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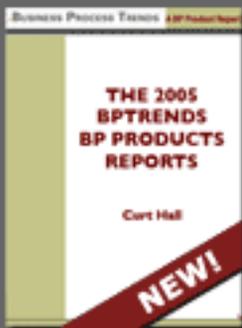
## Organizing to Learn More About BPM

For the last couple of years, as business process has received more attention, groups of practitioners have been working to arrange local meetings for those interested in discussing BPM face-to-face. In the US, these efforts have been led by The Association of Business Process Management Professionals (ABPMP). In Europe, several independent groups have been established.

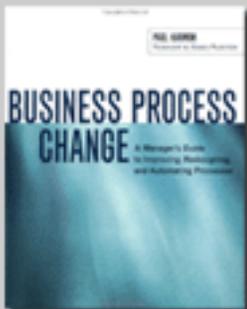
The ABPMP is a non-profit, vendor-independent, professional organization dedicated to the advancement of business process management and its practices. ABPMP is practitioner-oriented and practitioner-led. The mission of ABPMP is to promote the practice of business process management, to develop a common body of knowledge, and to contribute to the advancement and skill development of professionals who work in this discipline. ABPMP produces educational and networking events for continuing education and best practices, and the sharing of new ideas and experiences among its members and professional colleagues.

Founded in 2003, ABPMP has grown into a professional association with hundreds of BPM practitioner members. ABPMP has a volunteer Board of Advisors made up of some of the most well-known authors, practitioners and thought-leaders in the field who provide advice to the Board of Directors and local ABPMP chapters regarding industry trends, as well as offering suggestions regarding how ABPMP can best serve its membership.

ABPMP is currently experiencing rapid growth. It has chapters in Chicago, Philadelphia, Portland, Metro New York, and Michigan, and new chapters are being formed in Austin, Atlanta, Boston, Connecticut, Dallas, Washington D.C. and Southern California. A chapter-at-large is also under development to network with individuals not near an existing or planned chapter.



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## Free

Monthly Newsletters, Advisors and Updates are available to anyone who is a member of the BPT community.



Examples of topics presented and discussed at ABPMP meetings include:

- The Changing World of BPM: A presentation by Peter Fingar
- Rules-driven Business Process Management: Integrating BPM and BRE Technology & Solving the Business/IT Alignment Problem
- The Practicality of BPM in Today's Organization: Best Practices for Applying BPM Technology
- A Holistic Change Management Model: Identifying and Prioritizing Business Processes for Improvement

For more information on the ABPMP check [www.abpmp.org](http://www.abpmp.org).

For information on local ABPMP chapters and their upcoming events contact the following:

- Chicago, David Heidt, [Chicago@abpmp.org](mailto:Chicago@abpmp.org)
- Philadelphia, Steve Desirey, [Steve.Desirey@USA.dupont.com](mailto:Steve.Desirey@USA.dupont.com)
- Portland, Sandra Luck, [PortlandPresident@abpmp.org](mailto:PortlandPresident@abpmp.org)
- Metro New York, Janyce Wolf, [metronypresident@abpmp.org](mailto:metronypresident@abpmp.org)
- Connecticut, Art Costa, [artebova@sbcglobal.net](mailto:artebova@sbcglobal.net)
- For information about Michigan, Atlanta, Boston, Austin, Dallas, Washington, DC, or Southern California, contact Joey Johnson, [chapters@abpmp.org](mailto:chapters@abpmp.org)

In Europe, BPM meetings tend to be organized by groups based in specific countries. The BPM-Forum has chapters in both the Netherlands and in Belgium. You can learn about either by going to their common website at [www.bpm-forum.org](http://www.bpm-forum.org)

The Netherlands chapter will be having their next meeting on the 6th of February. The program for the rest of the year is still being planned, but they expect to host at least five lectures that will focus on different industries and different aspects of BPM. At the same time, they are working on establishing a BPM conference in Holland during the second half of 2006, and plan to be active at other BPM conferences and at the European Business Rules Conference.

The Belgium chapter has not announced any events for 2006.

Finally, some practitioners have organized small groups of individuals who get together informally to exchange practical

information or invite speakers to present on current topics of interest. There may be other groups that have regular meetings elsewhere in Europe or in other parts of the world that we don't know about and we would be happy to learn of their existence.

Between the many BPM conferences, and the vast number of BPM resources on the Internet, there is a broad range of valuable information available to those interested in learning more about BPM. However you choose to participate, we are certain that any of the groups described would be happy to welcome you and we urge all of you to join together with your fellow practitioners to share your experiences and to learn from one another.

'Til next time,

Paul Harmon

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