

PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***The Complete Software Project Manager***
Author: **Anna P. Murray**
Publisher: John Wiley & Sons
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Reviewer: **Edward Raibick, PMP**
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Introduction

The book titled **The Complete Software Project Manager** provides the reader with the tools, processes and project considerations needed for managing software development projects. It navigates the reader from discovery and requirements analysis through UAT, delivery, and post launch support. It discusses the considerations and methods used from small projects to enterprise and cloud-based solutions.

Overview of Book's Structure

- **Chapter 1** provides three metaphors for classifying the project complexity.
- **Chapter 2** discusses methodologies for software development.
- **Chapter 3** introduces off-the-shelf, customized and custom solutions.
- **Chapter 4** reviews the team member roles and responsibilities.
- **Chapter 5** covers programmer bias and choosing the right platform.
- **Chapter 6** details final discovery, project definition, scope and documentation.
- **Chapter 7** suggests practices for estimating the budget for the project.
- **Chapter 8** discusses risk management, budgeting and project hazards.
- **Chapter 9** reviews communication strategies throughout the project.
- **Chapter 10** details project health and assessing the project's health.
- **Chapter 11** continues with project health, Testing, QA, and the first deliverables.
- **Chapter 12** covers project problems and criteria for project cancellation.
- **Chapter 13** discusses post-launch UAT, Security testing, performance testing, go live, rollback criteria and post release support.

Highlights

The Complete Software Project Manager book provides the user with the many items to consider in the management of a software development project. It reviews

issues from a management perspective, focusing on the items of importance for a successful application delivery.

The book provides a web link to resources to aid in organizing, managing and reporting the progress of the development throughout the life of the project.

Highlights: What I liked!

Unlike other project management books that provide a mechanistic / process approach to managing projects, this book provides great detail to the management decision considerations that must be made throughout a software development project. Selection of the right application technology, recognizing and managing the dynamics of a programmer team, and knowing when the project needs emergency assistance are items discussed in detail throughout this book.

Who might benefit from the Book

I would suggest this book to project managers and stakeholders involved with larger, enterprise scale and client-driven projects. The author clearly demonstrates her experience in software development in these areas as well as her knowledge in project management.

Conclusion

The ***Complete Software Project Manager*** is an easy read and a great reference for those involved in coordinating and managing software projects through the SDLC cycle. Incorporating the concepts and tools provided in this book will result in cost savings and efficiency to those who struggle with software development project management.

For more about this book, go to: <http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1119161835,subjectCd-BA03.html#>

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Edward Raibick, PMP is a PM consultant with extensive experience software engineering, managerial and IT Project Management. Edward holds a Master's degree in Information Technology with a concentration in Internet and IT security, a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology and an Associate's degree in Specialized Technology in Electronics. His career includes over 10 years with the IBM Corporation and over 15 years with Texas Instruments. Edward is a member of the Project Management Institute, Dallas Chapter, having acquired his PMP certification in 2011. Email address: raibick@sbcglobal.net