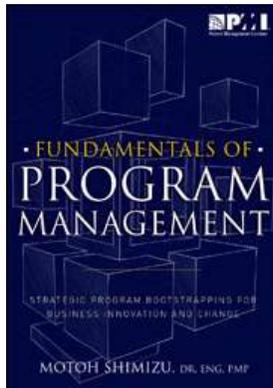

PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***Fundamentals of Program Management***

Author: **Motoh Shimizu**, Dr. Eng, PMP

Publisher: Project Management Institute

Format: Soft cover; 201 pages List Price: \$27.95

Publication Date: 2012 ISBN: 978-1-9355589-63-1

Reviewer: ***Nazanin Mehrooz, PMP***

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Introduction to the Book

Most program management practices are focused on IT solutions, construction and space industries. Historically there hasn't been sufficient attention on providing business or strategic management. This book focuses on how to capture business value and integrate it into the program management approach. The concept of bootstrapping (accomplishing a task without external help) is the focus of this book. Building strategic program which are centered on business innovation is the key which propels exceptional program implementation. The overall goal of execution any program should be on realized value. This book also covers this topic.

Overview of Book's Structure

The book contains 5 chapters:

1. Programs and Business Management
2. Program Implementation Management Processes
3. Strategy Management and Risk Management
4. Value Assessment
5. Project Organization and Project Management Competency

Highlights: What's New in this Book

- Relationship between strategy and programs management
- Program management bootstrapping
- How to deal with complexities of systems and cope with them
- Program management knowledge areas which are related to topics in this book

Highlights: What I liked!

Managing complexities associated with global production and localized solution is a challenging task. Managing business value and strategic needs is a challenge for most companies. What I liked most about this book is the understanding of bootstrapping program management and how to conceptually manage the complexity most organizations are dealing with.

This book also provides a better understanding of cultural diversities in Japan and the impact to programs. For example, Japanese firms tend to turn away from corporate integration and focus on their own corporate cultures. This coupled with strict anti-monopoly policies and the need to build competencies in corporate integration has negatively impacted their market share and growth on a global scale.

Shortfalls: What was Missing!

The program management knowledge areas (implementation management, strategic and risk management, value assessment and project organization) and management competencies are covered. Finance and information management knowledge areas are outside of the scope of this book.

Additional resources would be recommended for those seeking program management certification and more detailed look into all knowledge areas.

Who might benefit from the Book?

Program and project managers would benefit from this book because it provides guidance on how to tie in business and strategic needs to strengthen the value proposition. Business and strategic leaders would also benefit by understanding how to utilize PMOs more effectively to achieve goals and management of timely changes.

Conclusion

The fundamentals of program management involves build strategic program which support business innovation and change. To do this, it's important to have a clear program mission and break it down to cover concepts (mission profiling), plan (program design) and executing (launch, monitor and control) multiple projects to accomplish the mission. These steps are the focus of program integration management (Chapter 2). Program strategy management (Chapter 3) includes strategic goal management (what to implement) and execution strategy management (how to execute). Risks management is also part of program strategic management, where strategic goals, environment and program execution risks are identified and analyzed and risk responses are planned prior to program execution and monitored and controlled thereafter. Value assessment management (Chapter 4) helps to make the best

business decisions and assess financial outcomes. It also helps organizations during program or project closeout to gather knowledge for future decisions. The different types of project organization (operational, projectized or matrix organizations) and the project management competencies are all important aspects of program management. This book covers these topics with sufficient diagrams, charts and examples to aid the reader to absorb the complexities associated with program management.

Fundamentals of Program Management, Motoh Shimizu, DR. Eng, PMP, published by Project Management Institute; 2012, ISBN 978-1-9355589-63-1; 201 pages, soft cover. More at <http://marketplace.pmi.org/Pages/ProductDetail.aspx?GMProduct=00101363101>

Editor's note: This book review was the result of cooperation between the publisher, PM World and the Dallas Chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMI Dallas Chapter – www.pmidallas.org). Publishers provide the books to PM World; books are delivered to the PMI Dallas Chapter, where they are offered free to PMI members to review; book reviews are published by PM World in the PM World Journal and PM World Library. PMI Dallas Chapter members are all mid-career professionals, the audience for most project management books. If you are an author or publisher of a project management-related book, and would like the book reviewed through this program, please contact editor@pmworldjournal.net.

About the Reviewer



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Nazanin Mehrooz studied software engineering and have worked in many industries (including defense, telecom). Most recently, her focus area has been on IT operations, project and program management. She is an active volunteer for the Dallas and Ft Worth, Texas PMI chapters. Email: nazi_mehrooz@yahoo.com