

The Lazy Project Manager: The Art of Productive Laziness

Abstract:

'Progress isn't made by early risers. It's made by lazy men trying to find easier ways to do something.'

Learn about the art of productive laziness with The Lazy Project Manager; understanding what is meant by the 'productive lazy' approach to projects (and life) and learn how to apply these lessons 'to be twice as productive and still leave the office early'.

Workshop:

The workshop will cover the definition of productive laziness, the science behind the theory (yes there really is some), and will share some personal learning experiences and look at the key project stages, one of which the 'lazy' project manager works very hard in and the second they should be in the position of enjoying the 'comfy chair' safe in the knowledge that the project is well under control.

A specific focus will be made on the third area, project closure, which can be done so much better with very little effort but with a significant value add for all 'would be' lazy project managers.

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

- Apply the approach of 'Productive Laziness'
- Understand how to better manage themselves while managing others on projects
- Identify ways to apply the concept of working smarter, not harder
- Apply personal efforts where it matters most on a project
- Work with team members in a more productive way
- Plan projects to start the way they want them to start
- Communicate more effectively with the entire project team

Time:

Two day, 3 hours per day

The remote delivery covers 6 hours and follows the 'best practice' format of each hour of delivery including a balanced mix of presentations, exercises, discussions, and breaks.

Audience:

Project Managers
Senior PM practitioners
Project Administrators
PMO staff
Team members

The Project from Hell (alternatively 'The Worst Project in History')

Abstract:

Off to the time machine to save the worst project in history...

Why learn about Project Success and Failure in a dry, traditional manner when instead, you could participate in rescuing the Project from Hell in this exciting interactive and fun workshop?

Compete with your colleagues in bringing this project back from the brink of complete failure and into the realms of success – to hell and back in one workshop!

With all events encountered being based on a real case study, the Project from Hell has relevance across any business sector and is very appropriate for mixed project skills within teams. To quote one delegate: 'I'm sure this project from hell is based on Project X that we canned last year'.

Workshop:

The aim is a challenging but enjoyable environment with lessons learnt staying in the mind because of the practical and experiential nature of the learning environment.

Delegates will derive real value from the Project from Hell workshop content and materials, as they very much reflect everyday real life scenarios; what can go wrong, mistakes that can be made, loss of control that can be experienced etc. Delegates have to identify these and work out ways in which such events can be more successfully managed in the future.

The amount of time available is tightly controlled to generate the stresses and strains of real-world projects and team working. Quickly this is no longer a case study but a living breathing project that must be saved, by a deadline that is rapidly approaching and cannot be missed.

Welcome to your real project world!

Time:

Version 1: 1 day, 3 hours, basic Project from Hell experience

Version 2: 2 day (3 hours per day), which includes the basic Project from Hell experience on Day 1 and on Day 2 a deep exploration of what makes projects challenging inside attendees organisation

The remote delivery covers 3 or 6 hours (depending on version) and follows the 'best practice' format of each hour of delivery including a balanced mix of presentations, exercises, discussions, and breaks.

Audience:

The audience is 'everyone' connected in any way to project based activity.

Perfect for project kick-offs and for team building activities.

Strategies for Project Sponsorship

Abstract:

It has been said that 'A project is one small step for the project sponsor, one giant leap for the project manager' - but wouldn't we all be that much happier if that 'giant leap' was supported by a really professional project sponsor?

Based on the research from his book 'Strategies for Project Sponsorship' (Management Concepts Press) Peter Taylor, will lead this workshop to explore the current challenges of project sponsorship maturity and will deliver some techniques for creating an effective partnership with today's project sponsors, as well as looking to the future on what could be.

Workshop:

The workshop will follow the theme of understanding and deploying certain strategies for delivering effective sponsorship within your organisation.

It can be focused on project managers wanting to learn to be more effective with the sponsors they work with, or for project sponsors wanting to improve their skills.

Attendees will learn more about understanding the project sponsors you work with, or indeed what type of sponsor you are, and how to develop an effective working partnership between project manager and project sponsor.

- Better understand what role a sponsor should play and what good sponsorship looks like
- Learn how to understand the project sponsor that you have and how to work effectively with them
- Be aware of the role that you should play in developing executive sponsorship inside your organisation
- Recognise at a personal level what is needed to make the transition to project sponsor

Regardless of your experience with project sponsorship in the past this workshop will allow you to understand more from all perspectives.

Time:

Two days, 3 hours per day

The remote delivery covers 6 hours and follows the 'best practice' format of each hour of delivery including a balanced mix of presentations, exercises, discussions, and breaks.

Audience:

Project Managers
Project Sponsors
PMO staff

Make your PMO a great PMO!

How to build and lead the best PMO for your business, and keep it relevant

Abstract:

This workshop aims to aid all would-be and current PMO leaders. As a PMO leader myself, five greenfield PMOs developed in the last 15 years) I know that this can be a really rewarding experience, but not an easy one to find the right line to balance the projects and the business demands.

