

Pathways to Project Success

OCTOBER 2009

Improved Project Management System Coming to the Department in 2010

By: John Makepeace, OECM

A new project management system is coming soon to the Department that will bring big changes to the tools and information you have for managing your projects. The Project Assessment and Reporting System II (PARS-II) will be rolled out starting February 2010. PARS-II runs on a commercial off-the-shelf software suite. This system addresses a corrective measure in the Departmental Root Cause Analysis Corrective Action Plan to remove the Department from the GAO's High Risk list.

Improvements over PARS

There are major differences between the Department's current project management PARS system and PARS-II. These differences will significantly enhance your ability to identify problems, assess status, and forecast future performance.

PARS-II is designed to contain timely, detailed, project performance data submitted by the contractor on a monthly basis. This includes the project's earned value management system data to the control account level or lower at the program office's discretion. Integrated cost and schedule data and use of management reserve will also be available. This rich set of performance data far exceeds the information in the current PARS.

Did you ever wish you could perform trend analyses or forecasting? Unlike the current PARS system, PARS-II provides tools that analyze your performance data, including the ability to drill down to the lowest available level of detail.

Additionally, PARS-II has standard reports and dashboards that you can customize. You will also be able to create *ad*

hoc reports using PARS II integration with Microsoft Excel. These are significant improvements over PARS.

The FPD's Role

As an FPD, you will have an important role, not only when the system is operational, but also during its deployment. Your primary role during the deployment will be to ensure your contractor can produce the necessary PARS-II data on a monthly basis. Additionally, you will be responsible for ensuring the members of your federal project team are enrolled in the PARS-II training program. The amount of data you will need to enter into PARS II will be noticeably reduced from the current PARS.

As PARS-II moves closer to implementation, you will be kept abreast of events and activities that affect you.

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Web Update

PMCDP has recently posted the upcoming FY 2010 course schedule in a more user-friendly format. The course schedule is available for download on the "Training" page of the PMCDP Web site at <http://management.energy.gov/1581.htm>

Federal Project Director (FPD) Corner:

The PMCDP congratulates the following individuals who received PMCDP certification in September!

Thomas A. Cantey, SRS (Level 3)

Wade C. Whitaker, SRS (Level 3)

Nolan R. Jensen, ID (Level 2)

Robert M. Shaw, ID (Level 2)

Thomas J. Vero, OH-WV (Level 3)

Stacy L. Charboneau, RL (Level 4)

Thomas K. Teynor, RL (Level 1)

Michael Toth Reitz, NNSA HQ (Level 1)

Russell J. Vranicar, ORO (Level 1)

Reinhard M. Knerr, Portsmouth/Paducah (Level 2)

John V. Lee, OOO (Level 1)

The next Certification Review Board (CRB) meeting will take place on Friday, November 13, 2009 from 10 am until noon in Forrestal, room 6A-092.

It is strongly recommended Level 1 and 2 packages ready for CRB consideration be submitted to OECM no later than five weeks prior to any upcoming Board meeting; six weeks for Level 3 and 4 packages is recommended.

Question of the Month

QUESTION: I am in the process of filling out a profile and my program is looking to support me for a PMCDP certification in the near future. However, I recently noticed there are several curriculum and experiential requirements that are changing in the PMCDP Certification and Equivalency Guidelines (CEG) document beginning January 1, 2010. If I do not receive a PMCDP certification before the January 1,

2010 changeover occurs, will I be responsible for the new CEG requirements?

ANSWER: If your package is approved by your respective PSO and forwarded to OECM for consideration *before* January 1, 2010, your profile will be reviewed and your qualifications assessed based on the March 2009 version of the CEG that is available on the PMCDP website. All packages approved by the re-

spective PSOs and submitted to OECM *after* January 1, 2010 will be required to follow the new standards.

On an aside....the current CEG does list these changes and has purposely done so in order to prepare candidates – and the programs – for what to expect when this rollover occurs. A copy of the current CEG can be found on the PMCDP Website at the link below:

<http://management.energy.gov/1576.htm>

Upcoming PMCDP Courses

Start	End	Course	Location	PMCDP Info	CHRIS Code/ Session #	Registration Restrictions
October 2009						
10/20/09	10/22/09	Earned Value Management Systems	Germantown, MD	Level 1 Core Course	001026/0067	NE sponsored ¹
10/20/09	10/21/09	LEED for New Construction and Existing Buildings	Albuquerque, NM	Level 1 Elective	001936/0002	None
10/22/09	12/10/09	Project Management Essentials	Argonne, IL (Chicago Operations)	Level 1 Core Course	001022/0041	None
November 2009						
11/2/09	11/6/09	Project Management Simulation	Richland, WA (Hammer)	Level 2 Core Course	001029/0021	None
11/2/09	11/5/09	Project Risk Analysis and Management	Albuquerque, NM	Level 2 Core Course	001033/0023	None
11/3/09	12/15/09	Advanced Concepts in Project Management	NETL Pittsburgh, PA	Level 2 Core Course	001023/0026	None
Onsite: 12/8-10/09						
11/3/09	11/5/09	Performance-Based Management Contracting	Germantown, MD	Level 1 Core Course	001030/0049	NE sponsored ¹
11/16/09	11/18/09	Contract Administration for Technical Representatives	Albuquerque, NM	Level 1 Core Course	000058/0152	None
11/17/09	11/19/09	Acquisition Strategy and Planning	Washington, DC	Level 1 Core Course	001027/0037	Intern Program Sponsored ²
11/17/09	11/19/09	Contract Administration for Technical Representatives	Germantown, MD	Level 1 Core Course	001028/0007	NE sponsored ¹
December 2009						
12/1/09	12/3/09	Performance-Based Management Contracting	Grand Junction, CO	Level 1 Core Course	000672	None
12/7/09	12/10/09	Planning for Safety in Project Management	Washington, DC	Level 1 Core Course	001035/0040	None
12/14/09	12/18/09	Advanced Leadership	Richland, WA (Hammer)	Level 4 Elective	001041/0010	None
January 2010						
1/5/10	2/18/10	Project Management Systems and Practices in DOE	Idaho Falls, ID	Level 1 Core Course	001024/0033	None
Onsite: 2/9-11/10						
1/11/10	1/14/10	Planning for Safety in Project Management	Albuquerque, NM	Level 1 Core Course	001035/0041	None
1/12/10	1/14/10	Acquisition Strategy and Planning	Oak Ridge, TN	Level 1 Core Course	001027/0036	None
1/25/10	1/29/10	Cost and Schedule Estimation	Aiken, SC (Savannah River)	Level 2 Elective	001044/0007	None
1/26/10	1/28/10	Systems Engineering	Oak Ridge, TN	Level 3 Elective	001049/0007	None
1/27/10	3/13/10	Project Management Essentials	NETL Pittsburgh, PA	Level 1 Core Course	001022	NETL Sponsored ³
Onsite: 2/23-25/10						

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³Contact Camile Sholock, 412-386-5028, sholock@netl.doe.gov

For the new listing of FY2010 classes, visit the PMCDP website at
<http://management.energy.gov/1581.htm>
 and click on the "course schedule" link that appears on the "Training" page .

Questions or Comments?

General questions and comments about the newsletter should be directed to:
PMCDP.Administration@hq.doe.gov. Or visit our website at http://management.energy.gov/pm_certification.htm. For further information about the OECM PMCDP or Program Management Career Development Curriculum contact:

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