

# Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir PMP [\(pronounce\)](#)

BSc PhD CEng FIET FIEI PMP

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## Summary

Active in projects throughout my career, I have developed a reputation as:

- **Project Troubleshooter, Coach & Trainer**
- **Keynote Speaker & Author**
- **Consultant.**

Global clients include:

**Novartis, Swiss Re, Nestlé, Ericsson, the European Commission, Zurich Financial Services, Nokia, Sun Microsystems, Bausch & Lomb** and many others.

Sectoral Experience:

- **Financial Services**
- **IT & Electronics**
- **Telecommunications**
- **Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals**
- **Food & Drink**
- **Healthcare**
- **Automotive**
- **Manufacturing**
- **Infrastructural Development**
- **Higher Education.**

Professional and Educational:

I am **VP Education & Certifications** at PMI (Project Management Institute) Switzerland Chapter and a PMP (Project Management Professional).

I hold a **Bachelor of Science** degree in Electronic Engineering, a **Doctorate** in Biomedical Electronics and am a Chartered Engineer.

I am a **Chartered Engineer and Fellow** of both the IEI (IRL) and IET (GB).

Languages:

I speak English, German, French and Irish/Gaelic.

## Specialties

- **Project Management Consulting**, which can improve your projects by contributing an external perspective, additional management capacity and know-how.
- **Collaboration and Virtual Working**: In today's business environment hiring, training, managing and retaining key employees is crucial. I advise businesses how to apply Virtual Working to achieve a more effective working environment, resulting in greater productivity, increased staff loyalty and greater flexibility.

## Experience

### **VP Education & Certifications at PMI Switzerland Chapter**

February 2011 - Present

I am responsible for the Chapter strategy in the area of Education and Certifications. This includes university and research contracts, as well as links with industry & commerce and the opportunities for PDUs (Professional Development Units for members).

### **Collaboration Consultant at Scatterwork GmbH**

2008 - Present

I apply decades of global experience to the benefit of clients by providing Project Management Troubleshooting, Coaching & Training services.

### **PMO Consultant at Zurich Financial Services**

August 2006 - 2007 (1 year)

Management of large and complex projects within a strategic general insurance business and technology initiative across Europe.

This role included facilitating, monitoring and challenging the Project Planning and Coordination of Finance, Legal, Organisation, IT, Complaints Handling and Training workstreams.

Also responsible for seeking Development Opportunities, Problem Solving and Resolution Implementation for specific Business and Technical issues, Status Reporting and Risk Management.

### **Project Management Training Consultant at Stucki Leadership-Teambuilding Romandie SA**

April 2005 - July 2006 (1 year 4 months)

Developed and delivered Project Management programmes including Customised Planning Workshops, Consultancy and Training for Ciba, Novartis and Nestlé at global locations including China, USA, Finland, UK etc.

Also responsible for the developing the Project Management capability and business for Stucki Romandie SA. The training and consultancy was based on the PM Body of Knowledge (PMBok) of the Project Management Institute, the world's leading professional organisation in Project Management.

### **Project Management Consultant at TrainingOffice**

2004 - 2005 (1 year)

Development and delivery of live training to accompany e-Learning programmes for industrial and commercial clients, principally in Switzerland.

### **Senior Project Management Consultant at Swiss Re**

November 2000 - January 2004 (3 years 3 months)

Based in the Swiss Re Group's Project Management Organisation, providing Project Management Consultancy & Governance to Groupwide projects of the world's no. 2 in Reinsurance. The more significant assignments were:

Group Project Portfolio Planning: Consolidation of the annual Groupwide project portfolio. This involved extensive conceptual preparation of the project portfolio planning process, the evaluation of the projections for over a hundred projects as well as the detailed documentation to support the committee responsible for the authorisation of the Swiss Re Group's overall Project Portfolio.

Project Manager and Project Management Consultant: I acted in these capacities for various larger projects in areas such as Reinsurance Underwriting, Information Security etc

Project Reports Consolidation: This included all significant Groupwide projects, for which the consolidated reports were presented monthly to senior management, up to and including the Executive Board level.

### **Client & Process Manager at Compaq**

February 2000 - November 2000 (10 months)

Project Manager for an upgrade programme for seven Data Centres supporting the European pet food business of Friskies, a subsidiary of Nestlé, in more than a dozen countries. Each site ran an Alpha 4100 cluster configuration and was upgraded for disk storage capacity, controllers and Tru64 Unix.

### **Training Consultant at Sun Microsystems**

October 1999 - February 2000 (5 months)

Establishment of Training Processes and Accreditation Programme at the Solution Centre to support several hundred new product introductions per annum. The target group across the Solution Centre and in partner companies had reached approximately four hundred Product Engineers, located in Britain, Germany and France.

This involved the assessment of the existing training arrangements throughout the "EMEA Geo" (Europe, Middle East and Africa region), evaluation and selection of intranet tools, porting of existing training material into the new environment and, finally, training in a successor to ensure future development.

### **Project Manager at Ministry of Environment, Hungary**

May 1999 - October 1999 (6 months)

This assignment was to Project Manage the Information & Awareness activity of the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) programme, which was being implemented in the context of accession to the European Union.

The deliverables included a series of information seminars (in Hungarian language) for the 12 regional pollution inspectorates, as well as a website and CD (both bilingual). The purpose was to ensure that the results of the scientific and legal activities of the project were understood, both by government and private industry throughout Hungary.

### **Project Implementation Manager, Launch Office at Orange**

December 1998 - May 1999 (6 months)

Responsible for the Project Managing the technical information programme, for approximately six hundred personnel on eight sites, to support the launch of the GSM 1800 mobile telephone business throughout Switzerland.

