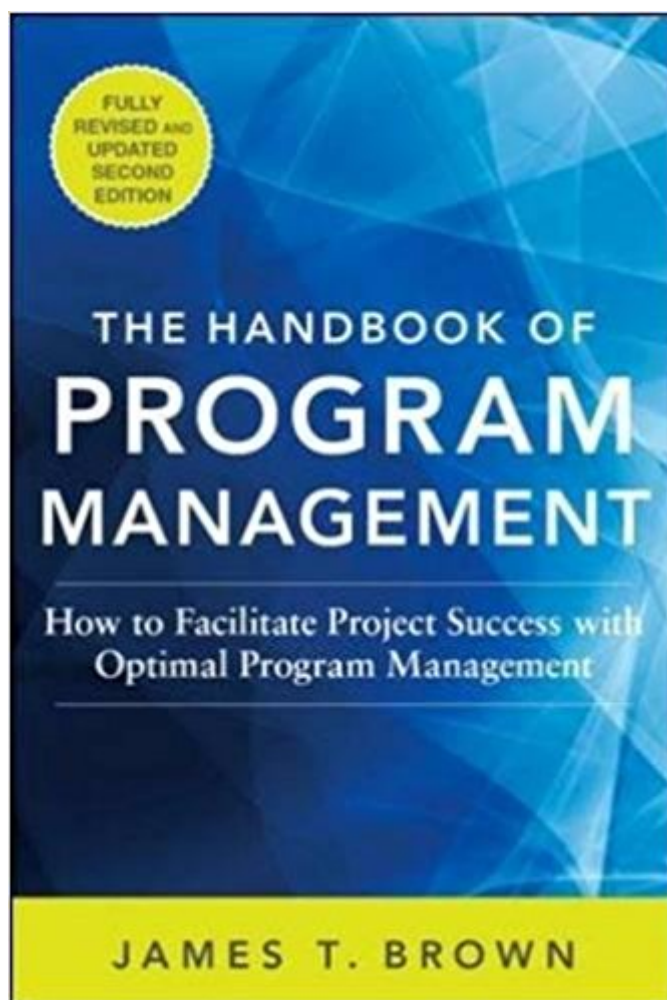


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# The Handbook Of Program Management: How To Facilitate Project Success With Optimal Program Management, Second Edition (Business Books)





## Synopsis

### THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO PROGRAM MANAGEMENT--FULLY UPDATED AND REVISED

Program managers must strike a balance between operations and project implementations in order to develop and maintain a culture in which the components of success are repeatable. The Handbook of Program Management is designed to help you do exactly that. This go-to guide supplies you with the insight and tools you need to establish processes that ensure the success of your project managers--and increase the profitability of your products and services. Fully updated and heavily revised, this new edition helps you incorporate new technologies and people into your processes while delivering improved products and services that continually outpace your competition. The Handbook of Program Management provides critical information from a trusted expert. In addition to the classic chapters on Attributes of the Effective Program Manager, Stakeholder Management, and Portfolio Management Essentials, this updated edition is packed with brandnew material covering: Change management Interfaces How bad projects are stopped or postponed How consultants and subcontractors should be used Program performance analysis The role of governance Avoiding the complicated theories and phantom quick-fixes you'll find in other books, The Handbook of Program Management offers straightforward, actionable methods for establishing a highly effective project management culture: one with integrity, energy, and full stakeholder support. Nowhere else will you find such comprehensive, authoritative information on creating successful program management outcomes. The author takes you on the entire journey, from strategically creating a program culture, to building effective relationships, and to analyzing ways of accomplishing your program objectives. The Handbook of Program Management is essential reading for program managers of all levels, whether you're a novice seeking certification in the field or an executive looking to build a flexible organization that can support dynamic on-going product development. Praise for the previous edition of The Handbook of Program Management: "Brown's book captures the essential skills of program and project management. It serves as a 'how to' guide for those entering the business, as well as a refresher on the skills and attributes for those ready to take the next step. The book effectively defines the leader's role in creating the team culture and environment for success." -- Eugene F. Kranz, Apollo 13 Flight Director, author of Failure Is Not an Option, and retired Director NASA Space Operations "Program management is one of the toughest jobs a person can hold--and James Brown knows Program Management. Here's a chance to learn from the scar tissue of others rather than your own." -- Norman R. Augustine, retired Chairman and CEO, Lockheed Martin Corporation "Finally, a pragmatic book that shares the secrets behind successful program management. If I was giving one book to program

managers, this would be it! Any business leader in today's environment of accelerating change will benefit from this book." -- Jack Cooper, former CIO, Bristol-Myers Squibb