The workshop is about successfully leading a PMO (whatever you understand by those three letters) to deliver better projects, better business to the customers of those projects and greater success to the organisation that you work for. As well as to best serve the contributing project managers from both a professional and a personal perspective.

Together we will explore some of the research carried out by myself in '*Leading Successful PMOs*' (Gower) and '*Delivering Successful PMOs*' (Gower). The books bring together the experience and views of PMO leaders from around the world and the project managers that work within the PMOs, as well as those who are now seeking brilliant leaders for their PMOs.

Workshop:

Together in the workshop we will identify what it is that successful PMO leaders have and do that allows them to be successful and how the rest of us can learn from those proven experiences.

Attendees will learn more about the sorts of PMO that can be adopted and the styles of operation and management. The workshop aims to aid participants in learning how to grow a PMO to enterprise level or how to re-energise a PMO within an organisation.

At the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Understand the meaning and purpose of a successful PMO
- Understand what makes a PMO successful (and equally what made some PMOs unsuccessful)
- Appreciate the 5 basic types of PMO
- Recognise the 4 operational modes of PMOs
- Explore the 'Balanced PMO' concept
- Take the 'PMO pulse' of their PMO and identify areas for improvement
- Design a PMO that their organisation really needs

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The workshop includes a real-life case study for student reference and discussion and concludes with a look to the future of the PMO.

Time:

Two days, 3 hours per day

The remote delivery covers 6 hours and follows the 'best practice' format of each hour of delivery including a balanced mix of presentations, exercises, discussions, and breaks.

Workshop would include a pre-workshop survey to understand the type of PMO (if relevant) attendees were part of, age of PMO, level of experience and challenges.

Audience:

The remote workshop is directed at anyone sponsoring, leading, or indeed working in a PMO – whether a 'greenfield' PMO start up or a mature PMO:

- PMO Leaders
- Senior PM practitioners
- PMO sponsors
- Those considering investing in a formal project community

No previous PMO experience is required, only a keen interest in learning more about what a PMO can deliver to a business and to the project personnel.

Social Project Team Management

Abstract:

A project is a temporary endeavour where people come together to work towards a common goal and purpose; it is therefore a temporary endeavour that must rely on a social system of communication and collaboration in order to succeed – and this is best delivered through high performing project teams

Social project team management is a non-traditional way of organising projects and people, and managing project performance

It also delivers a common goal for the business by harnessing the performance advantages of a collaborative community, the power of the many

Join Peter Taylor, The Lazy Project Manager, to learn more about how social project management, and project team performance management, will accelerate your levels of project success and how you, as a change leader, can personally benefit from this revolution in project delivery

Workshop:

Attendees will learn about the paradigm shift to ‘Social Project Management’ and what the benefits are, as well as the challenges and opportunities, along with some research insights into the power of project team performance.

At the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Clearly describe the Project Management 2.0 world and the progression towards Social Project Management
- Understand the benefits of a decentralised and collaborative project world
- Have a clear plan for benefiting from project team performance management
- Appreciate what a project manager needs to understand about harnessing this social world and what the obstacles can potentially be, and how to overcome them
- A have ‘top ten’ list of things to do and to avoid when taking your project team ‘social’

Time:

One day, 3 hours

The remote delivery covers 3 hours and follows the ‘best practice’ format of each hour of delivery including a balanced mix of presentations, exercises, discussions, and breaks.

Audience:

Anyone leading projects or leads a community of project managers, and who are keen to understand, and be prepared for, the transformation towards Social Project Management and securing the value of investment in to project teams in the future.

Executives – Stop failing your Projects! (or How to get fired at the ‘C’ Level)

Abstract:

A four-year study by LeadershipIQ.com interviewing over 1,000 board members from 286 public and private organizations that fired, or otherwise forced out, their chief executive found that the number one reason CEO’s got fired was Wait for it Mis-managing change!

And so, the cry goes up ‘Executives; stop failing your projects!’

Yes! you read that right – not ‘Executives; stop your failing projects’ but ‘Executives; stop failing your projects’

In ‘Why good strategies fail: Lessons for the C-suite’ published by The Economist Intelligence Unit Limited the report stated, in the conclusion, that there was a need for increased C-suite attention to implementation (therefore projects) ‘Leadership support is the most important factor in successful strategy execution, yet a substantial number of survey respondents indicate that the C-suite is insufficiently involved’. This is why I make the loud and bold

challenge that ‘Executives are failing their projects’ and I strongly believe that this situation needs to stop – now!

Workshop:

The workshop will explore the true value of your Strategic Change Portfolio (Projects) – it will be bigger than you think – and will explain why it, and you, and your organisation, are at real risk of failure (and wasting a lot of that investment dollars).

What you should do about this critical situation is, of course, simply explained through ‘Two Key Actions you need to take to avoid Strategic Change Failure’, but perhaps something harder to undertake on your own.

Time:

One day, 2 hours

The remote delivery covers 2 hours and follows the ‘best practice’ format of each hour of delivery including a balanced mix of presentations, exercises, discussions, and breaks.

