All forces pointed to "change" in America during the election campaign.

And now that the election is over, signs are emerging that the promise of change is having an impact. Polls show at least an uptick in optimism for the short term, and 70 percent of the respondents in one poll believed the economy would improve in the days ahead.

While the government deals with various aspects of the current economic situation, businesses cannot sit on the sidelines. They also must consider what they need to do to stay productive, competitive and profitable. In addition, they want to be prepared for when the upturn occurs. In other words, they need to know what kind of "change" their organization requires.

Change can be a challenge, though. What does it mean for your organization? How do you bring about change? Where do you start?

That's where PROGGEX can help, according to Jim Stroh, CEO of PROGGEX, the go-to company for project management. PROGGEX's team of experts can help businesses navigate problems associated with changing priorities, resource allocation and productivity.

One of the critical tools to help manage change is a project management office, which PROGGEX can help establish. Its purpose is to keep projects on track, ensure that goals and deadlines are met and, especially important, stay within budget.

Among Stroh's recommendations:

- 1. Communicating with staff so they understand the problems facing the company. Top to bottom communication is critical at all times, but especially important in economic uncertainty.
- 2. Creating and communicating a clear vision. This communication, will help enforce and guide your plan for the project throughout its duration. Projecting a clear vision will keep projects on time and in budget,
- 3. Building a coalition throughout the organization to guide and support plans. Team work is essential, and if your team is downsized it's even more important to push the message of cohesive support.
- 4. Establish goals that can be met for short-term wins. Giving the team a positive success reemphasizes their strength as a team and solidifies the teamwork message.
- 5. Persistently pursuing long-term objectives. Letting your team know your vision and your "change" plan, helping them attain short-term wins and planning for long-term objectives all help keep your projects in place. With a plan in place for the duration of the entire project, and communicated to the team, you can be assured of meeting your objectives.