

Becoming certified project manager

By Subashini Selvaratnam

PROJECT management is crucial to an organisation in achieving strategic objectives. It is recognised that successfully managed projects will boost productivity, bring return on investment (ROI), increase profits and improve customer service.

Recognising the benefits that can be reaped from such a certification, five working adults took the leap to join the *Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) Project Management Capability Development Programme* – a certification training programme for locally incorporated information and communications technology (ICT) companies. The programme aims to increase the number of certified ICT project managers through an affordable, comprehensive certification package.

Through the programme by Asia ICT Project Management, the five individuals sat for the exam, which is certified by the Project Management Institute (PMI), and passed with flying colours.

The first group of graduates all agree that the experience has been

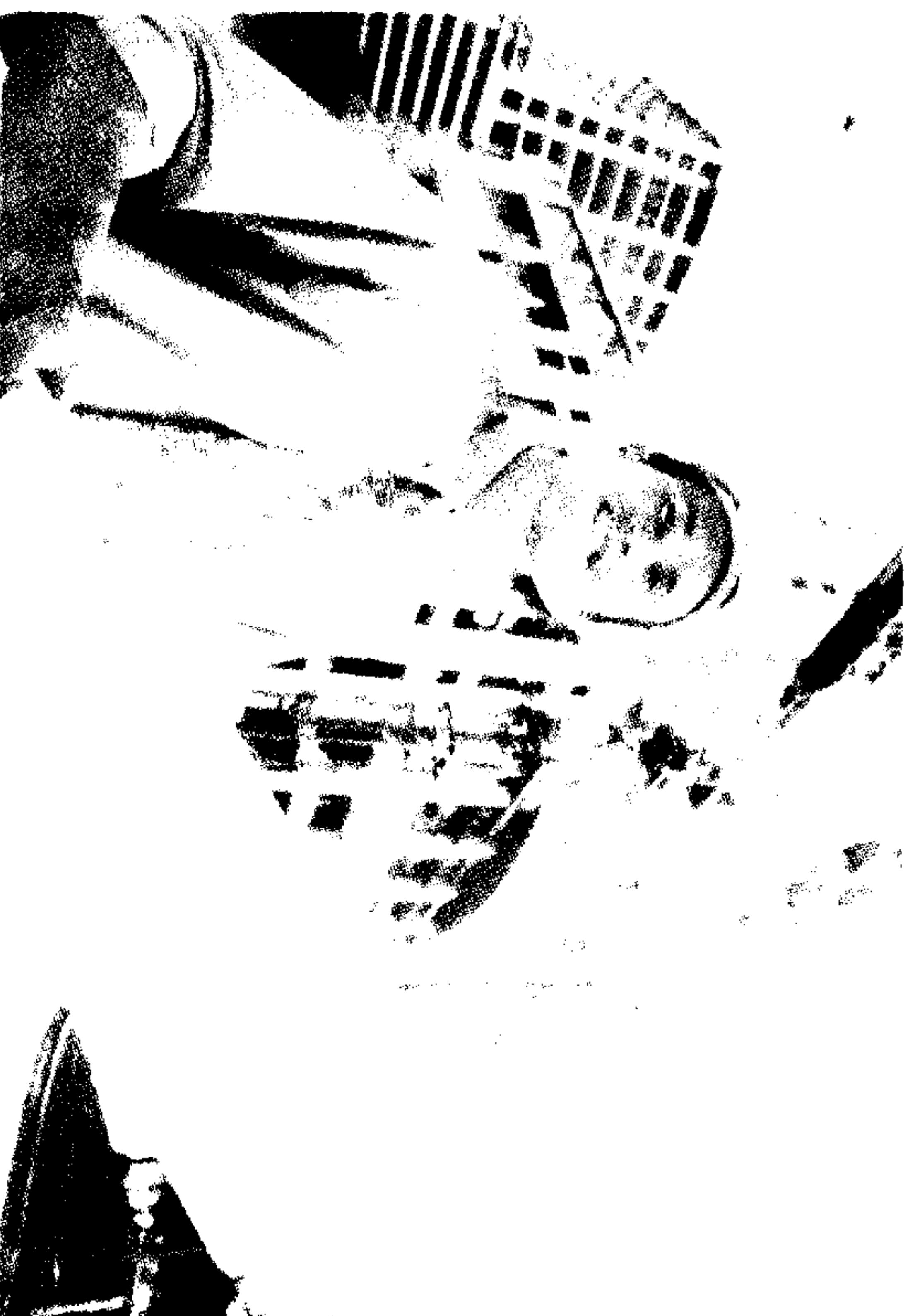
a positive one and will contribute towards both professional growth and business development.

Lim Hwa Eng, vice president of airport solutions provider Xybase (M) Sdn Bhd, says that the programme is useful because the company is venturing into businesses that require such certification.

"I learnt a lot, especially in applying knowledge, skills and techniques relating to project management activities," she says, adding that the exam questions relate to one's experience in handling and managing projects.

"You would need to think out-of-the-textbook and apply the concepts you know best fit the situation."

Banking automation solution provider Consolsys Technology's project manager Lee Dick Kiat says that the project management programme allows him to learn how to manage



The MSC Project Management Capability Development Programme aims to breed more certified ICT project managers.

projects based on industry's best practices.

"With the PMP certification, I hope to venture overseas as I believe PMP is recognised worldwide," Lee points out.

IT solutions provider Powercomp Automation Sdn Bhd's project man-

me to gain customers' confidence," she adds.

For iNavigate Sdn Bhd's executive director and chief operating officer Joseph Yeong, the experience offers him the knowledge on the proper processes that need to be adhered to in terms of producing quality solutions.

When put into practice, he says, this will allow software houses to take a methodological approach in developing product specifications and in the long run, allow its products to be managed properly.

"Obviously, this will give us greater credibility to expand into new markets like the Middle East," Yeong says.

Knowledge Base Sdn Bhd's director Datuk Subra Suppiah, meanwhile, aims to send his staff for the programme.

"The RM10,000 spent on the course and exam is worth much more. Exposure to the programme will enable members of a project to be on the same page. The returns are reduced risks, better management, costing will be in check, and having deliverables on time," he points out.