



### HURRICANE KATRINA & HURRICANE SANDY DISASTER RECOVERY PLANNING

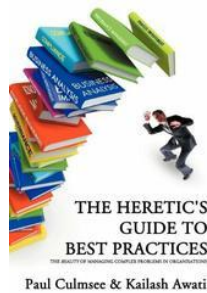
by George Mentz, JD, MBA, CWM®, MPM®, QFP

As a business person affected by Hurricane Katrina, there are many lessons learned that most people around the world discover during their lifetimes. The first is that survival is a priority, and you must take care of yourself and family first. If you endure a national disaster, you can always rise up again if you work hard

The second lesson is that if you play your cards right, you can be ahead of the game. There are many ways to plan including: home preparedness, equipment, business strategy, insurance, contingency plans, risk management, and more. Here are some examples: *Read the article at [benzinga.com](http://benzinga.com) <http://www.benzinga.com/12/10/3039955/hurricane-katrina-and-hurricane-sandy-disaster-recovery-planning>*

#### AAPM® RECOMMENDED READ

#### THE HERETIC'S GUIDE TO BEST PRACTICES: THE REALITY OF MANAGING COMPLEX PROBLEMS IN ORGANISATIONS



[PAUL CULMSEE, KAILASH AWATI]  
ISBN-10: 146205854X;  
ISBN-13: 978-1462058549;

A key factor that mainstream management ignores is that organizations consist of people, and

that the smooth functioning of organizations depends critically on the commitments people make to each other. People will genuinely commit only to things they truly believe in. Consequently they have to be convinced of what they are committing to." Within organizations, communication is generally seen as a one-way push of information to employees. The main point of the book however, is that communication plays a deeper, less appreciated role in organizations: building shared understanding and commitment to action via collective deliberation - not a one way push of information.. [Read more](#) (ctrl+click)

#### Editor's Notes :

by Michele Guttenberger, MPM®  
PM'S ARE LEADERS IN CAUSE & EFFECT LOGIC

Project Management in practice helps to develop "Cause & Effect" type logical thinking. A "cause" is a factor that makes something else happen. Out of two related events, it is the initial event – the one that occurred first. The simple logic question to determine the "cause" in a problem is: "Why did it happen?"

An "effect" is what happens as a consequence of the "cause". Of two related events, it's the one that takes place second or last. The simple logic question to determine the "effect" in a problem is: "What happened?"

A simple example of "Cause & Effect": The car had a flat tire, the tow truck was dispatched  
Cause: car had a flat tire. Effect: dispatched tow truck.

Project Management pushes us to evaluate tasks in sequential order. Project Management lays out the "Cause & Effect" when work is broken down into predecessor or successor tasks and we determine the dependencies of a given task.

For the "Cause & Effect" events that are adverse, unexpected and impact a project, the PM resorts to Cause and Effect Analysis and will use PM techniques such as diagrams devised by professor Kaoru Ishikawa where all things are explored that could cause the problem, before starting to draft a solution. "Cause & Effect" is such an important logic skill to develop not only for PM's but also for a better functioning world. Unfortunately, we often see that comprehensive "Cause & Effect" disciplines may be seriously lacking in passing or not passing bills through our own Government Legislation.

Should "Cause & Effect" logic be a knowledge that is only fostered in PM guidebooks? Apparently, school academia sees "Cause & Effect" logic as an important comprehension skill to be developed in early grade school children. Developing these logic skills in school children helps them through social problem solving and conflicts. In addition it provides: self-possession; problem identification; brainstorming for alternative solutions; choosing and implementing a solution; and evaluating the success of a strategy.

Now if we could only offer these PM logic workshops to Capitol Hill...

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- ☆ PM Cause & Effect Logic



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#### This Month's Tip:

#### Conditional Formatting in Excel

Customize cells' formatting to visually track and compare values

[Check it out on YouTube from Navitend](#) (Ctrl+Click)

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#### Munaz Anjum

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