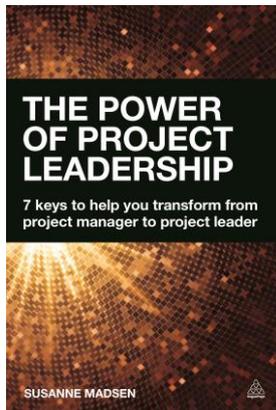


PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***The Power of Project Leadership: 7 keys to help you transform from project manager to project leader***

Author: **Susanne Madsen**

Publisher: Kogan Page Limited

List Price: 39.95 Format: Soft cover, # 286 pages

Publication Date: 2015 ISBN: 978 0 7494 7234 4

Reviewer: **Manjeeta Sitaula**

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Introduction

The book "*The Power of Project Leadership*" by Susanne Madsen addresses the need for leadership in today's fast paced world with complex and diverse projects. The book is a great motivator for project managers to take that step towards becoming a project leader which is very critical to project's success. The book contains exercises that provide the opportunity for readers to evaluate their current way of management and contemplate possible ways to understand and improve their practice by being innovative and taking risks.

Overview of Book's Structure

The book is divided into four different chapters and consists of advice and experiences from experts in the field of project management. Chapter one discusses the differences between project management and project leadership which is illustrated elegantly using examples and graphic representation. The chapter highlights how the approaches for delivering projects have changed in today's demanding world. The author further discusses common mistakes that project managers make.

Chapter two discusses personal skills and behavior that a manager can change to empower his/her mindset. Further the chapter elaborates on how the six human needs control a manager's decision. Chapter three presents the seven keys to help to transform a project manager to a project leader. The seven keys are discussed in detail as a subchapter. At the end of each key, the author discusses how to embed these new behaviors.

Chapter four provides a synopsis on implementing the knowledge presented in previous chapters. The author also explains how to get rid of the old ways that have not been serving and utilize these tools to achieve the project goal.

Highlights

The author points out the three most fundamental mistakes project managers make. Though these three mistakes are common they can be overlooked by many and as the author describes, a manager could "fall prey" to the mistakes which could ultimately hamper the performance and goal of the project.

Furthermore, project management is not limited to following specific guidelines and tools and techniques but knowing how to lead with a wider vision. It is of utmost importance that project managers hone their soft skills and also recognize the specialty and inspire each team member to achieve the desired goal.

Highlights: What I liked!

Chapter three has a lot to offer for a project manager who is willing to learn and try new skills. I like how the author says great leaders put their reputation at risk by adopting/trying out new ideas. Moreover, good leaders like to challenge, question, listen and realize that they do not have answers to all the questions.

The thing that stood out the most was "the power of questions". Good leaders question themselves frequently during the project and take a big-picture view which helps to understand the upcoming risks and learn new opportunities.

Who might benefit from the Book?

This book is a must read for project managers of all facets, especially since today's projects involve dynamic characteristics and multitude of unknown variables. The readers will learn to assess the project through a helicopter view and prevent them from getting entangled, addressing urgent rather than important matters that affect the project outcome.

Conclusion

The seven keys presented in this book are very important tools for a professional in the field of project management. The book provides the readers with an opportunity for self-reflection on their current management style and provides a set of necessary skills that will help to enhance their career.

For more about this book, go to: <http://www.koganpage.com/product/the-power-of-project-leadership-9780749472344>

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



Manjeeta Sitaula, PMP

Texas, USA



Manjeeta Sitaula is a Civil Engineer by profession and has been certified as a PMP since 2013. She can be reached at manjeetas@gmail.com