

## Who Needs Project Management?

By Allison B. Lasater, PMP



How do you define project success? Ask ten different people, and you may get more than ten different answers. Chances are good, though, that most people will mention something about completing the project “on time and on budget.” This is true, as far as it goes, but any project, regardless of its size or complexity, is also constrained by a third factor—scope. In addition to being delivered on time and within the planned budget, the project must also deliver what it sets out to deliver.

It sounds simple enough. However, as any current or former member of a project team can attest, the Second Law of Thermodynamics definitely applies to projects: Disorganization, randomness and chaos in a

system (or a project) tend to increase over time unless hindered from doing so. That’s where project management comes in.

Project management is a carefully planned and organized effort to accomplish a specific objective while counteracting the project’s inherent tendency toward chaos. Whether it’s constructing a new building, renovating an existing facility, or implementing a new software system, the better a project is managed, the greater the odds are that it will be successful in satisfying all the requirements it was designed to meet, in a timely fashion and at a reasonable price.

Most companies, unless they have a professional project management staff in-house, tend to assign project management as an “additional duty” to an employee who already has a full plate. In this scenario, either the project suffers or the employee’s regular duties suffer, and typically it is the project that gets short shrift.

Most projects, except for the smallest and simplest, benefit from a dedicated project manager who has the time and skill set to effectively plan and monitor the project’s progress. From initial planning and scope development to schedule/budget tracking, issue resolution and risk management, today’s complex projects demand professional attention if they are to succeed.

ReVision has a professional project management team that can augment your existing staff when you’re faced with a large project. Whether it’s construction of a new facility, renovation or relocation of an existing facility, installation of new equipment, or something else entirely, we can lead you through the process. We will provide management and oversight for all phases of a project, from initial concept development, to obtaining economic development assistance, through implementation of the plan, to final closeout.

We focus on the details of the project so you can focus on your core business. Contact us to learn more about our project management services and how you can put our expertise to work for you.

“Disorganization, randomness and chaos in a system (or a project) tend to increase over time unless hindered from doing so.”  
— Second Law of Thermodynamics

## ReVision International

### Helping Businesses Compete Globally

From its beginnings, ReVision LLC has helped clients improve important business processes, particularly in production. Its team of professionals are specialists in lean facilities, business profitability and construction management who have helped businesses streamline workflow, reduce space requirements and improve operations. This set of skills has enabled ReVision to successfully assist and design manufacturing plants in China, Slovakia, Germany, Spain, Mexico and the United States.

Five months ago, ReVision International LLC was formed in a continuing effort to help U.S. clients compete in the global marketplace. ReVision International will help U.S. companies develop a more competitive platform on a global basis—specifically to compete with price pressures from China and other foreign countries. It also expects to help Chinese companies that want to grow in the United States.

As rising energy prices have increased shipping costs, some Chinese manufacturers have found it profitable to split production, doing their less labor-intensive work on heavier, bulkier parts in the United States. They keep labor-intensive production in China where labor is about one-tenth the cost in the United States.

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## ReVision Projects in the News

**Afdent** Fort Wayne’s newest landmark—the three-story, 32,000 square foot Afdent building under construction on Parnell Avenue—officially reached its topping off point on September 5. The occasion was marked by a ceremony at the Afdent site as the last and highest piece of iron was officially hoisted into place.

“ReVision is honored to be project managers for Afdent Dental Services,” said Al Bowden, president. Expected to be the largest dental facility in Indiana when it is completed, the new Afdent will offer patients the very latest in dental technology in an innovative and comfortable environment. A March 2008 opening is planned.

On the other side of the world, ReVision has recently completed a 135,000 square foot manufacturing plant in Wuxi, China for **Calmar**, a world leader in plastic injection molded triggers and sprayers. As managers for this project, ReVision has worked on every phase—from conceptual layouts, to

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## Assuredness Is More Than A Study

Before making any major decision we all like to be assured that we are making the best choice possible. We try to look at all the angles and consider all the alternatives. Often this includes input from outside sources—particularly from those we trust and respect.

One of the many services ReVision offers is our Assuredness Study. This specialized systematic evaluation process analyzes every element of your business, determining exact goals and requirements, as well as delving into its processes, flow, strengths and weaknesses.

