

PLM J Product Lifecycle Management Journal

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

The main news in August is the launch of the four major PLMIG initiatives for Q3 2004.

First to materialise will be a PLM Open Day in Harrogate, UK on 23 September. We move to the Nordic region for the next PLM Top Ten meeting which will be hosted by Technia, Finland.

In parallel with this we are formulating the first PLM Workshop, which is likely to be held in Germany; and the Research SIG is highly active behind the scenes in preparing a response to two currently-open Calls of EC FP6.

Behind the Scenes

Before any PLMIG event can take place there is a lot of unseen work to set up the host locations.

Some meetings, such as the Open Days or last year's Forum and Charter meetings, are held at public venues. More intensive events, such as the PLM Top Ten and the Workshops, need to be hosted by a member organisation.

Harrogate is a central location for the UK Open Day, with good road and rail links. Airport connections are not important because the meeting format is intended as a 'local' (which, for the PLMIG, means 'national') event.

PLM Top Ten

In contrast, the PLM Top Ten meetings draw people from different countries together, and give a regional picture of the current state of PLM. As the next meeting is hosted by Technia we aim to bring together the Scandinavian countries and Finland, and we are also working to set up a third meeting in France.

In the PLM J this Month:

1. **What's New in August**
2. **PLM Top Ten Meeting: Technia, Gothenburg**
3. **PLM Workshops: Choosing the Subjects**
4. **Research SIG: Responding to EC FP6**
5. **Research SIG: Bob Young of Loughborough University on Intelligent Collaboration in the Supply Chain**
6. **PLM Pitfalls: Why Implementations Fail**
7. **PLM Open Day: a UK event in Harrogate, Yorkshire**

PLM Workshops

The location of the first Workshop is reasonably firm, but there is still a choice of possible subjects.

'PLM Benchmarking' has been a likely topic for some time. It addresses the immediate needs of many PLM user organisations and will generate a practical deliverable for those who take part.

Other possibilities include 'PLM Capability Model' (perhaps as a separate subject, or in combination); and 'SME PLM'.

Research SIG

We have details in this issue of the rapid reaction to the FP6 Calls described last month, as the Research SIG attempts to bring together participants so that a proposal is submitted.

PLM Pitfalls

There is also food for thought as we look at the many reasons why PLM implementations fail to live up to initial expectations.

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