

PLM J Product Lifecycle Management Journal

*The Journal of the PLM Interest Group.
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WHAT'S NEW IN MAY

The first 'PLM Top Ten' meeting was held in Zurich on 26 May and set in motion the programme of PLMIG events for 2004. The meeting was valuable not only for the issues raised but for the ideas that were generated about how the Top Ten series could lead to some focussed workshops later in the year.

A visit by John Stark to a European Commission consultation meeting in Brussels brought to light the gap that exists in the understanding of research funding bodies about PLM, and the need for some organisation to address this. As a result, this issue includes plans for a Special Interest Group within the PLMIG for research-oriented organisations.

PLM Top Ten

Nine organisations signed up for the Zurich meeting, and if a clash of dates had not prevented others from attending, the meeting would have been over-subscribed.

The meeting format was distilled from the Oxford and Frankfurt events, and the debate on the day was just as intense. More than 25 PLM issues were identified to take forward to the next meeting in the series.

Perhaps more importantly, the participants decided that the 'PLM Top Ten' should generate more than just the list of the most important PLM issues. They wanted the process to lead to future workshops at which a small number of issues could be worked on in more depth.

The 'PLM Top Ten' will therefore lead to some focussed, hands-on workshops in the autumn of 2004 that allow participants to work together for one or two days on pre-defined PLM subjects.

PLM Research SIG

Some of the origins of the PLM Interest Group in 2003 were based in a consortium which aimed to secure funding for the world's first comprehensive PLM research project. The Group therefore has a background in, and understanding of, PLM research.

This issue outlines plans for a Research Special Interest Group which will provide a platform and correspondence base for PLM researchers around the world.

The PLMIG is not going to sponsor research, and has no special focus on the European Commission, but it could fulfil a need to provide communication and organisation to the global PLM research

community. These plans are still at the outline stage but you can read more about them inside.

PLM Open Days

The first two PLM Open Days, held in partnership with Knowledge Futures, will take place next month, in Amsterdam on 17 June and Hannover on 24 June. More information on these is available by email, and they will be covered again in next month's *PLM Journal*.

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