

BOOK REVIEWS

LEAN PRACTICES

KRASIMIR DACHEV, METAL TECHNOLOGY GROUP, PRESIDENT

The author presents Lean as a philosophy, ideology, and action. All Lean principles, processes, and tools are thoroughly examined. The main focus of the book is Lean transformation: how to organize and manage it. The basic methods, terminology, and application options are explained in detail. Research and analytics are followed by examples of different business approaches for accelerating and smoothing out processes by minimising and eliminating losses. The author jumps easily from the complicated terminology of Kaizen, Kaikaku, Gemba, Muda, Mura, and Muri to the human aspects of Lean change. The ways to prevent and overcome the resistance of employees and managers to Lean thinking are presented with short, captivating, and at the same time funny examples from the Bulgarian practice and national psychology. The essence of the processes is captured; the steps for introduction and the possible risks for implementation are described. *Lean Practices* is valuable for the expert help and solutions that it provides to all professionals in the industry and business. The author has transformed the book into not just a voluminous handbook of information but a shared space for all those tempted by Lean ideology. He integrates science, world industry practice, and countless examples from multiple Bulgarian companies in only 700 pages. What could possibly prove better the opportunities and benefits that Lean can offer?

VALENTIN GANEV, IDEAL STANDARD – VIDIMA, CIO

Authentic. Practical. Influential. This book is as fascinating as its author himself, who takes us back to the spirit of best Bulgarian manufacturing practices without the Lean label and today's generation of modern technology to which Lean action has become a standard.

IVAN CHOLAKOV, OPTIX, CIO

What is most precious in this book is the comprehensive overview of the Lean matter and the easily comprehensible author's summaries based on an analysis of real-world experience, outlined with an impressive number of examples collected from Bulgarian companies.

STEFAN MARKOV, LUFTHANSA TECHNIK SOFIA, SIO

Finally, we have a complete narrative about Lean and its applications in comprehensible Bulgarian, without foreign language and ambiguities. I recommend this book to all those who wish to discover and understand the possibilities for improvement and optimization of their business processes. Lean ideology is the one that provides such possibilities, and Assoc. Prof. Kehayov's book explains how to do it in practice, adapting theory to your activities and also allowing you to learn from the experience of quite a few companies in Bulgaria. This book succeeds in being a helpful guide for more successful development, throwing light on different paths, many of which we have built together in Bulgaria. Come and join this journey.

GEORGI ATANASOV, FESTO PRODUCTION, CIO

To know and apply Lean means to change your mindset and behaviour generally. Not only in the business environment but also in your normal life. This book will help you get to know Lean methods and tools and get down the road to your Lean transformation.

TODIN PANAYOTOV, SIEMENS ENERGY, CIO

Be successful, be Lean! Read and learn how! The book is based on the rich theoretical and practical experience of the author and his team. Read it and enhance your knowledge.

STOYAN IVANOV, ABB BULGARIA – RAKOVSKI, LEAN MANAGER

A book written with great desire and hard work, suitable for both beginners and established professionals. Full of multiple examples: from theory to real-world practice. It provides proper guidance on how to approach different situations and what to choose and keep track of in order to solve problems or implement new things. The wording is accurate, leading to a correct interpretation of the methods and methodology. Practically, the book will be relevant for many years to come and could become exemplary. Many thanks to the author for giving me the chance to read this book.

PROF. ELKA SHALAMANOVA, UNIVERSITY OF MINING AND GEOLOGY

A timely arrival. The book is a guide on best manufacturing practices with many examples from our own companies that apply Lean tools. It will be of good help to undergraduates, graduates, and Ph.D. students in higher engineering and business schools. Managers and leaders holding various positions, who wish to optimise their business processes, will find a number of useful tools in the book. Teachers can benefit from the multiple knowledge tests applied in the book. The author is a captivating narrator and his language is simple and understandable.

SOTIR NEMOV, SI COMMERCIAL 7, PRESIDENT

It's a pleasure to read and think about all that is written in this book. My colleagues and I discuss it in depth, chapter by chapter, and ask ourselves what do we have to do in our work to make our company a real Lean company.

YORDAN LAMBREV, ZOBELE BULGARIA, CIO

Leading manufacturing practices are presented in a simple and pleasant to read language, supported by examples from the Bulgarian industry. The handbook is an extremely helpful read for both beginners in Lean methods and those who are experienced but need a new source of inspiration and access to analyses and tested and working ideas.

PROF. JULIETA MANCHEVA, UNIVERSITY OF ARCHITECTURE, CIVIL ENGINEERING AND GEODESY

Admiration for the author of *Lean Practices* for creating a meaningful, interesting, accessible, and helpful work. Assoc. Prof. Anastas Kehayov's book is intended for people with a practical mindset, affinity for optimization, and innovative thinking. I have no doubt the book will have great success!

IVANKA TYANKOVA, SENSATA TECHNOLOGIES, LEAN MANAGER

I have one word only to describe the book: captivating. It takes the reader down to the Lean adventure and opens the mind to the fact that every day, we all live Lean without even realising it.

PROF. NEDKA GATEVA, INTERNATIONAL HIGHER BUSINESS SCHOOL

The book *LEAN PRACTICES* presents modern management approaches and manufacturing practices, which efficiency is proven in the experience of thousands of successful companies worldwide. A textbook, a practical guide, and an interesting, even a funny read. Using unconventional, concise, and vivid language, inspired illustrations, and eloquent examples from 120 companies in Bulgaria, the book conveys messages and lessons that evoke reflection in a wide range of managers and professionals from all industries, and provokes them with questions. The merits of the book are attributable to the talent of its author, having brilliant erudition, serious scientific training, and rich consultancy experience: this is all knowledge that he is called to share, and does so in a convincing way. This book also enthralls with its suggestions on the life philosophy of each one of us.