

Foreword

Successful technology project management, planning, and operations are increasingly vital to all organizations, driven by the demands of global competition, rapid technological growth, and faster time to market. For those in technology fields, project management skills are a major core competency needed for serious competition. Those who have mastered these skills will continue to be in high demand worldwide, commanding higher salaries than those around them. However, how does one extend those skills or acquire them in the first place? *The Handbook of Research on Technology Project Management, Planning, and Operations* is a great place to start.

I am pleased and honored to write a foreword to this book on behalf of the Chief Editor Professor Terry T. Kidd, as its scope and content provide organizations with the essential ingredients for implementing and managing technology based projects. Kidd has done it again, synthesizing internationally renowned scholars and practitioners in the field to publish such a volume. Whether the projects are associated with office, a government computing systems, or a management information system, technology project management, planning, and operations provide crucial support for developing and implementing strategies for overall project success. The integrative approach is particularly welcome.

It is important to understand that technology project management, planning and operations are a critical resource for organizations. Virtually every government agency and many businesses spend substantial time and resources collecting, distributing, analyzing, transforming, and using information. In the past, manual procedures provided the only means for manipulating information. Today, technology represents powerful tools for maximizing the value of information. As a major resource and asset, technology requires effective planning, management, and operations. In this respect, technology project management has much in common with other types of assets, such as human resources, capital facilities, and financial resources. All require some degree of formal structure to promote effective use and management.

In my role as Executive Director of Project White Hat, an information security and research firm, I am able to have firsthand experience with technology project management, planning, and operations. Further, I have a unique experience with personnel from a wide venue of clientele who seek professional guidance on the technology project management. I believe that these people will benefit from reading this book for its extensive source of information.

This book merges the academic and the hands-on knowledge of the authors, to assist organizations in gaining benefits from both perspectives. It offers the practical knowledge derived from technology project management, based on the wide-ranging consulting and project management fieldwork of the Project Management Institute. Further this book combines extensive academic research and real world case studies that have been performed by scholars in the discipline of information systems, engineering, education, and business administration.

This book cuts through much of the hype associated with technology project management and provides the real with the bare bones needed to get the job done. The book provides a thorough examination

of business contexts that influence the ways that technology projects are managed. Further, the book beyond mere research, but provides a framework for requirements assessment, evaluation, quality, risk management, leadership, and project management tools, along with examples to assist with analysis and specification of technology project management solutions. A highlight of the book is the fact that the text provides extensive checklists and case studies to assist organizations with their technology project requirements.

With the rapid progress in technology, systems planning and management have become increasingly important in this digital economy. New technologies that can have significant implications for corporate strategies are developed constantly. The incredible growth of technologies and the demand for a new generation of technology stakeholders have facilitated the introduction of Technology Project Management programs in many higher education institutions in the United States and around the world. *The Handbook of Research on Technology Project Management, Planning and Operations* will provide a broad scope of information technology project and resources for researchers, educators, students, and industry practitioners to share and exchange their research ideas, practical experiences, challenges, and opportunities concerning technology project management. This book will help those organizations to progress and implementation of the next generation of technology project management solutions.

I am pleased to be able to recommend this book to readers across the globe. Whether they those looking for substantive material on knowledge strategy, those looking to understand an important aspect of technology project management, planning and operations, or those about to embark on the journey of a technology based project. Regardless of the focus, this book is for you. I wish you the very best successes with this book for Kidd have synthesized yet another piece where all can benefit.

Robert K. Hiltbrand, MS.
Executive Director, Project Whitehat

Robert K. Hiltbrand is the executive director of Project White Hat, an information securities and technology project management consulting firm. He has over 15 years of experience in information systems administration, information security, and IT project management. He has Bachelors of Arts in sociology from Southwest Texas State University and a Masters of Science in Technology Project Management - Information Systems Security from the University of Houston, where his expertise lies within in the concept of the LiveCD as a desktop platform for general-purpose computing needs within a public access environment.