

### DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

The objective of the monthly newsletter is to provide you with the knowledge and resources to take your project management capability to the next level.



### IN THIS ISSUE...

.....  
Article - 2014 Project Management Year in Review  
.....  
Blog - Essential Agile Processes Part 2: Product Backlog  
.....  
Community Engagement  
.....  
Project Management Humor  
.....  
Featured Product - Essential Gear  
.....  
Featured Training - Ace Your PMP Exam: Final Review

### PM QUOTE

"Good leaders do not take on all the work themselves; neither do they take all the credit."

- Woody Williams

## CEO Message

Some of you might have already started reflecting back on this year, and we did, too. The first article in this newsletter is about some of the project successes and failures in 2014. From these successes and struggles emerges a pattern: strict compliance to [core](#) project management processes helped project teams achieve high-quality results.



NK Shrivastava, CEO

The second article is about product backlog, a key artifact of the agile process. Having the right level of granularity of requirements and constant grooming of the product backlog is a key success factor for agile projects.

Enjoy reading all the other sections in this issue, and don't forget to join our next [FREE webinar](#) on "What Does it Take to Pass the PMP® Exam?"

Happy Holidays!

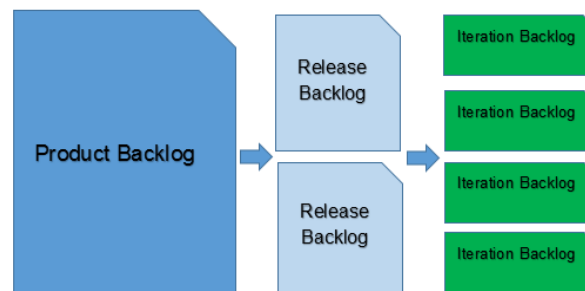
## 2014 Project Management Year in Review

To close out 2014, we look at successful and struggling projects. We argue based on examining successes and struggles that following core project management processes closely can help even large, complex projects succeed. To close out 2014, we look at some recent high-profile project successes and failures. What went right? What went wrong? What lessons can be learned? Troubled projects can illuminate important lessons that project managers can take back to their own jobs. As well, successful projects demonstrate the power of essential project management processes to push boundaries and accomplish what some would call



## Essential Agile Processes Part 2: Product Backlog

If you remember our blog from November 2014, you might recall that the product roadmap is a high-level vision for where you want your product to go. The product backlog follows up on the roadmap by serving as a list of features and requirements that help shape the product goal. Mike Griffiths (2012) defines the product backlog as "the ordered list of everything that might be needed for the product" (PMI-ACP Exam Prep, p. 38) and lists several categories of items typically found in a product backlog, including features to be built, functions, requirements, quality attributes, enhancements, and fixes. | [Read More](#)

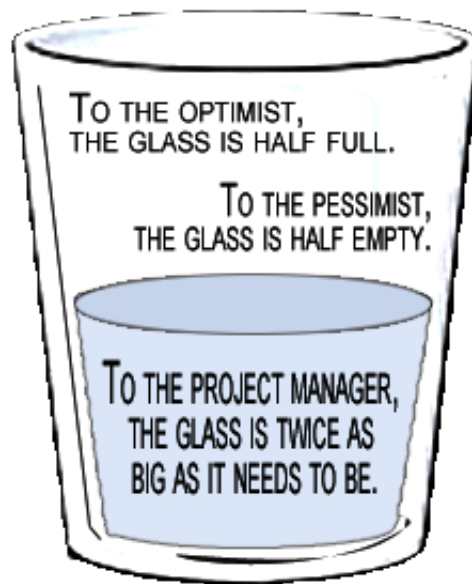


## Community Engagement

NK Shrivastava, CEO of RefineM, presented at a dinner meeting for the PMI St. Louis, MO Chapter on November 19th, 2014. Earlier on November 5th, 2014, NK Shrivastava gave a presentation during the Professional Development Day for the PMI Regina, SK Chapter in Canada.



## Project Management Humor



## Featured Product: Essential Gear for Project Managers



Essential Gear for Project Managers Level 1 is a toolkit for Project Managers and start-up PMOs. It includes only the eight indispensable PM processes needed to successfully execute your project. The kit includes intuitive templates stripped down to the bare essentials as well as a handbook that describes best practices and pitfalls.

**BUY NOW**

## Featured Training: Ace Your PMP® Exam: Final Review

Have you been studying for the Project Management Professional (PMP)® certification on your own or through a self-guided course? Do you feel like you are close to being ready but have some lingering concerns or specific questions you would like to address with a live instructor? Would you like to increase your confidence to ace the exam? If yes, then this ½ day final review course is for you. Our goal is to help you pass the PMP® exam. | [More Information](#)

*Date & Time:* February 12th, 2015 from 9:00AM-1:00PM Central Time

*Where:* Virtual Online Course

*Earn:* 4 PDUs/Contact Hours

*Cost:* \$39

(Ask for other discounts such as group discount and student/hardship discount)

[Sign Up](#) ▶

[Articles](#) | [Blogs](#) | [Past Newsletters](#) | [Trainings](#)

RefineM -- "to help organizations turn their project management capability into a competitive advantage."



© 2014 RefineM. All Rights Reserved.

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to marketing@refinem.com by [marketing@refinem.com](mailto:marketing@refinem.com) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

RefineM | 405 N Jefferson Ave | Springfield | MO | 65806