



**asapm Performance Rated Organization**

## **aPRO: Assess and Certify Organizational PM Performance**

- Q: Does project management "have a seat at the table" in your organization's strategy?**
- Q: Do executives embrace their leadership role in the management of projects?**
- Q: Do you assure adequate resources for projects?**
- Q: Do you develop project management staff to increase performance in your projects?**
- Q: Does your organization ensure a reliable framework for effective project management?**



### **Introducing the aPRO Standard**

*asapm*, the American Society for the Advancement of Project Management (IPMA-USA) has completed a three-year project to produce a new type of organizational assessment in project and program management.

*aPRO*, the *asapm* Performance Rated Organization standard, is a framework for evaluating the extent to which your organization consistently meets those questions listed above, thus demonstrating consistent PM performance.

### **Two Methods, Two Outcomes**

Organizations that are confident in their project and program performance can retain a Recognized Assessor, participate in an assessment, and if qualified, **certify** as an *asapm* Performance Rated Organization.

Organizations that wish to evaluate and improve their performance can either use self-assessment, or engage Recognized Assessors who have been trained and validated by *asapm's* *aPRO* program. The outcome from either choice: opportunities for clear improvements in PM Performance.

**"What an aPRO-priate idea for ALL project-oriented organizations!"**

## Not Just Another Maturity Model

While maturity models have helped many organizations, we re-thought the entire value proposition of organizational project and program performance improvement. We studied the leading offerings in the market, noting the unique strengths of each. We saw many useful models, all helping the organizations that apply them. And in the process, we found that our approach was unique, refreshing, more efficient, more useful, and causing lower impact on the assessed organization. So we avoided the detailed evaluation of processes and inputs, that can unnecessarily age organization assessment participants in their search for "maturity".

## How is *aPRO* Unique?

*aPRO*, the *asapm* Performance Rated Organization standard, is a framework for organizational project and program **performance assessment**. This standard differs from other project or program organizational assessments in many ways:



- *aPRO* is offered under a "copyleft" agreement, so that others can customize and modify it.
- As a result, it is an open model, rather than a closed, hidden, or proprietary model.
- It has gone through an extensive public exposure draft period, eliciting comments (and praise for its elegance) from all over the World.
- Rather than dwelling on inputs and processes, it is a pure Performance Standard—evaluating the results. This is a more efficient approach, and directly related to pm performance.
- The efficiency of the *aPRO* approach results in significantly less time demand from the assessed organizations, and fewer hours from professional assessors.
- The *aPRO* process can uniquely certify an organization as an *asapm* Performance Rated Organization, an unprecedented benefit.

## *aPRO* Background

*aPRO* is not just an overnight wonder. It is based on foundations that add massive experience to this standard:

- William Duncan, the primary author of the original PMBOK® Guide, is the *aPRO* Architect. *aPRO* is based on OCIPM (Organizational Competence in Project Management), an assessment Duncan has used for years.
- This Performance-based assessment is the same efficient approach that *asapm* and *entire nations* use to assess individuals for advanced PM certifications, so we have years of experience with this unique approach.
- Many members of the *aPRO* development team have used a variety of other organizational PM assessment processes and maturity models, including today's most-highly-promoted ones, for over 25 years.

## Who Needs *aPRO*

We know that everyone needs *aPRO*; some just have not realized it yet:

- Organizations that wish to differentiate themselves from their competitors—in a tough economy, even levels of government are competing for resources. An *aPRO* certification achieves that differentiation.
- Executives in organizations who know they could be performing better, but just cannot put their finger on the missing components of success, can either self-assess or engage professional Recognized Assessors to find the project management improvement opportunities.
- Consultancies that already provide project and program management-related services can increase client satisfaction with a unique value-adding service, by becoming Recognized Assessors.
- Educators who wish to arm their students with research opportunities, key skills and tools will use *aPRO* in advanced-degree programs, assessing organizations in their communities, thus strengthening town and gown relationships.

For more information: [aPRO.Interest@asapm.org](mailto:aPRO.Interest@asapm.org)

