

noblis

Case Study

Six year training partnership with Off Peak Training brings continual improvement for non-profit organization

Introduction:

Project management is a critical part of every organization's success. Certified project management professionals are increasingly preferred or required by employers to validate experience and an understanding of project management process and vocabulary.

Project management training helps standardize the way you and your teams do business, improving efficiency, productivity, and creating a common culture.

Off Peak Training is a leading provider of program management certifications and business training solutions that help organizations optimize their business processes and performance via onsite classroom training, online training and tailored solutions.

Noblis wished to increase their managers' productivity by standardizing their project management methodology.

Who:

Off Peak Training serves the Washington, DC area and the globe with excellence in education and community building.

We deliver training solutions online and in the classroom at accessible times and locations for busy professionals.

We are actively involved in the Project Management Institute® and other organizations that benefit our community.

Noblis is a non-profit science, technology, and strategy organization that brings the best of scientific thought, management, and engineering expertise with a reputation for independence and objectivity.

They support a wide range of government and industry clients in the areas of national security, intelligence, transportation, health-care, environmental sustainability, and enterprise engineering.

With the addition of two wholly owned subsidiaries, Noblis has grown from nearly 600 employees in 2012 to more than 1,000 employees in 2016.



For more information about how Off Peak Training can help with your organization's training requirements

visit www.offpeaktraining.com

What:

Noblis wished to increase their managers' productivity by standardizing their project management methodology, following the Project Management Institute (PMI®) standards and to ensure all their relevant staff members were following those standards.

Off Peak Training provided Project Management Training to enable students to pass the Project Management Institute's Project Management Professional (PMP®) exam and to introduce standardized project management methodology.

This methodology could then be used by all staff; they have been successfully operating within this methodology for six years- two years in the initial training project and an additional four years in continual training and updating.

The Challenge:

To provide training for the whole company in project management methodology from the Chief Executive Officer and the entire executive team, down through all the executives, every manager, and every staff member who is a project leader within Noblis.

This also had to take into account students who were unable to get into a classroom environment for training and allow for on-going training in the future when methodology changes were implemented by the Project Management Institute.

Training took place on site at Noblis' offices and involved all levels of staff working in project management.

"Off Peak Training's professional instructors have worked with a variety of clients ranging from individuals taking the PMP(R) exam through to Government agencies and Fortune-100 companies."



For more information about how Off Peak Training can help with your organization's training requirements

visit www.offpeaktraining.com

Method:

Nicholas Hartigan, Off Peak Training, said: *“They liked our ability to do “off peak” training, i.e. we trained staff Sunday through Wednesday and this was one of the factors in them choosing us for their training requirements. Another thing they liked was our approach.*

“We provided an, easy to follow approach to understanding in such a way that they could remember it and implement it on their projects. It’s about a common set of tools, common process etc. We helped them set the standard.”

Off Peak Training spent 95% of the time working on site at Noblis’ offices but also provided some public classroom courses which their employees could attend, as well as online e-learning for those who couldn’t attend on site.

The training utilized a color-coded learning methodology and course material that follows the PMBOK (Project Management Body of Knowledge,) which is produced by the PMI®.

Our approach to teaching and training takes a different direction from traditional programs.

Throughout the material, each process group follows a certain color so that the text, the pictures, and the diagrams all follow a specific color. This helps the students establish the building blocks towards learning through this visual coding system.

Nicholas added: *“For example, if they see an orange block, they know it belongs to planning processes and purple text goes to Monitoring & Controlling processes.*

“The PMBOK is a paperweight, it’s a tome, it’s very dry. In contrast, our course content is a fun journey through the training, through the processes they have to understand. There is a bit of memorization, but we focus on understanding the material, which makes someone a better implementer and practitioner.”

People who go through the Off Peak Training course go on to take the official exam in Project Management, and as the methodology changes within the industry, our course process enables students to be flexible in learning within a fixed set of parameters.

One side effect of Noblis employees taking part in Off Peak’s courses was that the company as a whole adopted Off Peak Training’s five color-coding system within their day to day business.

“We continue to have a good relationship with Noblis, we continue to train their new people and offer ongoing support, trust etc. We also provide free training for any of their employees who have previously attended one of our courses and may need a refresher or need to learn new methodology,” added Nicholas.

