

INDUSTRIAL TALK 2:

THE IMPORTANCE AND TRENDING OF IT PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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Abstract - In this document, our group would like to present and discuss our findings on the industrial talk that focuses on 'The Importance and Trending of IT Project Management'. Firstly, we will briefly interpret the meaning of project management then delve deeper into its importance in the IT field. Plenty of knowledge is needed to attain from this sharing session as this skill is highly needed in being an engineering and computing student. This is because as a Computer Science student, being a part of numerous projects and group works will be our core and nature.

Keywords – Project Management, Importance

Acknowledgement - Project management is a significant knowledge that must be studied and applied by students from the School of Computing and acts as a key component in the success of making a project.

We would like to express our deepest sense of gratitude to Dr. Aryati Bakri and the rest of the lecturers from the Technology and Information Systems course for allowing us to attend such an inspiring talk.

We are extremely thankful to Mr Mohd Khairul Reeza Ruslan for his valuable guidance and sharing sessions which have immensely contributed to the advancement of our knowledge in IT project management.

1. INTRODUCTION

Due to the pandemic and Covid-19 restrictions, a proper industrial visit to Commerce Dot Com Sdn. Bhd. was called off but instead a virtual industrial talk was held from the Webex video conferencing application by the lecturers of Technology and Information Systems (SECP1513). The talk on 'The Importance and Trending of IT Project Management' was wonderfully presented by our respectable speaker, Mr Mohd Khairul Reeza Ruslan who currently holds the position of the Head of Project Management Office

at Commerce Dot Com Sdn. Bhd. The speaker himself has a remarkable reputation in being the leader of IT Project Managements and has countless working experience in the field. To ignite our understanding, the speaker correlates our life as students to a project. The aim of our project is to successfully graduate by following a few guidelines which are being able to manage our time, cost, scope, quality, risk and also benefits in studying throughout the 4 years in university.

2. IMPORTANCE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Project management is the application of knowledge, skills, tools and techniques to project activities in the project to reach the intended or expected output. These are some importance of project management:

- To avoid financial risk
- Ensure the system that is being delivered is in good quality within time
- To ensure that the cost, time, quality, benefits, risk and scope is manage properly
- To get a desired output

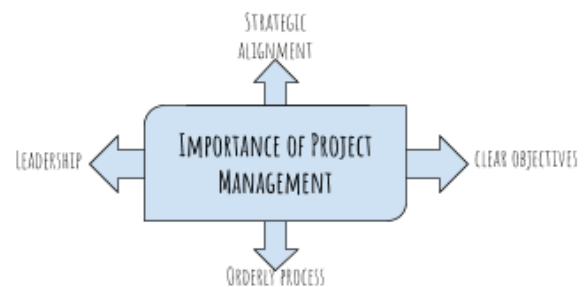


Figure 1: The importance of project managements

Figure 1 shows the other importance of project management. Strategic alignment is one of the importance of project management to make sure that the goals of projects can be achieved. Besides, project management gives clear objectives about the project and the task. Projects

will process in order in project management to ensure the project will finish on time. In project management, the teams can practice leadership skills as everyone in the teams are responsible for the project whether it is successful or not.

3. TRENDS IN IT PROJECT MANAGEMENT

1. **Shifting and globalized gig economy**
In the gig economy, the labor market shows prevalence of temporary positions such as short-term contracts or freelance jobs compared to permanent jobs. Many industries are slowly stepping into the gig economy where they seek for short-term contract workers or freelancers to minimize their costs.
2. **Big data**
Project management frequently involves large amounts of data along the process from project planning to risks estimation. The data collected is turned into useful information and insights using big data analysis. This is very important for any project from understanding customers' needs to detailed risks. The data insights gained then help project managers to make informed decisions.
3. **Automation and artificial intelligence**
Artificial intelligence (AI) in project management will definitely make project execution easier by replacing human tasks with task automation. It helps project managers in making informed decisions based on the insights. Project managers can use AI for many tasks from scheduling to data visualization. By using AI, project managers can also get the best estimation of the project costs, duration and resource arrangement.
4. **Change management**
A project is often associated with changes due to many factors. Changes can happen anywhere, at any time. Thus, a good project manager should stay flexible, able to adapt to the changes and adjust the project process to make sure the project is delivered on time successfully.
5. **Method melding**
As the project becomes more complex, it is not efficient to stick to one methodology. Thus, method melding or hybrid project management becomes a popular choice in which it combines more than one methodologies in a single project. For example, a team implements Agile methodology on top of the

waterfall model in a software development lifecycle. The implementation of hybrid project management not only increases the stability and efficiency in the project process but also saves cost and time.

