

Welcome ...

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Welcome to this special July/August double edition of the CMCE newsletter. Our first article [‘What social and emotional skills do consultants need?’](#) was written by Dr Karol Szlichcinski, an Associate Director of CMCE, and focuses on the key soft skills that a management consultant needs at different stages of the consultancy cycle.

In addition, we are delighted to share the details of a series of upcoming CMCE events. Would you like to know more about the concept of Project Network Organisations and how to selling and deliver excellent consulting? [Book now](#) for our extended virtual showcase on **12th September** at 4:30pm to learn from in-depth research into what makes virtual consulting teams perform excellently. We’re delighted to welcome last year’s CMCE Research Award winners David Cross and Juani Swart who will be sharing the findings of their recent research into Project Network Organisations – those teams that form, increasingly virtually, to sell and deliver consulting projects. This will be a highly interactive session with breakouts to share and discuss in depth what you think makes for a great “instant” team as well as how to take on board the findings from David and Juani’s research.

We are also launching a series of intelligent discussions about artificial intelligence. It’s the end of the world as we know it... right? AI bots are coming for your jobs just before they destroy the planet... maybe? There’s a lot of hype and misrepresentation about the role of AI and here at CMCE we’re committed to getting some clarity about the subject and in particular what it means for management consultants. With that in mind we are launching a series of Product Showcases where suppliers of AI tools, that will help consultants in their business and/or threaten it, will introduce and demonstrate their products and then discuss the areas where it is likely to be difficult, but not impossible, to use AI to support consultants, and what will be needed to make them transform the ways in which management consulting is delivered.

First up is [Discy](#) which promises to create client value faster by exploring and uncovering richer, visual insights from qualitative data in 20% less time. They’ll be showing how this can potentially transform your consulting work on **28th September** at 5pm. Further information and booking link are [here](#).

Furthermore, we are in the process of arranging a similar session with [Praioritize](#) – the leading provider of AI-powered virtual consultancy – for some time in **November**. More details will be shared in our September newsletter or keep an eye on our LinkedIn page for any updates.

In addition, if you’re a supplier of AI-based tools and would like to present at a similar event, do get in touch with us at info@cmce.org.uk.

Let's talk doughnuts (or can consultants save the world?)

With the world burning before our very eyes it seems potentially frivolous to be holding a doughnut-themed event in our ongoing series of Virtual Showcases. However, before you dismiss this as silly season frivolity the idea of Doughnut Economics is one that holds the key to understanding how to meet the needs of all people within the means of the living planet.

Doughnut Economics poses some big challenges for businesses, which will need to embrace bold and ambitious solutions that are both regenerative and distributive. To make this possible, a transformation in the deep design of business will be needed: in its purpose and networks, how it is governed and owned and the nature of its relationship with finance.

This session – on **18th October** at 5pm – led by Erinch Sahan from the [Doughnut Economics Action Lab](#) – will explore ideas and models for achieving the needed transformations in business to help meet the requirements of all people within the means of the living planet. Further details and booking [here](#).

Don't miss this opportunity to work out how consultants (and everyone else) can contribute to the most pressing problem facing our world: its own survival.

We are also pleased to publish '[Is AI our new business advisor?](#)', a piece by Luca Collina, an International transformational consultant with a background in management consulting, project and change management. In his article, Luca explains how AI could be used to complement the traditional skills and competences of management consultants and how companies should adapt to benefit from the use of AI systems.

Our latest [In-Brief section](#) includes a series of articles focusing on a range of current topics such as the role of AI in the consulting industry, the future of partnerships in professional services and the importance of beyond-pay rewards.

The Newsletter team wishes you a great rest of the summer and we look forward to seeing you in September!

The Newsletter Editor

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of Management Consultants*