

Carlos Consulting Group

PROJECT MANAGEMENT DEFINED

Project Management is a process that uses tools and techniques to direct the use of various resources in order to achieve a set of clearly defined objectives.

The success for any project is based on its management. This management is based on the five process groups and nine knowledge areas; as defined by the Project Management Institute Body of Knowledge (PMBOK®). The process groups include:

- **Initiating** – Beginning of a project; Defining the objectives; Develop a project scope, assumptions, and constraints.
- **Planning** – Develop the project plan and schedule, Defining objectives and identifying methods to achieve the desired results.
- **Executing** – Coordinating all resources in order to carry out the Project Plan.
- **Controlling** – Ensuring that project objectives are met by means of measuring and monitoring progress at regular intervals, and taking corrective action as needed.
- **Closing** – Ending a project phase and achieving “formalized acceptance.”

All projects are exposed to some degree of risk. Planning for possible project risks should be performed during the initial stages of a project. **Risk Management** is an integral part of Project Management. It involves the identification of both opportunities and threats. Threats can be managed by the following processes:

- Define the Risk Management Plan and processes
- Identifying each risk and assessing its possible impact
- Develop a risk response plan
- Implement the plan

About the author:

Tom Carlos has over 25 years of cumulative experience in business, technical, and training environments. He is a Certified Project Management Professional (PMP) and member of the Sacramento Valley PMI Chapter.