. Transportation
16. Information Technology

History of Project Management

1. Early methodologies are not well-documented, but results still stand: the pyramids, Stonehenge, mass human migrations
2. Late 19th century
3. Construction of intercontinental railroad, other large projects
4. Early 20th Century
5. Frederick Taylor created Scientific Management of industrial processes
6. Henry Gantt developed a bar-chart approach to illustrating the timing of project tasks and progress
7. Mid-20th century
 - a. CPM and PERT methodologies identified the importance of task sequences, task dependencies and the concept of the critical path.
 - b. Project management as a profession
 - i. Project Management Institute (PMI) was founded
 - ii. Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) was created
8. Today
 - a. Increasing recognition of project management as a specialized set of skills applicable to many different industries
 - b. Project Management certifications: PMP, CAPM, specializations

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- c. PMBOK is in its 7th edition
- d. Variations on methodologies:
 - i. phased (waterfall approach)
 - ii. Agile methods
 - iii. The importance of integrating projects into portfolios and programs

Summary

1. Project management has existed as long as humans have worked together to achieve goals
2. Project management skills are useful in all careers
3. Project management takes place in all industries
4. Project management tools and methodologies have evolved over the past century and a half:
 - a. Scientific management
 - b. Gantt chart
 - c. Pert/CPM network diagrams
5. There are associations of professional project managers that set standards for the practice of project management
 - a. PMI's Project Management Body of Knowledge or PMBOK, is currently in its 7th edition