6. **Advanced project management tools and solutions**
There are many project management tools or softwares available to ease the execution of project management. These tools can help a project manager in project planning, scheduling and time tracking. It also eases the communication and collaboration between project managers with their clients, team members and stakeholders. Besides that, project managers can use these tools to keep track of the budgets, deadlines and progress so that they can adjust the resources if needed.
7. **Impact of emotional intelligence**
The importance of IQ and EQ in the industry. It is very important to have balanced emotions and intelligence in the industry. One of the major emotions is anger which can lead to most misunderstandings and problems in industry. People in industry need to have soft skills to ensure they have good impressions and get promoted often in the industry. Hence, someone who knows how to manage all the emotions well can be successful in their career.

4. RELEVANT IT CAREERS

| Careers in IT | Job scope |
|-----------------------|--|
| Project administrator | Handle all the administration works in a project. |
| Project manager | Handles a project by planning and executing the project. |
| Program manager | Handles and manages all the projects in an association. |

Table 1: Careers in Information Technology(IT)

Table 1 shows careers in IT that exist in project management. The job is divided based on their qualifications to ease their work.

5. REFLECTION

Vincent Boo Ee Khai

In my opinion, I think that knowledge and results are the most important of all but after I join the talk, I realise that it acknowledged me with something that I have never thought of which skills such as problem solving skill, soft skill, communication and many other skills. Other than that, I also found that characteristic is also very important as this could affect a person's mentality and thinking method. For example, positivity can affect the person to become hardworking and also motivated but at the same time, negativity could cause a person to demotivate as well as easily give up. In order not to learn things through the hard way and have a bright future, I need to start developing these knowledge, skills and characteristics from now on and keep on improving myself to easily fit into the future.

Ong Han Wah

I always think that I just need to improve my programming skills and knowledge in IT to become a skillful data engineer. But after attending the talk, I realize that I need to also embrace project management skills when involving in a project or even becoming a project manager. IT project management demands high flexibility as technologies are evolving everyday. Thus, I need to constantly enrich myself with new knowledge. In order to be involved in project management level, I should equip myself with leadership quality and master core skills like planning and budgeting.

Madiah binti Che Zabri

My goal regarding my program is to get the highest CGPA and know what characteristics and skills that most companies find to increase my probability to get a job. This talk impacted my goal as the speaker always gave motivation and shared the skills that a student must possess. The word "To be successful is about me, not people outside

there because in real life, challenges are more difficult" made me realize that I must take care of my lives and cannot blame anyone for the distractions as this is the path that I chose. Besides, the speaker said to start earlier or in the first semester if we want to obtain a good result or CGPA. From the talk, I realize that I must improve my soft skills to improve my potential in the industry, especially communication skills besides my academic results and take care of my emotional intelligence well too.

Qaisara binti Rohzan

As a computing student, I aspire to be great in programming and have astonishing problem solving skills. I also dream to ace and score a great CGPA for every subject that I am taking. For the second industrial talk, the speaker constantly reminds students to make the best out of their degree years by managing their time, cost, risk such as health and emotions and many more. The talk also widens my knowledge in the importance and current trends that exist in IT Project Management. There are many skills that I personally have to develop such as communication, leadership and project managing skills. This is due to the industry's environment in which we have to work closely with other individuals in the department.

Rishma Fathima Binti Basher

My goal regarding my course is to gain a lot of knowledge about Data Engineering and implement it in real life. By attending this Industry talk, I gained a lot of information and knowledge which was very helpful for me and my future career. I believe I could implement all the knowledge I gain in my future. My plan to improve my potential in the industry is by improving my soft skills. From the Industry talk, I realised soft skill is very important to be successful in a career, so, I would participate in a lot of activities and programs to improve my soft skills.

6. REFERENCE

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