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CEO/COO FORUM

Kirste Webb, AM.APMP, COO

APMP 20th Anniversary!

Happy Anniversary, APMP! 2009 marks the 20th anniversary for our association. We started with 28 members in August of 1989, and now our membership is more than 3,200, representing commercial and government industries from around the world. We have come such a long way—from the days of typewriters and cut-and-paste graphics, to technology that allows us to work collaboratively regardless of where we are in the world. No longer do we need to wait for four-color process print for our covers, since that was typically all we could do in color. Now we can print in color on demand to almost any location in any country. We can work without the need for wires or, for that matter, without computers, using our Personal Data Assistants (PDAs) to communicate with our teams; and what did we do without the Internet?

If you have not already done so, check out the conference Website. We have posted the schedule and the abstracts to provide you with a better perspective of what to anticipate. It is a jam-packed schedule with presentations and work-

shops that cover, as David Bol said last year, “every imaginable aspect of the capture process through the proposal process.” Our presenters will provide a variety of tools and techniques that attendees can take back and use in their own organizations. This year, we are not only providing presentations on process, but also for how to build and maintain strong teams. For those who enjoy the great tips from Wordman...this year, Wordman is a separate workshop being held on Tuesday afternoon, June 9, along with an Introduction to BD KnowledgeBase, where you can learn more about the APMP knowledge database, which is an excellent tool for preparing for APMP accreditation.

There are also several other workshops, available for a separate registration fee, that include:

- APMP Foundation Level Workshop
- Benchmarks in World-Class Proposal Writing Capability
- Orientation to BD-CMM Concepts and Implementation.

The conference is not the only benefit of membership in APMP. Our chapters continue to gain strength as well. Several new chapters were chartered last year, including our most recent chapter, Mountain West, based out of Utah. We have a group in the Pacific Northwest that is working to form a chapter. The chapters receive benefit from your affiliation with them. If you have not already done so, please update your account on the APMP Website and select the chapter with which you want to affiliate. Chapters receive \$30 per member in good standing that affiliates with them. The chapters can then use this money to host a variety of activities to further the arts and sciences of our profession.

So join me in celebrating the growth of our profession and celebrating our 20th anniversary. We look forward to your continued involvement and hope to see you at the conference in June.

Kirste Webb, AM.APMP, COO