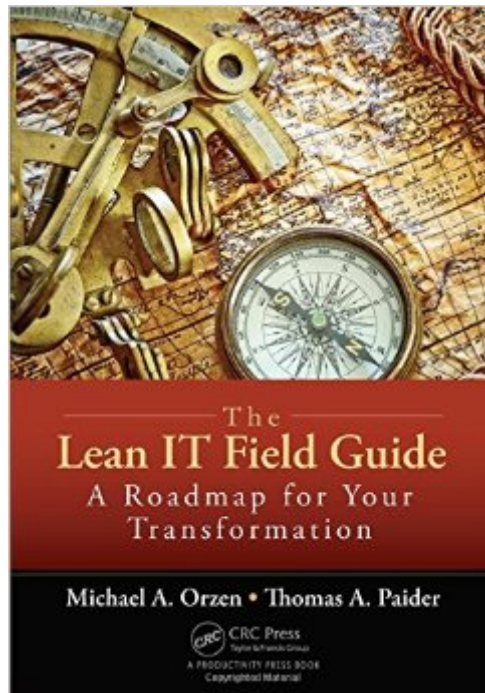


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# The Lean IT Field Guide: A Roadmap For Your Transformation



## Synopsis

How many IT books have you read that are long on theory and short on practical application? They are interesting, but not very impactful. They provide a framework from which to think and understand, but lack a process from which to act. Addressing this urgent need for the IT community, The Lean IT Field Guide explains how to initiate, execute, and sustain a lean IT transformation. Illuminating a clear path to lean IT, the authors integrate more than two decades of combined experience to provide you with a proven method for creating and sustaining a true lean IT workplace. This field guide not only highlights the organizational techniques of more agile and lean processes, but also the leadership work required to help management adopt these new approaches. Based on proven methods from different industries, including banking, manufacturing, insurance, food and beverage, and logistics, the book details a clear model that covers all the components you need to achieve and sustain a favorable work environment and culture in support of lean IT. Filled with anecdotes and case studies from actual businesses, the book includes pictures, templates, and examples that illustrate the application of the lean methods discussed.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book illuminates a path for you and your IT team to travel as you transformation from adequate to awesome, and then to improve continually. If you do not yet know how a totally awesome IT team thinks and works, you can read some of the books that has probably kindly displayed somewhere on this web page. Most if not all - were written by Mike Orzen and/or one or more of his

colleagues. When I read those books, I realized how much time I, my IT teammates, and my employers have wasted in the 40 years I have been an IT professional. I thought about the gaps between what we had done and where we could have done. Then I tried to imagine what it would take to transform any organization – and perhaps especially an IT organization – from its "as is" adequate to an awesome "to be", I had little guidance beyond old sayings like, "A journey of a 1,000 miles begins with one step." Not much help. Now, Mike and Thomas have described in plain English (and a little transliterated Japanese) a path that you can take get you there, and handholds to keep you from going back. They have made the transformation and have seen it being done in IT and in other organizations. Buy this book. It will cost you much less than 15 minutes of a consultant's time. The time spent reading and thinking about what you are learning how you will use it will be priceless. My copy has so many pages turned down it is almost twice as thick in that corner! The Lean IT Field Guide is a map to move from meh to marvelous and more! P.S. The subtitle should not be taken literally. It is only figuratively a roadmap. There are no roads, and the speed one can maintain on this journey is likely closer to foot traffic than to mechanized locomotion.

In the Lean community there is a wealth of good books, which explain the theory, tools and thinking models related to creating customer value. However most organizations struggle with how to take these principles and apply them in a practical and progressive manner. As stated by the Author™s "It is easier to practice your way to Lean thinking vs. thinking your way to Lean practice." This book contains the missing roadmap and practical guidance on how to translate Lean knowledge into results. It provides the reader with a clear and logical approach on how to adopt Lean beliefs, practices and behaviors in any organization. As a Lean IT instructor, I recommend this book as a must read for anyone who has an initial understanding of what Lean is and now is looking for a way to successfully take this knowledge and apply it to IT Value Streams.

Don't let the title fool you. Though the content is written from the perspective of IT, its principles and guidelines are applicable to Lean deployments across any business function. It clearly defines Lean methodology and provides a practical guide to ensure that business leaders are approaching Lean implementations systematically with the "team" in mind. Rather than just telling you the "hows" of deploying Lean, it goes further into explaining the "whys." This dual approach enhances the experience and facilitates greater understanding of what a Lean transformation is and how it can enhance organizational success.

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