Audience:

‘C’ Level executives
Senior Project Leaders
PMO Leaders
Program Leaders

Two Key Actions you need to take to avoid Strategic Change Failure

Abstract:

If you are concerned about Strategic Change Failure, and that means your portfolio of Projects, then there are two key actions that can dramatically de-risk this potential situation.

- Strategies for Project Sponsorship
- Building the best PMO

Both are required to connect the executive level strategy to business-based change delivery

Workshop:

Step 1: Strategies for Project Sponsorship

It is stated the Standish Chaos Report, amongst many others including PMI’s Pulse of the Profession, that the sponsor is the person who is ultimately responsible for the success (or failure) of the project, who represent the business and the business change. And yet, there is a chasm in many organisations between this statement and the reality of the professionalism and associated investment in development of those active sponsors. We will explore the current challenges of project sponsorship maturity and offer some techniques

for creating an effective sponsorship community as one of the two foundations of project success.

Step 2: Building the best PMO Here will explore the true value of a 'good' PMO in guiding project success and supporting the sponsor community in the management of the portfolio of project change. Exploring what is meant by a 'Balanced PMO', a design developed by Peter, as well as presenting a new working model for project management excellence with the 'Project Academy' concept. All offering that critical second foundation for project success. The workshop will be an interactive experience with first hand case study insights and the opportunity to spend some time with one of the world's most experienced PMO leaders.

Time:

One day, 3 hours

The remote delivery covers 3 hours and follows the 'best practice' format of each hour of delivery including a balanced mix of presentations, exercises, discussions, and breaks.

Audience:

'C' Level executives
Senior Project Leaders
Sponsors
PMO Leaders

Presentation Skills – The Lazy Way to be a better public speaker

Abstract:

Peter Taylor is the author of two best-selling books on 'Productive Laziness' – 'The Lazy Winner' and 'The Lazy Project Manager'.

In the last 10 years he has focused on writing and lecturing with over 400 presentations around the world in over 25 countries and he has been described as 'perhaps the most entertaining and inspiring speaker in the project management world today'.

Based on his experience in travelling the world and speaking to over 80,000 people Peter has developed his own 'Presentation Skills' training to help others achieve more through their own presentations at work and beyond.

Workshop:

This workshop takes you on a journey of understanding as to what makes a good presentation and how you can improve your own style and skills with simple steps.

- Understand what makes for a good presentation
- Consider how their audience will react and what they are thinking
- Appreciate the four forms of 'presenting' purpose
- De-risk that next presentation

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- Manage time, content, tools, and actions
- Receive coaching to prepare for or to review their next presentation (optional extra)

‘Peter is a powerful, passionate and persuasive speaker’

‘If you are looking for a terrific presenter for your event, I highly recommend Peter’

‘Peter’s inspiring style and humour made him one of the top contributors to the event’

Time:

A two day, 3 hours per day workshop delivery

Additional personal coaching time can be purchased with Peter Taylor for ongoing speaking support

The remote delivery covers 6 hours and follows the ‘best practice’ format of each hour of delivery including a balanced mix of presentations, exercises, discussions, and breaks.

Audience:

Anybody who just wants to ‘present’ in more confident and effective way.

AI and the impact on Project Management

Abstract:

Projects are about people and yet project managers spend huge amounts of their time on anything but ‘people’ it seems, which is a little bit crazy!

According to a recent Accenture study ‘The promise of artificial intelligence’, it seems, on average, that managers actually spend 54 percent of their time on project management-related administrative tasks

In the same study, however, managers are also optimistic about what AI can bring to their working world, with 84% believing that AI will make their work more effective and interesting

Gartner recently stated that ‘by 2023 80% of what a project manager does today will be managed by AI...’ so where will that leave project managers in the (extremely near) future?

Join Peter Taylor, The Lazy Project Manager, to prepare yourself for all things ‘AI’ in regard to both project management of the future, and tomorrow – what can it offers you right now, what is the promise of a more interesting and productive project future, as well asking what the steppingstones are to consider on the way

Workshop:

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The workshop will explore a number of key questions in regard to the use of AI in project management, including:

- Will AI be the end of the project manager or the opportunity to become even more successful project managers?

Starting by exploring the four levels of AI: Process Automation, Chatbots, Machine Learning and Autonomous project management, and hearing from two of the project technology market leaders in AI, will form a great foundation of understanding

This is followed by the sharing of research for Peter's new book 'AI in Project Management' about what people feel about AI around the world – practitioners, providers, and thought-leaders

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

- Speak knowledgeably about the AI landscape, current and future
- Appreciate how AI will empower project managers, PMOs and change leaders
- Formulate a plan for AI adoption within their own organisation

Time:

One day, 3 hours

The remote delivery covers 3 hours and follows the 'best practice' format of each hour of delivery including a balanced mix of presentations, exercises, discussions, and breaks.

Audience:

Project Managers
Senior PM practitioners
Project Administrators
PMO staff
Project Sponsors
Team members

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