

Cheetah Learning Honors John Pross, PMP®, with Distinguished Cheetah Alum Award for Inspiring Others

Recognized for sharing the power of accelerated learning through mentorship, leadership, and a career dedicated to developing others.

PHOENIX, AZ, UNITED STATES, August 20, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Cheetah Learning](#), a global leader in accelerated [project management](#) education, announced today that John Pross, PMP®, has been named a [Distinguished Cheetah Alum](#) in the category of Inspiring Others. The award recognizes professionals who share the gift of accelerated learning by encouraging others to pursue their own professional growth and success.



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John Pross

Pross completed the Cheetah Learning PMP® accelerated learning exam preparation program in 2006. Over the two decades since, he has led projects and programs of increasing size and complexity, recovered major failing programs, won and grown significant programs supporting the Federal Government, and helped advance the careers of hundreds of employees.

His commitment to developing others extends beyond the workplace. Pross has provided extensive project management mentorship through the PMIWDC Mentor-Protege Program and has presented multiple sessions focused on project management leadership. Through

these efforts, he has consistently shared practical knowledge and encouraged emerging project managers to approach leadership with curiosity, humility, and discipline.

"I realized that while the fundamentals of leadership carried over, I needed to adapt how I applied them in a commercial environment," said Pross. "Pursuing the PMP® gave me a structured way to translate my experience into the language, processes, and practices of industry."

For Pross, the value of the PMP® has extended well beyond the credential itself.

"The PMP® became a translating device," he explained. "It demonstrated that I could apply my leadership experience in a professional project environment where success often depends less on positional authority and more on organized influence, persuasion, stakeholder alignment, and disciplined execution."

That emphasis on adaptability has become one of the most enduring lessons Pross took from his Cheetah Learning experience.

"Processes and methods are tools, not bureaucracy," he said. "They provide structure, but must be adapted intelligently to the environment."

He also believes that experience should never become an excuse to stop learning.

"Experience can become a liability if it makes you rigid," Pross said. "Humility allows you to change what worked before when circumstances demand something different."

That philosophy is central to the advice he offers prospective Cheetah PMP® students.

"Keep your mind open to learning new things. Be humble. No matter how much experience you bring into the classroom, you still have a lot to learn—and you should never stop learning," said Pross. "Now go learn it, every single day!"

Pross has found that project management principles are useful far beyond the workplace. One of his favorite applications has been building his greenhouse, but he routinely applies project thinking to projects around his home, from cataloging his library to maintaining equipment.

"Scope, sequencing, risk, resources, and execution show up everywhere once you start thinking that way," he said.



John Pross, PMP®, Distinguished Cheetah Alum Award for Inspiring Others

Risk assessment and disciplined workflow are among the Cheetah Learning concepts Pross uses most routinely. He approaches projects by considering what could affect the desired outcome, the likelihood and consequences of those risks, and what can be done before a potential problem becomes an actual one.

The PMP® also helped shape Pross's professional trajectory, opening doors as he moved through project management, program management, corporate leadership, and consulting.

"Relevant credentials aren't everything, but they are a good first thing," he said. "The PMP® gave people who didn't yet know me an immediate reference point for my professional capability."

While the immediate benefit of the Cheetah course was passing the certification exam with greater preparation than he expected, Pross says its most significant lesson has lasted much longer.

"The more lasting surprise was the lesson I have carried with me ever since: experience is valuable, but it can also make you overly confident in what you already know," he said. "Be humble, remain open to learning, and be willing to adapt."

Cheetah Learning praised Pross for embodying the spirit of the Inspiring Others award through his commitment to mentorship and lifelong learning.

"John represents something we value deeply at Cheetah Learning: the willingness to take what you have learned and make sure it keeps moving forward," said a Cheetah Learning spokesperson. "He has spent his career not only delivering challenging projects, but helping other professionals become stronger leaders along the way. His commitment to mentorship, his openness to learning, and his willingness to share what he knows are exactly what it means to inspire others."

The Distinguished Cheetah Alum Award for Inspiring Others honors professionals who actively share the power of accelerated learning and encourage others to pursue growth, certification, and greater professional impact. Pross's career demonstrates how that influence can extend far beyond individual accomplishments by creating a lasting ripple effect through the people he mentors and develops.

About Cheetah Learning

Cheetah Learning is a global leader in accelerated learning and project management education. Known for its proprietary learning methodologies, Cheetah Learning helps professionals earn certifications faster, retain knowledge longer, and apply skills immediately on the job. Thousands of professionals worldwide have earned their PMP® certification through Cheetah Learning's proven approach.

Frances McCoy
Cheetah Learning
+1 203-626-4767

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