

Facilitating Leadership through Project Management

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With more organizations finding projects as the best tool for managing the different actions and initiatives to achieve their desired strategic objectives, the growing need for having qualified project teams has went far beyond any expectations. The Project Management Institute (PMI) which offers Project Management Professional (PMP) certification has reported that By the end of June 2009, there were 359,973 PMP certified individuals distributed globally. It is therefore no wonder that the PMP credential was among the 10 Hottest Certifications or the past few years.

Although the science of project management addresses the areas of scope, time, cost, quality, communication, human resources, risk and procurement, nevertheless, no one can deny the fact that personal skills are the skills that differentiate between a good project manager and an excellent project manager.

Personal skills that are needed for a project are many and they include communication, stress management, emotional intelligence, influencing, problem solving, negotiation, team building and leadership skills.

Unlike other skills, personal skills takes longer time to master and to a great extent is influenced by the personal characters of the individual. Personal skills require changing habits and attitudes that individuals have practices all of their lives.

Although a project manager can delegate to his or her team some or the responsibilities that require those personal skills, nevertheless, the one skill that he or she can never delegate is the leadership skill. At the end, the project manager role is to lead his/her project team to achieve the strategic objectives of the project.

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Mr. Samman is a Senior Project Management Consultant with a 28-year service record providing project management and controls services to over 100 projects with a total value of US \$5000 million. Those projects included Engineering and Construction, Oil and Gas Plants and Refineries, Telecommunication and Information Technology projects. He is thoroughly experienced in complete project management including project management control systems, computerized project control software, claims analysis/prevention, risk analysis/management (contingency planning), design, supervision, training and business development. Mr. Samman is a frequent speaker in topics relating to Project Management, Strategic Project Management and Project Management Personal Skills. Over the past 27 years he has lectured at more than 350 events at different locations in the Middle East. He has written more than 60 articles on project management that were featured in international and regional magazines and newspapers. He is a co-founder of the Project Management Institute- Arabian Gulf Chapter (PMI-AGC) and has served on its board of directors for more than 6 years. He is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) from the Project

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