

Project Leadership (General Finance & Investing)

By James P. Lewis

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Solutions for growing beyond mere management into a truly accomplished project leader

In today's high-performance, competitive environment, the importance of project success has never been more critical or the failure rate more pronounced. *Project Leadership* provides a step-by-step program for transforming by-the-book project managers into true leaders who are capable of helping their team members plan, execute, and sustain consistent project successeven in an environment of relentless pressure, continuous innovation, and unforeseen change.

Author and project management icon James P. Lewis has created a hands-on blueprint for building a focused project team, forging it into a strong unit, and going beyond the principles of management to effectively lead it to success. Drawing on Lewis's exhaustive knowledge of project management and current best practices in leadership, *Project Leadership* discusses:

- How to use state-of-the-art technologies to ensure project management success
- Proven leadership principles, and ways to both understand and adopt them
- Case studies of best-practices project leadership in action

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

Techniques for Going Beyond "Managing" to Become a True Project Leader

Even though they can't be reduced to a tidy formula or equation, the principles of leadership are every bit as legitimate--and learnable--as those of finance or engineering. *Project Leadership* provides you with a blueprint for becoming a successful project leader, capable of motivating team members to achieve project objectives not because they have to but because they *want* to.

This uniquely hands-on look at project leadership goes beyond theory to examine the real-world relationship between task, leader, and follower. It outlines steps managers can take to gain the trust of their team members--the first step toward leadership--then goes on to describe:

- Commonly encountered personality traits of both leaders and followers
- Case studies of leadership in action, in both business and nonbusiness settings
- Leadership principles that can successfully be applied to numerous situations

Research has shown that successful project leaders exhibit remarkably consistent actions and behaviors, and that virtually anyone can adopt those practices to dramatically improve their leadership effectiveness. In *Project Leadership*, discover what effective project leadership is *really* all about, and principles that--if followed--can greatly increase your project management success.

"Leadership appears to be the art of getting others to want to do something you are convinced should be done."--Vance Packard

It is followers, not organizations, that convey leadership. And before people will allow you to lead them, you must understand what they want *from* you and what they expect *of* you.

Project Leadership focuses on the unique skills necessary for leading people in a project environment. Nontechnical and accessible, it provides an easy-to-follow program for transforming yourself from a by-the-book manager into a leader capable of encouraging team members to plan, accomplish, and sustain excellence. Drawing on author Jim Lewis's considerable experience with project management and leadership best practices, this step-by-step coursebook for developing leadership proficiency discusses:

- Proven leadership principles, with methods for both understanding and adopting them
- Strategies for changing from the command-and-control role to that of facilitator
- Proven steps for building the personal credibility required for effective leadership

As a project manager, you are generally given overwhelming responsibility with little actual authority. So, without such authority, how do you get others to "do something you are convinced should be done?" *Project Leadership* unveils a chapter-by-chapter program for developing the skills of a leader. You discover techniques for matching individuals' talents to specific tasks ... skills for delegating authority without fear of losing control ... physical approaches for quickly building rapport with other persons ... tips for acquiring credibility in an unfamiliar setting ... and much more.

The principles of effective project leadership can be learned, practiced, and improved upon. In *Project Leadership*, author and project management expert Jim Lewis combines decades of leadership research with his own unmatched project management experience to arrive at a straightforward, logical, and convincing system for becoming a leader--one who can consistently direct people to bring projects of every type to their successful conclusions.

About the Author

James P. Lewis, Ph.D., is the founder of The Lewis Institute, Inc., a training and consulting company specializing in project management, and an adjunct professor at the University of Management and Technology. Over the past two decades, Dr. Lewis has trained over 25,000 supervisors and managers in the United States, Europe, Asia, and throughout the world. He has written a number of influential books on project management, including *Project Planning, Scheduling, and Control*, *The Project Manager's Desk Reference*, *Working Together*, and others. His books have been translated into Chinese, Portuguese, and Lithuanian.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

George Gomez:

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