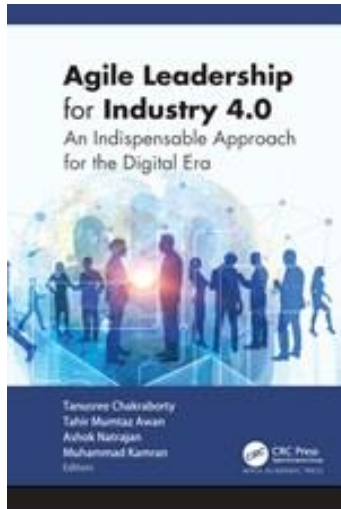


PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: **Agile Leadership for Industry 4.0: An Indispensable Approach for the Digital Era¹**

Author: Tanusree Chakraborty (Editor), Tahir Mumtaz Awan (Editor), Ashok Natarajan (Editor), Muhammad Kamran (Editor)

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Reviewer: Linda Whitesell Review Date: May 2024

Introduction

"Agile Leadership for Industry 4.0: An Indispensable Approach for the Digital Era" is a must-read for anyone navigating today's fast-paced, tech-driven business world. Edited by experts like Tanusree Chakraborty, Tahir Mumtaz Awan, Ashok Natarajan, and Muhammad Kamran, this book breaks down how agile leadership can help you stay ahead in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. It covers everything from using big data and AI to transforming HR and leadership practices to fit our digital age.

The book is packed with real-world examples and practical tips, making it easy to see how these concepts work in practice. You'll find out how to build a leadership culture that encourages collaboration, continuous improvement, and innovation. Plus, it offers strategies for keeping your team engaged and productive in an ever-changing industrial landscape.

Whether you're an experienced leader or just starting out, this book provides valuable insights into leading with agility. It's about being flexible, responsive, and ready to tackle the challenges of the digital era. If you're looking to stay competitive and drive success in your organization, "Agile Leadership for Industry 4.0" is a great resource to have on your shelf.

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Overview of Book's Structure

The book is structured to guide readers through the multifaceted aspects of integrating agile leadership within the context of Industry 4.0. Here's a brief overview of its structure:

Introduction and Conceptual Framework: The book begins by laying a solid foundation, defining agile leadership and its relevance in the digital era. It provides a conceptual framework to understand how agile practices intersect with the technological advancements of Industry 4.0.

Technology Integration: Several chapters focus on the role of advanced technologies such as big data, AI, and IoT in enhancing business agility. These sections discuss how to leverage these technologies to drive decision-making and operational efficiency.

Human Resource Transformation: The book delves into the transformation of human resource management to support agile methodologies. It covers the impact of automation and AI on HR practices, strategies for talent development, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement.

Leadership Styles and Practices: A significant portion is dedicated to exploring different leadership styles suitable for Industry 4.0. It includes insights into virtual leadership, crisis management, and the importance of empathy and innovation in leadership.

Case Studies and Real-World Applications: Throughout the book, various case studies and practical examples illustrate the application of agile leadership in real-world scenarios. These case studies provide concrete examples of how organizations have successfully navigated their Industry 4.0 transformation.

Special Topics: The book also addresses specific issues such as preventing workplace harassment, promoting women's entrepreneurship, and ensuring job satisfaction among employees. These chapters highlight the broader societal impacts of agile leadership.

Conclusion and Future Outlook: The book concludes with a discussion on the future of agile leadership in Industry 4.0, offering insights into emerging trends and the continuous evolution of leadership practices in the digital age.

By structuring the book in this way, the editors ensure that readers grasp both the theoretical aspects of agile leadership and its practical applications and future potential within the context of Industry 4.0. This comprehensive approach makes it a valuable resource for professionals aiming to thrive in the digital era.

Highlights

Listed here are highlights from "Agile Leadership for Industry 4.0: An Indispensable Approach for the Digital Era" to look for:

Technology Integration and Agile Practices: Delve into how advanced technologies like AI, IoT, and big data can be integrated with agile mindset and practices to enhance project efficiency and innovation.

Leadership Styles for the Digital Era: Explore various leadership styles suited for Industry 4.0, including virtual leadership, crisis management, and empathetic leadership. Understanding these styles can help leaders adapt their approach to better manage remote teams and handle the dynamic challenges of modern technological projects.

Human Resource Transformation and Team Management: Discover the transformation of HR practices to support agile teams, focusing on talent development, continuous improvement, and employee engagement. Leaders can gain insights into fostering a culture that supports innovation and agility, which is crucial for teams working on cutting-edge technologies.

Real-World Case Studies: Featuring numerous case studies, the book provides practical examples of how organizations have successfully implemented agile leadership and navigated Industry 4.0 transformations. These real-world scenarios can offer valuable lessons and strategies that leaders can apply to their own teams and projects.

Highlights: What I liked!

In the last case study, "Job Satisfaction among School Teachers: Probing into the Nature of Agility in Government and Private Secondary School," it is interesting to see how teachers experience the same dissatisfaction from a lack of autonomy, mastery, and purpose as corporate professionals. While the sample is limited in both size and scope, the conclusion is compelling enough to warrant like studies across the globe, particularly in the United States, where there is anecdotal evidence of a surge in teacher dissatisfaction. This last chapter was the catalyst for several lively conversations around my dinner table.

Who might benefit from the Book?

This book is a worthwhile read for a wide range of professionals, including:

- Corporate Leaders, Senior Executives and Decision-Makers
- Human Resource Professionals
- Project Managers
- Innovation and R&D Leaders
- Consultants and Coaches

- Academics and Students

Conclusion

The wide variety of topics in this book provide much to ponder and discuss. While the content may seem academic in nature, the practical application of ensuing conversations and further exploration of the findings in different contexts/countries makes this a worthwhile read.

[For more about this book, click here.](#)

About the Reviewer



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Linda Whitesell is associate director of the Agile Coaching Team at Humana. A multifaceted, energetic, versatile business agility consultant and coach, Linda Whitesell has over 35 years of experience in software development, architecture, program management, and quality engineering. Linda is a natural agilist who continually seeks opportunities to help others improve their ability to respond quickly and easily to big change. Linda leverages her experience to provide colorful examples of fundamental lean-agile principles – or anti-patterns – in action. At Humana, Linda and her team coach business and IT organizations to adopt the agile practices that optimize their business outcomes. She derives pure joy when her partners realize that work isn't agile. People are.

Editor's note: This book review was the result of a partnership between the PM World Journal and the [PMI Dallas Chapter](#). Authors and publishers provide books to the PM World Journal Editor; books are delivered to the PMI Dallas Chapter where they are offered free to PMI members who agree to provide a review within 45 days; book reviews are published in the PM World Journal and PM World Library. Reviewers can normally claim PDU's for PMP recertification upon publication of their book reviews. If you would like us to publish a book review or are an author or publisher of a project management-related book, and would like the book reviewed, please contact editor@pmworldjournal.com.