

PLMJ Product Lifecycle Management Journal

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WHAT'S NEW IN FEBRUARY

As predicted in last month's issue, the PLMIG ran two launch events in February: a meeting of the Research SIG in Brussels, and an open PLM Best Practice Forum in Oxford.

The PLMIG also began supporting the first live Benchmark to use the PLM Benchmarking Handbook methodology, and this has shown the power of the Navigation Model (*see the PLMJ December issue*). More applications for what has been proven to be some excellent PLM theory are discussed this month.

Launch Meetings

Both of the February events were well-attended and successful, but of the two, the Research Meeting was the more conclusive. It generated a consensus of opinion, firm plans, and a momentum that will carry the initiative forward.

The discussions in Oxford were lively and productive but showed how far there is to go before PLM Best Practice can be defined, let alone achieved. This will be a major task for the PLMIG in the coming months.

PLM Research 2005

The room at the SwissCore buildings in Brussels was almost overflowing for the first Research SIG event, which ran for two days at the start of the month. It can be difficult to combine academic ideas and a subject as complex as PLM, but the

discussions ranged from short-term research possibilities to a long-term plan to develop a unified research/industry base to submit successful proposals in the future.

PLM Best Practice 2005

Debate at this meeting was enhanced by the presence of participants from the insurance industry – the first time that delegates from outside the “conventional” PLM interest base have attended a PLMIG event. Despite this variety the discussions were very structured, and a summary of the highlights is inside.

Future Events

Planning for the PLM Best Practice Forum in Paris was impacted by the French holidays, and the event is now scheduled for April. More on the *raison d'être* for this meeting in this issue.

The RSIG in Brussels chose April 27 for its next meeting, which will be held in Gothenburg. Synergy with one of the favoured research topics

means we will be able to hold a PLM Configuration Management Workshop, also in Gothenburg, on April 28-29.

The next idea on the horizon is for the PLMIG to hold a PLM-ERP Workshop, probably in Germany. This is a major subject, and there will be more in next month's issue.

In the PLMJ this Month:

1. **What's New in February**
2. **PLM Research 2005: Launch Meeting in Brussels**
3. **PLM Best Practice 2005: Launch Meeting in Oxford**
4. **PLM Best Practice 2005: Voyage à Paris?**
5. **Building on the Benchmarking Methodology: Using the Navigation Model**

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