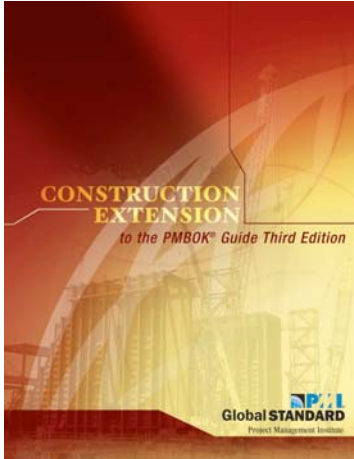


PM World Today Book Review



Book Title: *Construction Extension to the PMBOK® Guide 3rd Edition*

Authors: Project Management Institute

Publisher: Project Management Institute

List Price: US\$39.95

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Reviewer: Charles Rockson

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Introduction to the Book

The book describes processes and principles acceptable in the construction industry for the initiation, planning, execution, monitoring and controlling, and closing of projects successfully. It provides opportunity for the construction industry professionals to easily reference processes and principles that are recognized as industry good practices with reference to the well known *PMBOK® Guide, Third Edition*.

Overview of Book's Structure

The book is organized into four sections. The first section is an introduction to the book which outlines the purpose of the *Construction Extension of the PMBOK®* and explains how the entire book is structured for the benefit of readers. This section makes readers really appreciate the entire content of the Extension Guide and consist of two chapters

Section two of the book describes the Standard for Project Management of a Project, and consists of only one chapter, most of which refers the reader to the parent content in the *PMBOK® Guide Third Edition*.

Section three is the main content of the book and has thirteen chapters, nine of which belong to the parent copy of the *PMBOK® Guide* and four of them are new areas identified as extension to the parent book. However, most of the original

parent book has been further clarified in these updated nine chapters which are applicable to good practices in the construction industry. The extension areas, with the four new chapters are on safety, environment, financial and claims management areas.

The fourth section, which is the last, consists of three appendices (A, B and C), a glossary and index of keywords in the book.

Highlights: What I liked!

The uniqueness of the construction profession in undertaking projects makes the book a true home and guide for the industry professionals. It is very enlightening that the book takes most of the existing processes in the parent *PMBOK®* and clarifies it from the construction perspective. Some of the new processes which have been identified and updated are also well expanded to an in-depth level seeking to draw the reader's attention on what to do as a standard way of good professional practice.

The reader's attention is also drawn to emerging construction management techniques and guides, and to new approaches and methodologies.

For every project, its Integration is the backbone of all the processes and of interest to all stakeholders. This book has identified two additional inputs, six additional tools and techniques, and one output. Notable among them are Company procedures, project management strategy, and a project punch list which needs due attention.

The identification of the four new areas as an extension to the *PMBOK® Guide* emphasizes especially the need to manage claims, which are always present in every construction project in small and large forms. Also, meeting Regulatory requirements for Environment, Health and Safety of construction personnel, is required by all governments and the standard reinforces that in both the Scope Management and Safety Management chapters.

Shortfalls: What was Missing!

I think it would be beneficial if the *PMBOK® Guide* and the *Construction Extension to the PMBOK®* were put together as one book, eliminating the need to cross reference the two books. Eg *Government PMBOK® Guide*.

Section 1.2.4 mentions that prototypes are not available in construction projects as in business products. However I think Architects, and the use of computers, makes prototypes and models available for evaluation and even for the client's approval before actual construction starts.

Who might benefit from the Book

The beneficiaries to the book are endless since every one enjoys the results and outputs of construction projects. To mention a few, they are not limited to only the following:

- Regulatory Bodies and Agencies
- Local Government groups
- Community groups
- Risk Management Specialist
- Lawyers
- Civil Engineers
- Architectural Engineers
- Geotechnical Experts
- Financial and Contract Administrators
- Construction Project Managers and Construction Management Lecturers
- Consultants
- Contractors
- Real Estate Practitioners and Experts

Conclusion

The book is a valuable resource for the construction industry practitioners and it has to be placed in offices of the above professional list for easy references and knowledge searching. The book seem to answer most construction processes and its worth its price.

The book is available to purchase at

<http://www.pmi.org/Marketplace/Pages/ProductDetail.aspx?GMProduct=00101025801>.

About the Reviewer:**Charles Rockson**

Charles Rockson has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineer from University Of Science and Technology, Ghana and currently a Post Graduate student in Project Management at the University of Texas in Dallas. He has been professionally engaged in heavy duty construction and civil engineering projects (ports and harbors, roads, telecommunications, buildings etc) which are multicultural in dimension. He has practiced on construction projects for the past 12 years and within the last 5 years, has taken up a leadership position to form project teams for the execution of more than 300 cell sites for a national telecommunication network expansion project. He is currently working with Ghana Telecom Company Ltd Email-crockson@ghanatel.net, chlsrocks@yahoo.com.