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Editorial

The mission of the *IJISPM - International Journal of Information Systems and Project Management* is the dissemination of new scientific knowledge on information systems management and project management, encouraging further progress in theory and practice.

It is our great pleasure to bring you the first number of the fourth volume of IJISPM. In this issue readers will find important contributions on management of information systems standards, management of lessons learned, adoption of decision support systems, and management of project interdependencies in project portfolios.

The first article, "Developing and enforcing internal information systems standards: InduMaker's Standards Management Process", is authored by Claudia Loebbecke and Bernhard Thomas. It is widely agreed that standards provide numerous benefits when available and enforced. Company-internal Information Systems (IS) management procedures and solutions, in the following coined IS 'standards', allow for harmonizing operations between company units, locations and even different service providers. However, many companies lack an organized process for defining and managing internal IS standards, which causes uncertainties and delays in decision making, planning, and design processes. In the case study of the globally operating InduMaker (anonymized company name), an established manufacturing supplier, the authors look into the company-internal management of IS standards. Theoretically grounded in the organizational and IS-focused literature on business process modelling and business process commoditization, they describe and investigate InduMaker's newly developed Standard Management Process (SMP) for defining and managing company-internal business and IS standards, with which the multinational pursues offering clear answers to business and IT departments about existing IS standards, their degree of obligation, applicability, and scope at any time.

As Marcirio Chaves, Cíntia Araújo, Laura Teixeira, Debora Rosa, Irapuan Júnior and Cláudia Nogueira, state in the second article "A new approach to managing Lessons Learned in PMBoK process groups: the Ballistic 2.0 Model", in any organization, dealing with lessons learned is a complex issue that involves people, processes and technologies. Although lessons learned processes are already well established in the project management community, the use of modern web technologies to support them is still in its infancy. This paper introduces a new model to manage lessons learned in PMBoK process groups. The model draws upon interdisciplinary literature, which embeds lessons learned processes, shared context and Web 2.0 service models. It is supported by Web 2.0 technologies and centered in PMBoK process groups to allow a thorough overview of the project. An exploratory focus group was set up to validate the model qualitatively. The adoption of this model can help academics and practitioners using PMBoK process groups to acquire a better understanding of managing lessons learned in projects.

In the third article, "Adoption of web-based group decision support systems: experiences from the field and future developments", Jos van Hillegersberg and Sebastiaan Koenen state that, while organizations have massively adopted enterprise information systems to support business processes, business meetings in which key decisions are made about products, services and processes, are usually held without much support of information systems. This is remarkable as group decision support systems (GDSS) seems to be suitable for this purpose. They have existed for decades and modern versions benefit of web-based technologies, enabling low cost any-place, any time and device independent meeting support. In this article, an exploratory case research, the authors study nine organizations in four different adoption categories to learn more about the reasons for the relatively slow adoption of web-based GDSS. Using the Fit-Viability adoption framework, they conduct interviews with the organizations that have experience using GDSS, concluding that adopting GDSS requires considerable and carefully planned change of processes that are deeply grounded in the organization.

Sameer Bathallath, Åsa Smedberg and Harald Kjellin, in their article "Managing project interdependencies in IT/IS project portfolios: a review of managerial issues", claim that adequately managing project interdependencies among diverse and simultaneous projects is deemed critical for successful implementation of project portfolios. The challenge is significant because it may entail managing a complex network of project interdependencies that keeps changing over time. This article investigates the managerial challenges that may undermine effective management of project interdependencies in IT/IS project portfolios. The investigation is based on evidence from reviewing relevant literature and documented studies associated with managing project interdependencies. The main contribution of this study is to discuss three managerial challenges of project interdependencies in project portfolios. The authors discuss the challenges from three perspectives: types of interdependencies; patterns of interaction in interdependencies; and cost/benefit impact of project interdependencies.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the distinguished members of the Editorial Board, for their commitment and for sharing their knowledge and experience in supporting the IJISPM.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to all the authors who submitted their work, for their insightful visions and valuable contributions.

We hope that you, the readers, find the International Journal of Information Systems and Project Management an interesting and valuable source of information for your continued work.

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João Varajão is currently professor of information systems and project management at the *University of Minho*. He is also a researcher of the *Centro Algoritmi* at the *University of Minho*. Born and raised in Portugal, he attended the *University of Minho*, earning his Undergraduate (1995), Masters (1997) and Doctorate (2003) degrees in Technologies and Information Systems. In 2012, he received his Habilitation degree from the *University of Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro*. His current main research interests are in Information Systems Management and Information Systems Project Management. Before joining academia, he worked as an IT/IS consultant, project manager, information systems analyst and software developer, for private companies and public institutions. He has supervised more than 50 Masters and Doctoral dissertations in the Information Systems field. He has published over 250 works, including refereed publications, authored books, edited books, as well as book chapters and communications at international conferences. He serves as editor-in-chief, associate editor and member of the editorial board for international journals and has served in numerous committees of international conferences and workshops. He is co-founder of CENTERIS – Conference on ENTERprise Information Systems and of ProjMAN – International Conference on Project MANagement.

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