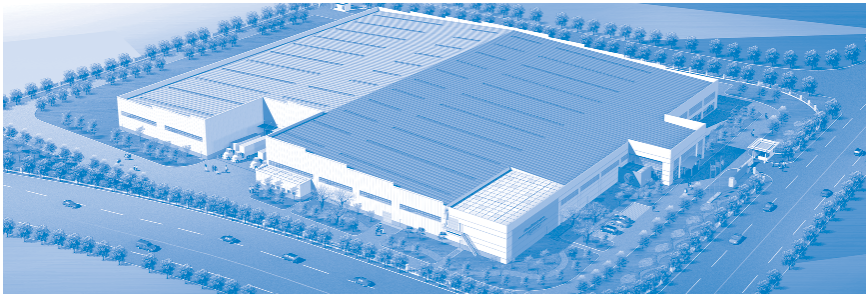
Our prime objective is to make sure the expansion, consolidation, construction or renovation project you are considering will meet your needs, expectations and budget.

ReVision's Assuredness Study brings an experienced team of experts to your project and helps you understand all of your project's parameters in terms of risk and cost before you make a large investment. The end result is a higher level of confidence for YOU in your project's completion and potential effectiveness.

No matter the sought-after outcome—expansion, consolidation, or new construction—we provide the critical information necessary to make the best choice. Assuredness helps you perceive what you might not otherwise see and alerts you to any unanticipated issues in your project. The result is that you are confident in making an informed decision that will transform your business into a more effective, efficient and profitable operation.

### ReVision Projects in the News...

land acquisition, design, bidding, government approvals, construction, and assisting the owner with equipment layouts and installation. ReVision has worked with Calmar on similar projects in Mexico, Europe and in Asia.



*Calmar manufacturing plant in Wuxi, China*

### Upcoming TQM Events

ReVision in partnership with the TQM Network has established the Leadership Training Institute

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|----------|---------|--|
| 10/05/07 | 7:30 AM | How Lean Six Sigma Drives Innovation                         |
| 10/11/07 | 7:30 AM | Save the Drama for Your Mama                                 |
| 10/18/07 | 7:30 AM | Thank Goodness That's Over! Successful Project Closeout      |
| 10/19/07 | 8:00 AM | High Performance Government Executive Overview               |
| 10/22/07 | 8:00 AM | Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Training Wave 30 Begins            |
| 10/22/07 | 8:00 AM | Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Training, Wave 30 Begins           |
| 10/26/07 | 8:00 AM | Rapid Optimization & Innovation Across the Entire Enterprise |
| 11/01/07 | 7:30 AM | Set Up Reduction   |
| 11/09/07 | 8:00 AM | High Performance Government Executive Overview               |
| 11/15/07 | 8:00 AM | Lean Six Sigma Excellence Conference                         |
| 12/06/07 | 8:00 AM | Save the Drama for Your Mama, Workshop                       |
| 12/10/07 | 8:00 AM | High Performance Government Executive Overview               |
| 12/13/07 | 8:00 AM | Lean Six Sigma Executive Overview                            |
| 12/13/07 | 8:00 AM | Lean Six Sigma Leader/Champion/Sponsor Training              |

Register online at <http://www.tqmnet.com/cal.php>

### Staff Appointments Announced



*Dave Barkel*

**Dave Barkel** has been named Business Development Director at ReVisionLLC, while **Kip A. Macke, P.E.**, has been named Senior Project Manager.

Barkel earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Michigan Technological University. Dave brings 12 years of engineering experience in the automotive and industrial fields as well as 25 years in the not-for-profit sector where he used his organizational and management skills in marketing, recruiting, project development, consulting, and leadership development.

Macke's background includes serving as project manager and design engineer on commercial and residential land developments for Primary Consultants for ten years. Additionally, he worked as construction



*Kip Macke*

manager for a federally funded capital improvements project in Hartford City; project engineer on the Cherry Hill, Autumn Ridge, La Cabreah, Chandler's Landing and Chestnut Hills developments in Fort Wayne; and project manager for The Village at Coventry commercial development. Macke earned his bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from

Valparaiso University in 1980 and became an Indiana registered professional engineer in 1984.

### ReVision International...

Many larger U.S. manufacturers have plants operating in China making parts or products they ship back to the United States. ReVision International can help a smaller company improve its competitive position by identifying Chinese manufacturers as suppliers for parts. For example, ReVision International recently helped a client find a Chinese-made part for a U.S.-made product that was less than half the cost of producing it here. This has allowed our client to become much more competitive, with the end result of increased sales and increased profitability.

For most industries, foreign prices and lower cost pressures from competitors are real factors affecting their bottom line. An appropriate strategy may be that certain products or components carrying a high labor component be manufactured offshore, and their plant here may need to be redesigned to eliminate non-labor value. This is where ReVision International and ReVision can assist with both sourcing and Lean manufacturing design.

Both ReVision companies have offices at 300 E. Main Street in downtown Fort Wayne. ReVision International also has a small office in Wuxi, China.