In addition, Noblis’ Chief Executive Officer Amr ElSawy spoke at a monthly luncheon series run by Off Peak Training in Reston, Virginia, which draws around 50 new project managers each month.

Noblis’ decision to get their entire company trained has given them better people, contented staff, and better standards for project management methodologies, by strengthening their organization from the top down.

What Noblis thinks

Noblis began partnering with Off Peak Training to prepare for successfully executing our growth plan. The PMP boot camps helped us prepare our managers for the PMI exam in an efficient and effective manner. Our emphasis on PMP certification and PMI disciplines help us achieve high quality project management performance for our clients and provide a common language for our project managers and executives across our companies. The Off Peak Training team are knowledgeable, experienced facilitators who are responsive and easy to work with.

Amr ElSawy, President and CEO, Noblis

Over the course of 6 years, OPT has provided PMP Bootcamp environments in which both experienced and aspiring project managers within Noblis were able to learn, share and network with one another as they review project management fundamentals as defined by the PMBOK.

The quality of OPT course materials and instruction has proven to equip me and my colleagues with the knowledge to successfully pass the PMP Certification Exam and effectively manage large-scale projects that deliver impactful outcomes to our clients.

David Vera, Senior Capability Development Manager, Noblis

For more information about how Off Peak Training can help with your organization's training requirements

visit www.offpeaktraining.com

Background:

Off Peak Training's mission is to provide the highest quality, accessible training solutions for business professionals across the globe.

We are passionate about our customers' success and are personally committed to your employees through the entire process from application to certification.

We are committed to making education engaging, affordable, and accessible for both small and large organizations.

Off Peak Training offers a wide range of flexible delivery methods, including on-site training, weekday and weekend training, as well as a full suite of web based, self-paced training. Off Peak Training courses help professionals acquire and strengthen technical skills and expertise necessary to meet the stringent requirements for Project Management, Risk Management, Schedule Management and Information Technology, including certification courses preparing students for the PMP®, PMI-SP®, PMI-RMP®, ITIL®, CAP®, and CISSP® certification exams.

As a Registered Education Provider, our project management classes were certified by the Project Management Institute (PMI®).

Our training professionals are proven Project Management, Security and IT industry experts, equipped with knowledge of the latest technologies and best practices to

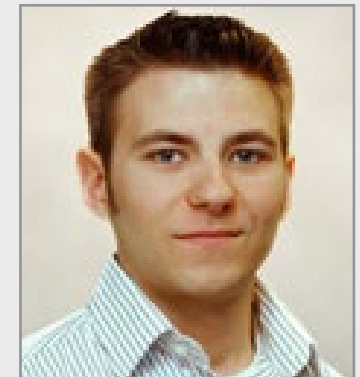
help our clients meet any and all regulatory requirements.

We have provided hands-on training for government agencies, Fortune 100 companies and individuals in all settings and professional levels.

Chris Talmot, from Off Peak Training, worked closely with Noblis on this project delivering the training. He said: *"It is common for students who are required to attend training to question why or be skeptical of the value. Noblis leadership demonstrated their commitment to project management training by attending themselves and quickly sitting for and passing their certification exams."*

"Further, the CEO commonly stops into class to thank the students for making time for the class and reminding them how the training will benefit them personally and the organization as a whole. That demonstration of leadership is part of what makes a strong Project Manager and sets a great example for the students. We see much higher success rates in passing the exam when project management certification is a valued part of company culture rather than just a checkbox."

He added: *"PMP Certification was a major part of the Noblis strategy which led to the win of an approximately \$350m FAA contract."*



Chris Talmot

For more information about how Off Peak Training can help with your organization's training requirements

visit www.offpeaktraining.com

Final Word:

Project management is a critical part of every organization's success. Certified project management professionals are increasingly preferred or required by employers to validate experience and an understanding of project management process and vocabulary.

Project management training helps standardize the way you and your teams do business; improving efficiency, productivity and creating a common culture.

Off Peak Training can help your organization meet these essential requirements in a way which is customized and tailored to suit your employees' needs and through the use of methodology which enables them to continue learning and improving.

Contact us to find out more about what we can do for you. www.offpeaktraining.com.

For more information about how Off Peak Training can help with your organization's training requirements

visit www.offpeaktraining.com