Introduction to the Book

The book gives a really good overview of pretty much everything under the sun that anyone would ever wish to know about dynamic project scheduling using MS Project 2013— and some!

Overview of Book’s Structure

The book starts with an interesting introduction and comparison of MS Project 2013 and previous versions.

Chapter 1 (Concepts of Project Management) and 2 (Getting started with MS Project 2013) are a great ‘warm up’ to the subject of practical Project Management using a tool such as MS Project 2013. It should also be noted that the text is well aligned with the PMI methodology. Subsequent chapters are grouped by specific topics of data entry in MS Project e.g. “optimizing the schedule”.

Highlights: What’s New in this Book?

The book begins with a useful section on the differences between old and new versions of MS Project which I imagine would help direct the more experienced MS Project users on where to focus their learning efforts for 2013.

Highlights: What I liked!

A particularly useful feature of the book was the symbols used throughout, to denote where to take warnings/ reminders of consideration and points of interest. It is written and structured in a way that is almost verbal walk through of work examples you are doing with a team.
The authors are clearly from an experienced Project Management background and have written the text to be specifically useful to other Project Managers and the challenges they may face when undertaking project scheduling. The alignment of the text to PMI and specifically PMBOK 5th edition terminology is particularly useful in a working context.

Who might benefit from the Book?

Any Project Manager or Project Administrator who uses MS Project on a regular basis and wants to get more use out it as a tool.

Conclusion

Whilst the book is well written and split up with a healthy amount of illustrations and working examples, given the subject material, it is a heavy all-in-one read and would likely only be read cover to cover by the most dedicated MS Project users.

That being said, even those MS Project 2013 users who would never dream of reading the book word for word, would still benefit from having it as an easy access desk tool to utilize as questions arise during day-to-day project scheduling. Given the depth of information and the skilled presentation of a somewhat heavy subject, I would recommend investing in this book.

For more about this book, go to: http://www.jrosspub.com/dynamic-scheduling-with-microsoft-project-2013.html

Editor’s note: This book review was the result of a partnership between the publisher, PM World and the PMI Dallas Chapter. Authors and 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 in the PM World Journal and PM World Library. PMI Dallas Chapter members can keep the books as well as claim PDUs for PMP recertification when their reviews are published. Chapter members are generally 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

Penelope Crudgington (Roberts)

Penelope Crudgington is currently working in the Banking & Finance sector for a leading US business bank as a Project & Portfolio Manager. She is a PMP & Prince2 Certified Project Manager with 15 years of management experience and 9 years in Project & Bid Management. Penelope has an MSc degree in Environmental Management & Sustainable Development, and a BA (Hons) degree in Business & Tourism Management. She has International experience across several sectors with specific focus in energy, sustainability and environment and the built environment. Professional achievements include several large data domestic energy research projects which are revolutionizing European energy policy.

linkedin.com/penelope-crudgington-pmp-msc