

Strategies for Managing Software Projects: Increasing Your Value as a Project Manager

Duration

2 days

Instructor

Jamal Moustafaev

Class Limit

20 students

Prerequisite

None

Price

On-site

Please contact SPC
for pricing (contact
information on page 2)

Public Training

\$1,095 (2 days)

*Discount available for
early registration

Materials Provided

- Student manual containing the course slides
- Student handouts with class exercises

Managing software projects can be challenging; often they run over-budget, don't meet customer expectations, or simply arrive too late. Being responsible to deliver these kinds of projects can be challenging, too. The general consensus is that software projects are different. Applying general project management principles and techniques frequently won't yield the results you want.

Strategies for Managing Software Projects has been designed to give you the insights necessary to be successful; for you to personally deliver the value your organization is expecting. This two-day seminar focuses on the practices and strategies that make the difference between leading consistently successful projects and failing to deliver on expectations.

This workshop will enable attendees to understand the difficult problems that affect software projects and develop sensible strategies to manage those projects: how to deal with complexity, especially complexity that changes over time; cope with a large number of unknowns that have to be worked around; and, how to address management's high expectations of your project's outcome.

At the end of this seminar, participants will be equipped with strategies to successfully overcome challenges, such as:

- Getting everyone to agree on the project's goals and objectives
- Pressure to provide realistic estimates early, before much is understood about the end product of the project
- Ensure the project's development strategy satisfies business goals
- Deal with unique challenges of infrastructure projects or upgrades
- Coping when there's no consensus on what the project is to deliver
- Effective communications - don't get caught by late involvement or project slips
- Working with limited authority or stakeholders who are not 100% committed
- The balancing act - financial considerations, technology issues and team dynamics
- Managing the project on a part-time basis

TRAINING

Strategies for Managing Software Projects: Increasing Your Value as a Project Manager

Instructor

Jamal Moustafaev is an improvement expert with Software Productivity Center Inc. His extensive background in project management includes managing software projects for organizations such as HSBC Bank Canada, Kodak/Creo, Intrawest, and Workers Compensation Board of BC. Jamal also teaches at BCIT on the principles of Project Planning and Scheduling. He holds a PMP certification, an MBA in Finance (Derivative Securities) and a BBA in Finance and Management Science from SFU.

Intended Audience

This course is ideally suited to both new and experienced project managers who want to improve their skills or develop an understanding of software project management processes and techniques. Attendees will gain an understanding of the strategies and skills necessary to manage software projects of any size.

For more information on this or other SPC Springboard courses, please visit www.spcspringboard.com or e-mail SPC at info@spc.ca

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Outline

What the project manager is supposed to do

- Being clear on what is important at this time
- Getting agreement on success and setting expectations. Is it doable?
- Expectations, estimates, cooperation & support
- Getting involvement & commitment
- Stakeholders, teams, contractors, people

Disciplined thought and creativity

- Harnessing creativity – but don't perfect perfection
- Focus on consistency of approach, not adherence to process

Building the plan, selecting resources – perspectives on success

- Listen to what is important
- Focus on the customer

Optimizing success – balancing trade-offs

- Building confidence – dealing with unknowns
- Taming complexity, making it doable
- Focus on quality early; save time at the end
- Process, frameworks, standards, lifecycles – getting it right – “just enough”

Developing your instinct

- Building the confidence for you, your team and your stakeholders to succeed
- Understanding how software development happens
- Progress; is it happening?
- Scanning for early-warning signs
- How to identify risks worth the worry
- Conflict-proof your project

What to expect as development proceeds – managing as events unfold

- Delivering goals
- Don't short-change quality
- Scope creep – kill it on day one
- Managing the dollars and people
- Be open to change, adjusting priorities and perspectives
- Balancing expectations with progress

As you wind down another successful project

- What did you achieve? Measuring the project's success
- What have you learned? Making sure you learned it
- What can you pass onto others? How do you do it?

