Successful Summit Demonstrates the Power of Volunteer Effort

The success of the PM-Summit, a conference organized by the PMI Munich Germany Chapter in November, was an example of what can be achieved through a cooperative volunteer effort. The event was attended by 340 delegates. In his opening address, chapter President Herbert Gonder, PMP, spoke of the power of the event's organizational team which, by working together, developed the capability to host such a complex event.

In an inspiring keynote talk, Peter Taylor discussed "lazy project management" and the "overload dilemma" facing today's project managers. The audience learned techniques such as how to do the right thing at the right time, what dinosaurs have in common with projects, and how project risks can be mastered through prudence, calm and delegation.

Best Paper Award
In an unusual twist, conference papers were made available to the delegates before the event via the website, www.pm-summit.de.

Niklas Spitczok von Brisinski, PMP, was the winner of the conference’s Best Paper Award. His paper concerned an adaption of elements from A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide) for use in IT projects combined with agile methods. Mr. Spitczok said that this pragmatic combination can enable success in software development projects.

During every break, in addition to exchanging ideas, delegates were able to learn about the benefits of PMI membership and speak with representatives from PMI, thanks to the joint cooperation of PMI chapters in the Germany/Austria/Switzerland region.

Lessons Learned
The diverse program received a lot of positive feedback. One attendee said, "I have just experienced a sensational PM-Summit Conference in Munich. Very professional organization, topical subjects, competent speakers and excellent discussions!"

The project closing phase will provide the strategic input for the next event. There are many ideas from the 14 volunteers, who invested much of their free time in the last 14 months toward the success of PM-Summit. The team—Sven Ehrich, PMP; Martin Fischer, PMP; Jörg Glunde, PMP; Jens Liebold, PMP; Bernd Maurer, PMP; Torsten Müller; Stephen Norton, PMP; Armin Oppitz, PMP; Dieter Pohl; Andreas Röck; Stefan Scheinost, PMP; Brunhilde Sessler, PMP; Eva Weber; and Thomas Zimmermann, PMP—is proud of the success achieved. We are pleased to announce that the board of the PMI Munich Germany Chapter has decided that a similar event will be held in 2012.