

Digital Tools for Effective Project Management

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From the editor's desk



Yudha Pratama
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The Law of Instrument, also known as Maslow's Hammer states that "I suppose it is tempting, if the only tool you have is a hammer, to treat everything as if it were a nail."

We, as project managers, know this very well. At least we should. The Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) have been teaching us about the importance of Inputs, Tools, Techniques and Output for decades.

That is, until something called the Agile Manifesto came out and stated that People and Interactions are preferable that Processes and Tools. It is more about the values and the principles that the processes and tools.

The PMI adapted, the latest PMBOK 7 and the Discipline Agile are now positioning itself in providing the project managers with a set of toolkit (moving about from prescribing which tools) that a project manager can pick, choose and tailor to advance his or her ways of working.

The PMI, in a way is saying, not everything is a nail, so here is toolbox and you can pick which tools work best for you.

Charu V Raman

North America



Question:

What are the greatest challenges in adopting Digital Tools?

Answer:

The greatest challenges in adopting digital tools are:

- Resistance to change - adapting to change has to be inherent in order to achieve success
- Poor leadership - adoption has to come from top down, and buy in from top management is necessary

Question:

As a project manager, how does technology enable you to perform at the best of your abilities?

Answer:

Technology has enabled me in the following areas:

- Collaboration
- Monitoring, Tracking
- Decision Making
- Data collection, dissemination, storage and retrieval



Newton Madzikwa

Africa



Question:

What are the greatest challenges in adopting Digital Tools?

Answer:

Poor business cases and failure to track benefits. Tools are generally costly and tend to increase the project costs. They tend to compete with direct costs to the project

Question:

As a project manager, how does technology enable you to perform at the best of your abilities?

Answer:

Enhances decision making especially where the tools are effectively deployed and employed on the project.



Hans van Bommel

Europe



Question:

What are the greatest challenges in adopting Digital Tools?

Answer:

What are we really looking when we look at output? Standardization of used metrics, Quality of data, discipline in usage and maintenance

Question:

As a project manager, how does technology enable you to perform at the best of your abilities?

Answer:

It supports my initiation and helps to keep overview and insight

Karthik Ramamurthy

Asia

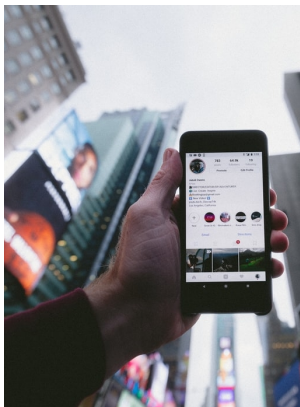


Question:

What are the greatest challenges in adopting Digital Tools?

Answer:

1. Choosing the right digital tools for the right projects is challenging. An axe and a razor both have sharp metal edges. However, you can't use a razor to cut a tree or an axe to shave!
2. Inexperienced PMs tend to focus so much in digital tools that they ignore the critical people aspects of projects!



Question:

As a project manager, how does technology enable you to perform at the best of your abilities?

Answer:

1. The right digital tools help PMs to foster team collaboration which is vital for success in modern projects.
2. Digital tools can liberate PMs from routine number-crunching chores and can provide valuable data using Big Data, AI, and Machine Learning capabilities. This helps PMs focus on valuable decision-making and leadership activities where they can contribute best to project success!

Ramon Castro

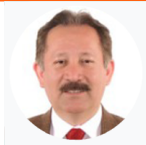
Latin America

Question:

What are the greatest challenges in adopting Digital Tools?

Answer:

New Digital Tools are launched frequently, then the challenges are: Be agnostic to choose the right tool even we have not used it before and assign the time to the team to learn how to use it right.



Question:

As a project manager, how does technology enable you to perform at the best of your abilities?

Answer:

As a project manager, how does technology enable you to perform at the best of your abilities? Technology is just a complement, we need to apply our knowledge and experience to use it to bring the team the tools to do their job better and quicker, align their efforts with the project goals, and validate the stakeholders benefits.



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