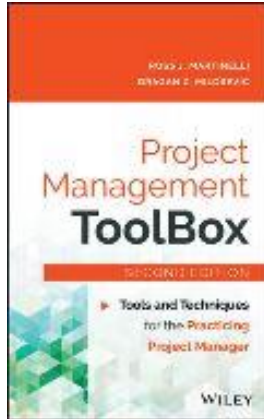


## PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***Project Management ToolBox: Tools and Techniques for the Practicing Project Manager, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.***

Author: **Russ J. Martinelli and Dragan Z. Milosevic**

Publisher: Wiley

List Price: US \$75.00      Format: Hardcover, 480 pages

Publication Date: Feb, 2016      ISBN: 978-1-118-97312-7

Reviewer: **John Holderman**

Review Date: May 2016

### Introduction

A box of tools for Project Managers, what a concept! Many tradesmen carry their own personalized tools, Project Managers should be no exception. Having a proven set of tools along with the knowledge of how to adapt them to different situations makes good Project Managers into great ones.

### Overview of Book's Structure

The structure of this book is laid out much like a project with some reference information in Part VI. This pragmatic approach makes it easy to use as reference material on any manager's desk.

This book is broken down into 6 parts, Part I introduces the book, the other parts in order are, Initiation, Planning, Implementation, Reporting and Closure and finally Risk and Stakeholder Management. Each section is further broken down into the important aspects of subject. A brief introduction of the subject and then a description of the processes involved, then into a discussion of possible tools.

Each section also describes tips for validating the tools and information the tools are used on. The authors also identify typical errors and how to overcome them. References are listed at the end of each chapter.

## Highlights

The authors breakdown the major areas of Project Management and discuss tools and possible adaptations your company may need. They also briefly discuss Agile methodologies and Stakeholder management.

Each area is further broken down and discussed, tools and sample templates are provided and explained allowing the more experienced Project Managers to quickly adapt these tools to their needs while providing enough detail so even those new to Project Management adapt these tools to their needs.

For example, In Part II: Project Planning Tools, the first thing discussed is the methods to gather requirements. The authors describe an Elicitation Plan, why it's important and how to develop it, what problem is to be solved by using it and how.

## Highlights: What I liked!

In Short, I liked the detail and the tools. The in-depth explanation helped me understand the tools purpose and obtain a good working knowledge. Examples were provided for most, if not all, of the tools.

## Who might benefit from the Book

Those new to Project Management, experienced Project Managers and those working at the Program level could all benefit from this book. The more experience may even find a new tool or two or may be a new way to adapt the tools they are familiar with.

## Conclusion

The authors have provided a good set of instantly usable tools, knowledge and expertise throughout this book. There is enough detail for even the most novice Project Manager. The discussions on adapting the tools to different styles and the examples provide inspiration to modify and adapt existing tools not mentioned. I would like to see a pocket guide or reference of this book and possibly an online page where the examples could be downloaded to help new Project Managers.

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For more about this book, go to: <http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1118973127.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;*

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## About the Reviewer



**John Holderman**

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**John Holderman** has worked in project management since 1997 with his most recent work in program management controls and reporting. John has managed the global implementation of UNIX server farms used in telecommunications and large, complex telephone switching systems. As a member of a new product introduction team he guided deployment team readiness and working closely with engineering team to ensure the product or customer ready.

John has supported many global communications system deployments, has been an integral part of two electro-mechanical to digital telephone system conversions, authored policy documents for specialized teams, installation manuals, commissioning manuals and has created many of his own tools used to manage projects. John's technical background along with his international project management experience give him a unique ability to very effectively manage highly complex technical projects.

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