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Great Lessons in Project Management
Author: David Pratt
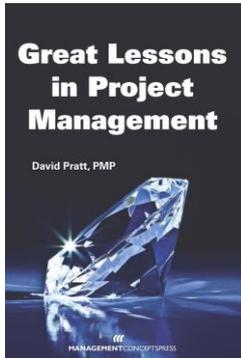Book Review   Reviewer: Rohit Tammana

PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW

Book Title: Great lessons in Project Management

Author: David Pratt PMP

Publisher: Management Concepts Press

List Price: $29.00   Format: soft cover, 143 pages

Publication Date: 2015   ISBN: 978-1-56726-472-2

Reviewer: Rohit Tammana , PMP

Review Date: 06/2015

Introduction

Being able to document lessons learnt is one of the toughest tasks of a project manager. Only when you understand your mistakes, you can avoid them in the future projects. David Pratt teaches through this book not only lesson learnt, but also how to make use of those lessons and make a difference on future projects.

Overview of Book's Structure

The book consists of 19 chapters which cover all the PMI knowledge areas and all the processes within each knowledge area. Each chapter cites a unique story and draws upon the lessons learnt from troubled projects. Since each story is unique, equal focus is placed on all knowledge areas and how these integrate with the PMBOK process groups.

Highlights

This book highlights how just memorizing the PMBOK processes and knowledge areas is not good enough, buy applying the knowledge in the right context matters. The book digs deeper into describing how projects failed in real life and how you can overcome such situations. It helps you gain knowledge on what not to do while running projects and how emotional intelligence plays a vital role to successfully run projects and recover from failing projects.

Highlights: What I liked!

Within each story lies a typical day to day conversation which happens for every project. The book shows how communication management – listening actively and questioning/probing ideas is very important to a project manager to ensure better understanding of every project. The one liner at the end of every chapter summarizes in a single sentence the lessons learned. By just reading these one-liner lessons learned every day, once can avoid the common pitfalls in most projects.

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Who might benefit from the Book?

The book will definitely benefit job seekers who want to get into the project management careers. Seasoned professionals like David Pratt provide valuable insights into day-to-day aspects of project management and the inner workings of running projects in an organization. Learning from such experienced professionals will help improve marketability and interviewing skills of newbies.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the book very well covers all the aspects of project management and highlights the skills and competencies required for every project manager – leadership, motivation, communication, influencing, decision making, negotiating, conflict management and coaching.

For more about this book, go to:
http://store.managementconcepts.com/Great_Lessons_in_Project_Management_David_Pratt_p/b722.htm

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 in the PM World Journal and PM World Library. Reviewers can keep the books and claim PDUs for PMP recertification. PMI Dallas 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.

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About the Reviewer

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Rohit Tammana is a Senior Project Manager with 10+ years' experience running New Product Introduction (NPI) engineering projects. He specializes in New Product Introduction projects – taking a new product idea development through the project lifecycle all the way to its commercialization. Rohit has a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in mechanical engineering and a MBA in Information and Operation Management.

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