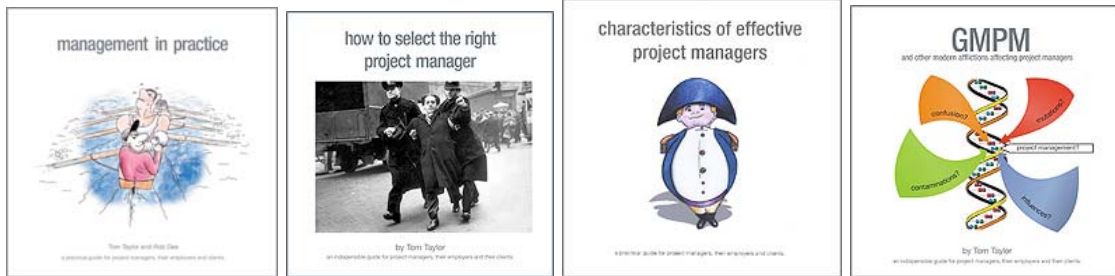


## PM World Today Book Review

### Four Books in a Series



**Book Titles:** *management in practice, how to select the right project manager, characteristics of effective project managers, and GMPM and other modern afflictions affecting project managers (practical guides for project managers, their employers and clients)*

**Author:** Tom Taylor, with illustrations by Rob Dee

**Publisher:** dashdot enterprises Ltd. (UK)

**List Price:** MiP = £12; How to Select = £20; Characteristics = £10;  
GMPM = £8

**Publication Date:** 2006, 2007, 2008

**ISBN:** 095541321-4; 095541323-0; 095541320-6; 095541322-2

**Reviewer:** René Le Bel

**Review Date:** November 2008

### Introduction to the Books

This series of cleverly illustrated books on project management is aimed at practitioners who are looking for helpful solutions with a little humor on the side. Just the title alone of GMPM (Genetically Modified PM) indicates some of the humor the author and illustrator have in store for readers. All four books in the series have common features. Each book has an overarching theme derived from the title and provides readers with definitions, templates for developing processes, and thoughtful questionnaires. The series is really a "how to book series" on project management "*a la dummies*" without actually coming out and stating the possibly offensive "how to...?" intent.

## **Overview of Book's Structure**

Each of these very short books can be randomly read and later referenced for ideas to specific project challenges. The illustrations help in quickly locating content and concepts. There is really no beginning or end to these books as each reader will quickly find what they want.

### **Highlights: What I liked!**

The English humor is very subtle and helps personify project challenges. For example, how to deal with challenging subordinates. The illustrations are very clever and help convey the author's ideas. The suggestions are practical as the focus is kept to the human side of project interactions and the everyday challenges faced by project teams.

### **Shortfalls: What was Missing!**

The shortfalls are merely in the eyes of each reader. Enjoy the books!

### **Who might benefit from the Book**

These will make great office gifts!! Even poor performing project managers would be impressed by the illustrations and would not take offense to receiving books on project management. A poor performing project leader could learn valuable lessons from the series and gain some insights into how others might perceive his or her performance. The "tools and techniques" scattered throughout the series are thoughtful and very helpful.

### **Conclusion**

Fun light hearted series on a sometimes overkill serious topic.

For more information or to purchase these books, visit <http://www.dashdot.co.uk/publications.htm>

**About the Reviewer:*****René Le Bel***

**René Le Bel** has over twenty years experience in educational publishing. He is the publisher for a secondary schools science schoolbook company in Texas. His undergraduate degree is from *Univerisité de Montréal* and he is currently enrolled in the Masters of Project Management at the University of Texas at Dallas. He lives in Dallas with his family and can be contacted at [rene@lebel.com](mailto:rene@lebel.com) .