

## **Brief Report on International Relations Committee (IRC) of PMIJ- First Half 2014 activities**

**Introduction:** International Relations Committee (国際委員会) IRC, continues to stride with cross cultural and diverse topics related to the project management as well as other event-based activities in their monthly meetings. Here is a glimpse of activities for the first half of the current year.

**Planning:** The inaugural session of IRC in January kicked-off with long term members giving their commitment values of project management and determination to carry on with the IRC mission \*. With upswing in overall economic activities directly translating to members getting increasingly busy in work-related chorus as well as considering diverse interest of members, it was decided to keep the monthly sessions for domain experts who would deliver presentation in a topic closely related to project management.

**Feedback:** Later on, as the sessions progressed and based on feedback, IRC decided to introduce four heads under which discussion after presentation should be directed. Namely, the Q&A about the particular presentation (topic), PMBOK Process Groups/ Knowledge areas involved in the presentation, "Lessons learnt" from the presentation and lastly Feedback to presenter.

Following is a list of domain experts and their presentation topics conducted in first half of current year.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
Jan. 9	2014 year kick-off meeting, Practical Program Management	Members Mr. Koji Shiota
Feb. 13	Introduction to International Space Station projects	Mr. Tomo Goda
Mar. 13	Rural Water Supply Projects in Peru	Mr. Kenichiro Sugiya
Apr. 10	Difference between Japanese and Western way of PM approach	Ms. Hiroko Nagaya
15-May	Virtual Language Training	Mr. Brian Cox
Jun. 12	Japanese Airport Privatization	Mr. Tetsuya Joko

**Control & Execution:** PMIJ-IRC has more than 20 members and they are at diverse locations, some residing abroad. Even within Japan, they could be outside Tokyo or sometimes on overseas business trips. In order to connect to all, we had agreed to conduct meeting proceedings on Google Hangouts apart from those present in PMIJ meeting room. The technology challenge had teething trouble, which contributed to "Lessons Learnt". Now we can be confident to say "It works"! For members who are not within PMIJ- Tokyo office, event registration request is mandatory. Earlier, mass invitation to all members result in Hangouts getting 'hanged' since the application supports limited members at a time.

**Knowledge Sharing:** Every IRC session offers participant members tremendous opportunities to learn. First session in January saw Mr Kenji Shiota, <sub>PMIP</sub> giving vital tips about Practical Project Management and insights into Program Management certification. Mr Tomo Goda took all on a spacecraft ride and tour to NASA with brilliant audio-visual clips in February meeting. In March, it was a time to visit Peru in Latin America to illustrate how Japan is augmenting basic living needs like water supply and sanitation, courtesy Mr Kenichiro Sugiya. In following month, Ms Hiroko Nagaya explained meticulously the differences between Japanese and Western Way for managing projects. Far away from Okinawa in May, Mr Brian Cox shared his experiences with occasional blend of humor the Virtual Language Training he had conducted for his clients in the middle-

east. Our own Aviation domain expert and venture fund experienced Mr Tetsuya Joko analyzed complex topic of Japanese Airport Privatization in lucid way in June 2014 session.

Every session was a masterpiece, the question-answer session and the discussion followed threw insights into the difficult topic made easy. As for participants, sharing personalized experiences with presenter made the discussion lively.

Snapshot: Here are some the snaps of the sessions held early this year.



**\*IRC Mission:**

- To discover and research various overseas project management examples and knowledge sharing them in PMI-J.
- To Introduce various Japanese project management skills and techniques to outside Japan.
- To introduce PMIJ-IRC activities for non-Japanese project managers working in Japan.

Interested in joining PMIJ-IRC? Drop a mail  
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