



54 Degrees Project Consultancy Leading Edge

Masterclasses in Project Management and Work Delivery

Project Client

Sarah Wilson was approached by Leading Edge, the personal development and networking arm of the Institute of Grocery Distribution (IGD), a research and education charity - to provide food and grocery industry professionals with new skills and techniques to improve their project management roles, and enhance work delivery within their establishments.

Leading Edge is a lively, interactive forum enabling its members to take greater control of their career development through access to relevant tools, knowledge and skills, as well as the chance to interact with like-minded people.



Project Aim

Sarah presented five masterclass sessions, hosted on behalf of Leading Edge by major food companies in London, Birmingham, North Somerset, Leeds and Manchester.

The sessions explored what makes a good and bad project manager and encouraged delegates to assess their own position as a PM. Sarah taught them how to apply simple project management principles, the differences between projects, programmes, tasks and processes, and the key elements of project success. She also helped them understand the project lifecycle, getting started with work-breakdown techniques and how to give projects a health check.

The courses were held out of working hours, so were interactive and engaging – Sarah even had delegates wearing hats and playing games to get ideas across in a fun way.

The courses were undertaken at intermediate level and were open to anyone in the food and grocery industry, from farmers, producers, manufacturers and retailers right through to consultants, marketing specialists and lecturers – all were members of Leading Edge.

Project Result

The five masterclasses were the most popular courses Leading Edge had ever run with more than 500 attendees in total. At one leading supermarket's HQ in London, Sarah had an audience of 200 delegates.

“Project management isn't just about team leaders, people at all levels can gain from learning how to improve their management skills. Whether it's planning and organisational skills or negotiation and communication, it's important to understand that simple, practical project management is a highly beneficial tool that everyone can have fun learning about.”

“The sessions that I did with Leading Edge explored the role of a project manager and how to apply simple project management principles. Delegates gained new tools that they could use immediately, and went away with the inspiration to get started, by putting project management at the heart of everything they deliver.”

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