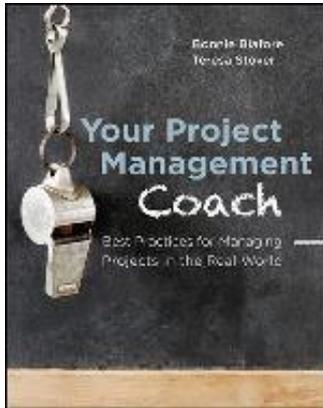


PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***Your Project Management Coach: Best Practices for Managing Projects in the Real World***

Author: **Bonnie Biafore and Teresa Stover**

Publisher: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

List Price: \$44.99 USA Format: Soft Cover

Publication Date: 2012 ISBN: 978-1-118-14424-4

Reviewer: **Charlie Green, PMP**

Review Date: August 2016

Introduction

Recently, when I was looking for my next book to read, I happened to see one whose title with the word “coach” in it caught my attention. I picked up the book and quickly scanned through the pages and I liked what I saw. It appeared to go deeper and provide some actual suggestions or coaching on the different project management topics. I found that the authors went deeper than just providing the concepts, but also provided some real examples and pitfalls to watch out for.

If a book doesn't grab my attention, I lose interest quickly and won't finish reading it or recommend it. This one did grab my attention and I read it from cover to cover. I do recommend *Your Project Management Coach: Best Practices for Managing Projects in the Real World*.

Overview of Book's Structure

The book is broken into six parts with each part having multiple chapters. Part I, Understanding Projects and Project Management, goes into defining what a project is, the components of a project and some characteristics of a project manager.

Part II, Planning a Project, goes into detail explaining project planning and all of the components that can go into a project plan. As a bonus, the authors have created project forms and artifacts that they explain and use as examples throughout the book and provide a link that a reader can download to modify and use on their own projects.

Part III, goes into details of executing a project. They give information and suggestions on obtaining project resources, kicking off the project, team building, managing resources and how to have successful project meetings. Part IV, is on Monitoring and Controlling the project. Here they explain the importance of

gathering project data and keeping an eye on it and how to make corrections as needed.

The Part V, Closing the Project, discusses wrapping up and closing a project, obtaining customer acceptance, and making sure everything is closed out and archived for future reference. They also share reasons why it is important to capture lessons learned all the way through the project instead of waiting until the end of the project. Part VI, Taking the Next Steps, discusses Project Management Offices, Project Portfolios and how to select the right projects.

Highlights

At the end of each chapter the authors ask some questions to get the reader to think about what they have read and to make sure the reader comprehended the material just shared. These are not multiple choice questions, but the reader really needs to think and make sure they understood. At the back of the book is a section that provides answers to each question throughout the book.

Highlights: What I liked!

One of the things that I really liked was at the end of each chapter the authors gave some challenges or recommendations that the reader could apply to their own projects right away. It's not just theory; the authors include examples that demonstrate the concept.

The authors share tips and suggestions along with cross references to other sections in the book and what part of the PMP Exam Domain to the section it pertains to. So, if a reader is preparing for the PMP Exam, this book can help with that as well.

Who might benefit from the Book?

The book uses examples from various industries, such as technology, new product, and construction to demonstrate the project management techniques and processes. Whether you are new to the world of project management or a seasoned veteran, there is information in this book that can help each of us. The authors dish out nuggets of helpful ideas to help you.

Conclusion

We have all seen the statistics that show the majority of projects that come in late or over budget and full of scope creep. This book is full of great information and recommendations for managing a project and ways to keep it on track for a successful finish. While this book is not intended to be used as a primary source for preparing for the PMP Exam, it ties very well with the PMBOK fifth Edition. Whether you have never managed a project before or you as a seasoned veteran with the battle scars, I recommend this book. For the veteran project manager, you can jump to the section that you may be struggling with. You can also use it as a refresher and read it like I did from cover to cover.

For more about this book, go to: <http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1118144244.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



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Charlie Green has worked as a project manager since 1985. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Texas at Dallas. He also holds a Project Management Professional certification. He currently manages software implementation projects in the financial services industry. Previously he has managed new product, business process improvement, business intelligence and system development projects in the financial, telecommunications, information technology industries and military. Charlie is retired from the U.S. Air Force Reserve following a 26 year Air Force career. Charlie is a member of the Dallas, Texas PMI Chapter.

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