
Presentation Topics – Jeff Oltmann

Jeff is an experienced presenter. He has 60 – 90 minute keynotes and presentations on the following topics.

1. Project Portfolio Management – Aligning Projects and Strategy

Project portfolio management is not project management on steroids. Its purpose is selecting the right projects to deliver maximum business value. This is fundamentally different from project management and requires completely different techniques and perspectives. This session will show you what portfolio management is, how it relates to project management, and why it is vital for business success. It will summarize current portfolio management techniques and best practices and will show you how to select, prioritize, and coordinate projects to increase their value to your organization.

Note: This is timely because portfolio management has become a buzzword and there is so much confusion about what it is

2. How to Deliver Your Product on Time and Budget

Eighty-six percent of projects are late. Adding to the injury, most of them also spend twice their original budget before they finally finish. Your venture probably cannot survive such a big project miss. Fortunately, you can deliver your vital projects on time and on budget using project management techniques, learned from seventy years of large and small projects around the globe. When applied with the right balance of flexibility and discipline, these techniques substantially increase your project success rates.

Note: Appropriate for introductory audience.

3. The Art and Science of Innovation and Development

Luck is not enough to create the repeated project successes that companies need to survive in a brutally competitive marketplace. Fortunately, savvy leaders can add science to the luck by creating a structured development framework that melds five proven management disciplines: Project Management; Program Management; Portfolio Management; Platform Management; and Market and Strategic Planning. This presentation uses research results and the experiences of an example company to show how these disciplines fit into a single, cohesive framework, creating a bridge from strategic direction to clean execution.

4. Case Study: Implementing Project Management in a Low Maturity Organization

FabCo is a worldwide leader in the brutally competitive global marketplace for semiconductor fabrication. FabCo US operations invest heavily to stay competitive, annually funding a large portfolio of technology improvement projects. Many of these projects failed. They missed schedule and budget, did not deliver what was originally intended, and caused major last minute surprises to the senior management team.

This session describes how FabCo-US designed and implemented custom project and portfolio management techniques to solve this problem. You will learn how FabCo-US designed its PM system, learnings from the implementation process, and current results on how much project success has improved.

5. Navigating Project Politics

Politics are a reality in every organization, but projects provide especially prolific breeding grounds for them. Unfortunately, too many project managers deal with politics ineffectively. This interactive educational session looks at why politics happen on projects and teaches a four-step process for

dealing with them. For most of us, political situations are uncomfortable. This session will give you tools and new insights for honing your political skills.

6. Initiating and Scoping Projects

Too many projects get off to a bad start right at the beginning, with poor definition of why the project is being done and what the expected results are. This interactive presentation shows you how to start a project right, using good chartering and scoping techniques to lay a solid foundation for project planning and execution.

7. Driving Projects to Completion

Many projects fail because of poor execution. Even with a good beginning, a project faces many hazards on its journey toward completion. This presentation shows you tools and tips that you can use to drive projects to successful completion.

8. Managing Multiple Projects as a Program

Few leaders have the luxury of focusing on a single project. Instead, they must balance multiple simultaneous projects, constantly making imperfect tradeoffs between conflicting needs. This session will show you how to manage multiple related projects. It covers:

- How programs and projects are different but complementary
- Considerations for planning a program of related projects
- Tracking and managing the execution of multiple projects

The session includes discussions and interactive exercises that will involve you in the material immediately.

9. Managing Multiple Projects

(Note: this presentation is a variant of the above program. It surveys the different types of project collections rather than focusing specifically on programs.)

Few leaders have the luxury of focusing on a single project. Instead, they must balance multiple simultaneous projects, constantly making imperfect tradeoffs between conflicting needs. This presentation describes management of three different multiple-project scenarios: loosely related projects, tightly related projects targeted at a shared objective, and a portfolio of projects that is diversified and integrated to meet broad organizational objectives.

10. Risk Management for Fast-Changing Projects

Many projects fail because of inadequate risk management. This interactive presentation allows you to try easy-to-use techniques for identifying, prioritizing, and acting on risks. It also explores advanced risk management approaches for modern projects that are in turbulent and fast-changing environments.

11. Stakeholder Management and Organizational Alignment

Projects live in an environment of conflicting priorities, scarce resources, and competition. Much of what your project needs is not within your direct control. Effective stakeholder management helps your project compete for resources, get support, and avoid pitfalls.

This workshop shows you a process for identifying and managing key stakeholders, and navigating the organizational structure to keep the organization aligned with your project.

12. Using Theory of Constraints in Project Management (TOC-PM)

Process control and manufacturing have used ideas of constraint optimization for years. Elihu Goldratt has extended these ideas to project management, to help solve the nagging problems that impede managing projects for repeatable and predictable schedule results. TOC-PM formalizes the

concept of schedule buffers, accounts for human behaviors such as tendencies to procrastinate and gold plate, and provides new techniques to construct schedules and monitor project execution.

13. How Microsoft Project Supports a Management System

Is Microsoft Project® a real management tool, or does it just get in the way of real project management? This presentation examines which parts of project management Project supports well and not so well, and gives you some tips on how to make it useful rather than making you a slave to the software.

This is not a tutorial or demo on how to use Microsoft Project®. It focuses on the major activities of managing projects, and when software support is beneficial.

14. Other Topics

Jeff has extensive material in the following areas. Contact him to customize one of the presentations above or create one especially for your needs.

- strategy deployment
- operational excellence
- enterprise project and program management systems
- effective portfolio management and governance
- management of engineering, product development, and operations

Longer Workshops

Jeff teaches these half-day workshops. If you are interested in longer classes and workshops (1 – 5 days), please request a course list.

1. Practical Projects for Ordinary People

Eighty-six percent of projects are late. Many cost more than twice their original budget before they are finally done. Learn how you can use simple, proven project management techniques to deliver your projects on time, on budget, and with successful outcomes.

Learn:

- Six characteristics of successful projects
- Most common and expensive project mistakes
- Tools and techniques for success in the 4 key steps of every project
- How to synchronize project management responsibilities with ongoing operational demands

2. Techniques for Project Leaders

Project management is art mixed with science. This customized workshop emphasizes the science part. You select from over 30 project management tools that are useful for people who lead or participate in projects. The course includes example templates and worksheets.

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