
PLMJ Product Lifecycle Management Journal

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In the **PLMJ** this Issue:

The Forgotten Subjects of PLM

- 1. Intro – Why These Subjects Matter**
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Foreword: PLM Subjects to Remember

When the PLM Interest Group began in 2004, PLM was a shapeless and unstructured area of work. PLMIG initiatives have clarified the most important issues, but after 10 years, some subjects have still not been properly formalised.

The PLM Interest Group will be 10 years old on January 1st 2014. As the Group has evolved it has developed more and more tools and material, all of which are designed to be neutral and effective.

In the early years, from 2004 to 2007, the PLMIG focused on meeting specific needs, such as a methodology for companies to benchmark themselves against each other, or a practical structure to merge hardware and software product management.

More recently, since 2010, the PLMIG has tackled bigger issues such as PLM Standardisation, the integration of PLM and ERP, and the current workshop series to establish a Financial Framework for PLM.

This emphasis on the difficult subjects has meant that some of the lesser issues have remained “on the back burner”. It is therefore worth a look back to see what is still important, and if anything important has been forgotten.

PLM itself has evolved somewhat over the past ten years, so some of the early concerns have become rather out of date, but it is instructive to see which issues are still ongoing after all this time.

This Q3 2013 PLM Journal looks back at the work of the PLM Interest Group, as expressed in the previous 50 publications. It gives visibility to ideas that would otherwise be hidden within the back catalogue, and discusses the issues that will still need to be addressed in the next decade.

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