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

James T. Brown, Ph.D., is President of SEBA Solutions Inc., which provides project management training for organizations around the world. He has received the Engineer of the Year award from the Cape Canaveral Technical Societies and is a recipient of the NASA Public Service Medal for exceptional contributions to NASA's mission.

I would strongly recommend this book to anyone who wants to understand program management, particularly those who have recently transitioned (or are looking to transition) to a program management role. This book gave me great insights into the types of things to be conscious about when taking a program view versus a project view. The concepts and examples given are practical and based on common sense. Although numbers and statistics can be useful to some extent, greater emphasis/focus is given in understanding the big picture and context when delivering programs of work. Many of these concepts I found were intuitive and made a lot of practical sense - I recently started managing a program of work, and I could relate a number of situations and examples described in the book. A number of things I suspected were true were clarified and

crystalised in the chapters of the book. The book also talks of the pitfalls of spending too much time on excessive detail when working as a program manager - it's more important to focus on the overall health of the program rather than getting caught up in unnecessary details. It's the best book on this topic I have read and I am highly likely to be referencing this book in future.

Great book - so relevant to today's Program / Project Managers in any type of business. Many of the chapters' content struck close to home and I was constantly relating the content to my present work situation / environment. Chapter 5 in particular had me putting markers on many pages that hit most closest to home. In Chapter 10, Figure 10-1 relates to Little's Law (Cycle Time = WIP / Average completion rate) . This is absolutely true isn't it? Try to do too many projects consuming the same resources; essentially everything slows down. Thanks to Dr. Brown, we all have an easy to use desk reference anytime we are struggling with how to improve our programs and or projects.

Not just a great book on program management, but perhaps the best book on overall project management I have ever read. Mr. Brown does an excellent job breaking down the challenges facing a program manager at any level. He writes not from a theoretical perspective, but directly from being mentored by the best, and having experience in project and program management in NASA. Pretty much the diametric opposite of the PMBOK, this book is extremely practical, and the suggestions can be immediately implemented regardless of industry. Expensive for a Kindle book, and well worth it.

Finally found an intelligent book that makes our complicated and sometimes overly technical profession seem easier to digest. As a veteran in the field, I found it refreshing. I've always known PM'n is about leading people and not only looking at metrics or health indicators this book helps make that point. It is easy to read and provides good scenarios.

Excellent book with lots of great ideas on managing the various aspect of program and project management using solid judgement and common sense. Logical reasoning that can be applied immediately. I could also relate my experience with working in a healthy project management environment, working weak project management environment, as well as working in organization with process for the sake of process without any logical explanation or reason. I highly recommend this book.

Highly recommend reading if you're transitioning from a project manager into a program/portfolio manager role. I read it in 2 days and will continue to reference it, as needed.

Mr Brown manages, in epic form, to translate a part of his vast knowledge into 239ish pages of jam packed information for the program manager. Also every page has something powerful on it and this is a book I will reread over and over again as I make my way into the PM world. What sets this book apart is that you can feel Mr. Brown's experience on every page. While there are many great lessons in this book (the part on meetings and buy-in are worth the price of admission) the big theme of the book is simple. Listen. Always listen. Don't let tools or second hand knowledge rule you. Get down and talk to people. Understand your organization, understand what makes your co-workers tick. From this, all his other points take off. And what an amazing amounts of points. He doesn't dig too deep; you may need a primer on product management (or, if you've been in the trenches as long as me, you may have gathered this knowledge via osmosis). From dealing with your stakeholder, to software, to Agile, to building teams, to work load; Mr Brown runs the gamut. If you are a program manager, or want to be one, or want to know what they do - this is an excellent place to look.

This is a great read for the new program manager.

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