

## Profiling Project Managers in Ireland By Ed Naughton, Director General



Project management as a management methodology continues to evolve and expand its areas of application. Practically every sector of our economy uses project management to some extent – we are particularly seeing growth in its application to “not for profit” organisations. Furthermore, project management is now being actively promoted and marketed as a vehicle for strategic competitive advantage.

The development and promotion of maturity models aimed at measuring an organisation’s (as opposed to an individual’s) project management maturity, is a major initiative to advance the project management agenda and its benefits to the executive and board levels of organisations. It is important that we understand what is happening to the discipline in Ireland. UCC Department of Management and Marketing has been working closely with the Institute of Project Management to ensure that we monitor domestic trends.

We believe that project management and internationally certified project managers are essential components for the continuous development of the Irish economy. It is a key management methodology required to move individuals up the value chain in the knowledge economy. It will maintain our competitiveness and is an essential ingredient identified in the recent Forfas strategy report’s recommendations on world class skills, education and training.

Our research, conducted in the first two quarters of 2004, at three national centres – Cork, Dublin and Galway – surveyed in excess of 175 project management practitioners. We are pleased to share with you some of the findings from our most recent research.