Topics included Products & Services, Computer Systems Commissioning, Call Centre Operation, Radio Planning, Transmission, Installation, Billing etc. The programme consisted of over a hundred separate information modules in French, German and English.

### **Billing System Information Consultant at Post & Telekom Austria**

July 1998 - September 1998 (3 months)

Responsible for the Development of the Telephone Billing System Documentation. The user group consisted of approximately eleven hundred employees and the material was produced (in German) for use in every Post Office in Austria.

### **Principal at New Product Initiatives**

1986 - 1998 (12 years)

Customisation, design and delivery of a range of IT and Project Management training products for various industrial sectors, particularly Telecommunications, IT, Manufacturing, Health Care etc.

Awarded the contract for the EU programme to promote the use of CMM (Capability Maturity Model) throughout the Irish IT industry.

Other clients included Ericsson, Digital, Bausch & Lomb, Abbott, Learning Tree etc.

### **Lecturer in Manufacturing Technology at University of Limerick**

1986 - 1990 (4 years)

In addition to lecturing and supervising Masters students, I was instrumental in establishing the AMT (Advanced Manufacturing Technology) R&D unit within the university (<http://www.amt.ul.ie/>).

Participated as the Irish member in a number of EU-Phare projects with partners in France, Italy, Germany and UK etc.

### **R&D Manager at Westinghouse**

1983 - 1986 (3 years)

Combustion Control Division, developing products to reduce fuel consumption in fossil fuel power stations. Managed mixed team of Hardware, Mechanical and Software engineers. Most SW elements were embedded at machine code level.

### **Head of School of Engineering at Waterford Regional Technical College**

1976 - 1983 (7 years)

Responsible for the management and development of the engineering staff and courses during a period of rapid expansion. Established the degree level course strategy for the Engineering domain which persists right up to the present:

<http://www2.wit.ie/SchoolsDepartments/SchoolofEngineering/>.

Initiated the first EU funded project in the Irish non-university sector for collaborative development of course materials with similar higher education establishments in Belgium and Luxembourg. Both Member of and Examiner in Electronics for the NCEA (National Council for Educational Awards) Board of Technology.

### **R&D Engineer at Telectron**

1974 - 1976 (2 years)

Member of design team developing products for multiplexing telephone transmission between exchanges.

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## Publications

### **Overview of the PMBOK Guide**

Springer-Verlag 2010

Author: Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir PMP

This book is for everyone who wants a readable introduction to best practice Project Management, as described by the PMBOK® Guide 4th Edition of the Project Management Institute (PMI), "the world's leading association for the project management profession."

It is particularly useful for applicants for the PMI's PMP® (Project Management Professional) and CAPM® (Certified Associate of Project Management) examinations, which are based mostly on the PMBOK® Guide. This book can also be studied alone by anyone as a general introduction to Project Management. The style and language of this book have also been selected to make them particularly suitable for readers who use English as a foreign language.

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## Education

### **University of Strathclyde**

PhD, Bio-Medical Electronics, 1969 - 1973

### **University of Wales, Bangor**

BSc, Electronic Engineering, 1966 – 1969

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## **Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir PMP**

VP Education & Certifications at PMI Switzerland



**7 people have recommended Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir**

"I attended the PMP prep online course conducted by Dr. Deasun recently. I must say his lucid style of explaining the knowledge areas and the PM Process Groups were very much appreciated in our group. I strongly recommend him for such mentoring programmes."

— **Varadaraj (Raj) Narayanan**, was Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir's client

"Deasun provided a highly appreciated PMP Prep training a.o. by sharing a well dosed part of his wealth of Project Management experience and detailed PMBoK knowledge."

— **Cor Duijndam PMP**, was Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir's client

"Deasún was instrumental in supporting a significant change process within the European project management community. His patience and strength of purpose was highly valued."

— **Peter Taylor**, was Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir's client

"Deasún ran a Project Management Competence Building event for my Project Managers. A thoroughly professional event, well run, with clear value given by Deasún and taken away by participants."

— **Peter Williamson**, was Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir's client

"I know Deasun from working together at Swiss Re. He was contracted as a seasoned manager and expert in project management, member of an interdisciplinary team of globally dispersed, regionally embedded professionals. Deasun's personal contribution was instrumental to Swiss Re's success in implementing a consistent project management framework across Divisions and major locations worldwide. His international work experience, cultural awareness, language skills, and great sense of humor were key to our achievement of REAL change through REAL teams despite our heavy reliance on VIRTUAL meetings in VIRTUAL team rooms. Above all, Deasun has a unique personality, impossible to capture and reflect in an online identity. You have to get to know the man behind the name !"

— **Thomas Louis**, *Member of Group Executive Management Team IT, Swiss Re*, managed Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir at Swiss Re

"Deasún and I had the pleasure to work together on several projects, the most important one a complete overhaul of the project management training programme at Swiss Re. I found Deasún to be an experienced project manager with strong personal drive and initiative. He was able to both keep the big picture in mind, as well as be exacting in the details. Much of the resulting quality was down to Deasún's efforts."

— **Marianne L. Luchsinger**, *Development & Communication Manager, Swiss Re*, worked directly with Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir at Swiss Re

"Deasun worked on the Nestle Purina cluster upgrade project for the seven data-centers around Europe. His project management and system knowledge were excellent in delivering the project on time and within budget, His man management and project tracking were vital in the hardware and software upgrades being completed by several different teams within the timescales for subsequent projects. I would not hesitate in recommending Deasun to a future employer."

— **Colin Saunders**, was Dr. Deasún Ó Conchúir's client