

PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***Real Project Management***

Author: **Peter Taylor**

Publisher: Kogan Page

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Reviewer: **Alex Marques**, PMP, EMBA

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Introduction

The author provides an easy-to-read book about the past, present and future state of project management. This book can be considered a “cheat sheet” for how to survive the complex landscape we are facing today.

The great point about this book is the possibility to be read not only by experienced project managers that want to understand new challenges and learn up-to-date best practices, but also can be read by the new generations who want to understand project management history in order to avoid mistakes of the past.

Overview of Book's Structure

The book is divided into 5 parts:

- Part 1 – Legacy
- Part 2 – Challenges
- Part 3 – Multi-generations
- Part 4 – The future
- Part 5 – Tips for success

Highlights

An important message that this book leaves to the reader is that the contributions provided by the “accidental” project managers are greatly appreciated, nevertheless there will not be space for this kind of behavior in the future.

In order to work in any project management capacity in the new job market, it will require from any professional ongoing training which can come from formal education or open resources currently available on the internet, as well as mastery of soft skills that were not important in the past, that however due to cultural diversity and virtualization can be the difference between project success or failure.

Another interesting aspect of the book is that all the discussed topics come with good support information such as graph charts (Chapter 2 – “Is Everyone a Project Manager”), comments and thoughts (Chapter 16 – “Language and Reality”) and stories (Chapter 10 – “Strategic Connection”).

Highlights: What I liked!

I really liked the form the author provided for his project management experience through 2 tools called **Real Project Management tips** and **Virtual Mentor**. They gave me the option for gaining knowledge which could be used immediately without a full read of the chapter based on my schedule.

Other 2 points I also liked is that the book can be read in any order based on my current interest at the moment and also to read really interesting stories provided by several contributors which gave a diverse perspective about all the described skills and capabilities.

Who might benefit from the Book

The book is designed not only for people that are interested in joining the project management profession, wishing to understand what it takes to get themselves established in the market, but also for experienced project management professionals who want to prepare themselves and their teams for 21st century challenges.

Conclusion

This book is great material that can be read several times serving as an important self-assessment for your professional development.

For more about this book, go to: <http://www.koganpageusa.com/product/978-0-7494-7121-7-Real-Project-Management,2535.aspx>

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@peworldjournal.net.

About the Reviewer



Alex Marques

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Alex Marques, PMP, is Consulting Manager at Amdocs, Inc. and owner of **Marques Counseling & Coaching**, which has the main goal to help customers not only to plan, but also to execute their financial, career and life goals in a more holistically manner.

Alex earned his Bachelor's degree in Information Technology for FATEC-BS (Santos, Brazil) and Master's Degree for FGV (Fundacao Getulio Vargas, Campinas, Brazil) in Business and Information Technology. He has over 20 years' experience on successful project implementation, mentoring and training initiatives in several countries.

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