

**PMI NATIONAL AWARDS 2013**

**Despina Makris – AMP - Winner of the 2012 Project of the Year Award**

**1. How has winning the Award changed your career?**

For me winning the award has resulted in increased peer recognition and confidence. It has had a significant impact on my profile internally and has created a number of external networking opportunities that otherwise would not have occurred. Since the award I have been promoted and am fortunate enough to be managing another complex business project. Receiving industry recognition of my ability as a Project Manager has not only been rewarding but has increased my exposure across the Project Management industry.



D. Makris accepting the Award for AMP's Project of the Year

**2. Was the nomination process a logical and easy process?**

Yes! There were three questions that the PMI requested each project answer in their submission application. I then chose to add some additional supporting material. Following the submission, I was advised that I was required for a 30 minute phone interview and a week later was notified that the project was a finalist in the national 2011 PMI awards.

**3. Why would you encourage others to nominate for the PMI Australian Awards 2013?**

Nominating for the 2013 awards provides:

- You and your project team with an opportunity for industry recognition.
- A motivational boost to your team in knowing that all their hard work has been recognised
- Your project team and organisation with positive publicity.



#### **4. What characterizes for you the 21<sup>st</sup> century leader?**

In a competitive, fast paced and interconnected world, 21st century leaders need to be adaptive, inspiring, motivational, and resilient and look to establish themselves as a trusted business adviser. Business leaders are now looking for people who can offer more than the project management technical skills. They want a strong partner who is an inspirational leader, who understands their business needs and can translate that through the project, who can make effective judgment calls and who is fully committed to delivering the best outcome for the business.



#### **5. Why would you recommend to attend the PMI National Australia Conference 2013?**

After winning the award, I was fortunate enough to attend the Global PMI Conference 2012 in Vancouver on behalf of AMP. A number of influential speakers were at the conference and there were a number of topics covered that gave you an opportunity to find out more about areas of interest and what mattered to you as a PM. In addition, the networking opportunity was invaluable – meeting peers across other industries, countries and hearing about their experiences was insightful. Given the National PMI conference has similar guest speakers and sessions, attendance is a must!