

PLMJ Product Lifecycle Management Journal

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

The PLMIG held three separate events in April, which makes it the most intensive month since the formation of the Group. On April 29, which would be the normal publication date for the *PLM Journal*, we were locked in the second day of the PLM-SCM Workshop in Gothenburg, so publication of the April issue has had to wait until the first Monday of May.

Three Events

On April 20 PSA Peugeot Citroën hosted the second PLM Best Practice Forum, which followed the same format as the Oxford Forum in February but which had a very French feel. This extended to the attendance, which was much more fluid than for any other meeting we have ever held. People arrived at various times, and others disappeared, as if they were on a carousel, so that when someone stood up to speak we were never quite sure how long they had been there.

However, there was always a good core group and the meeting generated another consistent set of views. The detailed summary will be sent to the participants in the next week or so, and a summary of the views is in this issue.

We are now able to compare the discussions of two separate groups on PLM Best Practice, from Oxford and France, and these led to some useful conclusions which we will report next month.

Research SIG

The Launch Meeting of the PLM Research 2005 initiative (see Feb. PLMJ) identified some detailed areas for PLM research submissions, and began to formulate general aims for PLM research to pursue.

The meeting in Gothenburg subjected these to a critical review, and firmed up the way in which the PLMIG Research SIG can advance the take-up of research into PLM.

PLM-SCM Workshop

This was a true "work"-shop, in the same style as the Benchmarking Workshop of November 2004, consisting of two days of intensive and concentrated discussion of the issues of PDM and Software Configuration Management.

Once again the participants rose to the occasion and a clear and practical logic was developed. This will be written up in the next

two or three weeks and embodied in the *PLM-SCM Guidebook*.

Gaining PLM Buy-In

Finally, for this month, we look at an indirect but practical way for PLM managers to get understanding and commitment from directors and colleagues by making use of the PLMIG Benchmarking methodology.

In the PLMJ this Month:

1. **What's New in April**
2. **PLM Best Practice 2005: Paris Forum**
3. **Gothenburg: Back-to-Back Events**
4. **PLM: Convincing Senior Management**

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