PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW

Book Title: *Data Analytics in Project Management*
Author: Various; Edited by Seweryn Spalek
Publisher: CRC Press
List Price: US$129.95 Format: Hardcover, 222 pages
Reviewer: Jennifer Arroyo, PMP
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Introduction

*Data Analytics in Project Management* is a good collection of essays, research papers, and case studies that applies key project management approaches and methods to the field of Data Analytics. For example: Risk Management, the role of PMO, Planning and Resource Management, PPM, EVM, Big Data, Software Support/ASD-BI, Data Mining and BI, Decision-making, and Agile PM. I appreciate this book discusses the challenges of big data development then compares and contrasts that with project management which have tended to be late adopters of Agile in BI.

Overview of Book’s Structure

- Chapter 1 Introduction
  - DA in PM is of increasing importance but extremely challenging
- Chapter 2 Why Data Analytics in Project Management?
  - Data Analytics 3.0
- Chapter 3 Data Analytics Risk: Lost in Translation?
  - Predictive Analytics and Consequences
- Chapter 4 Analytical Challenges of a Modern PMO
  - The PMO as the Multilevel Data Analysis Center
- Chapter 5 Data Analytics and Project Portfolio Management
  - PPM and Decision-Making
- Chapter 6 Earned Value Method
  - Setting up for EVM
- Chapter 7 How to Manage Big Data Issues in a Project Environment
  - Overcoming Data-related Challenges
- Chapter 8 IT Solutions of Data Analytics as Applied to Project Management
  - Case study
Chapter 9 Conventional and Unconventional Data Mining for Better Decision-making
  – Why Data Mining is needed

Chapter 10 Agile Project Management and Data Analytics
  – Application of Agile Values

Chapter 11 Data Analytics and Scrum
  – Mixing Oil and Water: Data Analytics and Scrum

Highlights

Good coverage of Data Analytics in PM topics and best practices. Each chapter has its own Contents which makes it very reader-friendly. The purpose of the book is to touch on each topic and present practical pieces of advice to improve the way a project manager work with Big Data. Data analytics in project management is of increasing importance and extremely challenging.

Highlights: What I liked!

I clearly identified some of the scenarios and improvement opportunities mentioned in this book from my experience in business intelligence projects. I found chapter 10: Agile Project Management and Data Analysis to be quite insightful about Agile in Data Analytics.

Who might benefit from the Book?

I recommend this book to anyone looking for ways to bridge the gap between Big Data development and project management, especially for someone new to agile BI development. For PM professionals who make strategic decisions in a big data environment and who also want to keep their competitive edge, this book is a must read!

Conclusion

Data Analytics in Project Management is a great resource reference book for project management professionals. The editor’s theories are supported with numerous examples and cases studies to showcase the current state of DA applications in PM and future development. There are a limited number of books available today on this topic. The collection of works also provide enough details so readers can understand the basic mechanics of the many DA and PM concepts that are described in the book.
For more about this book, go to: https://www.crcpress.com/Data-Analytics-in-Project-Management/Spalek/p/book/9781138307285

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About the Reviewer

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For more than 10 years Ms. Arroyo has worked with individuals and teams in Fortune 500 financial services business environments. Her emphasis is in Data Audit in compliance, financial Data Analysis, CRM applications, meeting project requirements, achieving project goals and subsequently improving company operational performance.

During her recent PMO involvement she aligned her project management knowledge of current BI enterprise applications and solution-based analytic tools to bring optimal outcomes and overall marketing program/project success.

As a lifelong learner, she is currently pursuing a MS degree in Advanced Data Analytics with a focus in information systems for Healthcare Management. Ms. Arroyo has been a member of PMI Dallas Chapter since 2015.

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