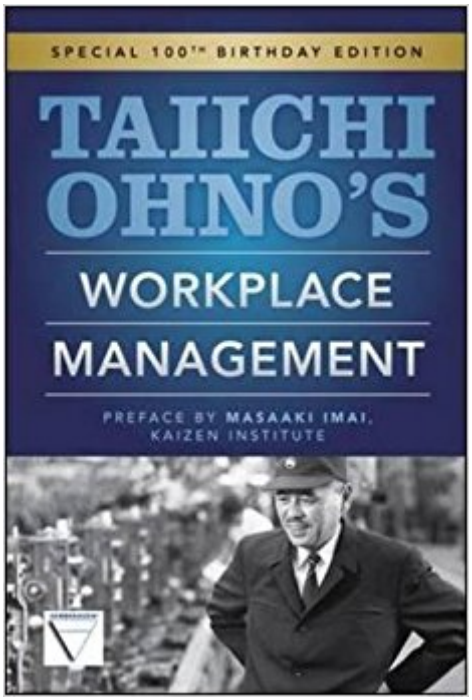
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Taiichi Ohnos Workplace Management: Special 100th Birthday Edition (Mechanical Engineering)



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Synopsis

COMMEMORATING THE 100th BIRTHDAY OF TAIICHI OHNO Businesses worldwide are successfully implementing the Toyota Production System to speed up processes, reduce waste, improve quality, and cut costs. While there is widespread adoption of TPS, there is still much to be learned about its fundamental principles. This unique volume delivers a clear, concise overview of the Toyota Production System and kaizen in the very words of the architect of both of these movements, Taiicho Ohno, published to mark what would have been his 100th birthday. Filled with insightful new commentary from global quality visionaries, Taiichi OhnoÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Workplace Management is a classic that shows how Toyota managers were taught to think. Based on a series of interviews with Ohno himself, this timeless work is a tribute to his genius and to the core values that have made, and continue to make, Toyota one of the most successful manufacturers in the world. "Whatever name you may give our system, there are parts of it that are so far removed from generally accepted ideas (common sense) that if you do it only half way, it can actually make things worse." "If you are going to do TPS you must do it all the way. You also need to change the way you think. You need to change how you look at things." -- Taiichi Ohno "This book brings to us Taiichi Ohno's philosophy of workplace management--the thinking behind the Toyota Production System. I personally get a thrill down my spine to read these thoughts in OhnoÃ¢â ¬â„¢s own words." -- Dr. Jeffrey Liker, Director, Japan Technology Management Program, University of Michigan, and Author, The Toyota Way Based on a series of interviews with Taiicho Ohno, this unique volume delivers a clear, concise overview of the Toyota Production System and kaizen in the very words of the architect of both of these movements, published to mark what would have been his 100th birthday. INCLUDES INSIGHTFUL NEW COMMENTARY FROM: Fujio Cho, Chairman of Toyota Corporation Masaaki Imai, Founder of the Kaizen Institute Dr. Jeffrey Liker, Director, Japan Technology Management Program, University of Michigan, and author John Shook, Chairman and CEO of the Lean Enterprise Institute Bob Emiliani, Professor, School of Engineering and Technology, Connecticut State University Jon Miller, CEO of the Kaizen Institute

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Customer Reviews

"This book brings to us Taiichi Ohno's philosophy of workplace management - the thinking behind the Toyota Production System. I personally get a thrill down my spine to read these thoughts in Ohno's own words. My favorite part is his discussion of the misconceptions hidden within common sense and how management needs a revolution of awareness. " - Dr. Jeffrey Liker, Director of Japan Technology Management Program, University of Michigan and Author, The Toyota Way --Taiichi Ohno's Workplace Management"Many lean students would want nothing more than to spend a day with Taiichi Ohno walking through their plant. This book is the closest thing we have left to that experience." - Jamie Flinchbaugh, Co-author "The Hitchhiker's Guide to Lean: Lessons from the Road" --Taiichi Ohno's Workplace Management --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Taiichi Ohno was born in Dalian, China, on February 29, 1912. He joined Toyoda Boshoku in 1932 after graduating from the mechanical engineering department of Nagoya Technical High School. Mr. Ohno was transferred to Toyota Motor Company in 1943 and was named the machine shop manager in 1949. He was promoted at Toyota to director in 1954, managing director in 1964, senior managing director in 1970, and executive vice president in 1975. He retired from Toyota in 1978. Mr. Ohno is the father of the Toyota Production System. He authored three works: Toyota Production System: Beyond Large-Scale Production, Taiichi Ohno's Workplace Management, and Just-in-Time for Today and Tomorrow with Setsuo Mito.

I am a bit torn about this book. On one hand, I absolutely loved it. On the other hand, I don't think this is necessary or even suitable reading for all Lean practitioners.Workplace management is a collection of short transcripts of Taiichi Ohno's spoken monologues. As a transcript of spoken word,

it is not extensively polished, although the English translation is high-quality language. The book offers both a first-person historical perspective into Lean and the development of various Lean tools as well as insight into the value base on which Lean was built.For example, the way Ohno quotes and speaks of Confucius give clear insight into the Confucian roots of Lean, which are not often discussed. I believe that these roots are vital for the Lean concept of respect for people. On the other hand, these ideals are not completely alien to the Western world either, as both the Aristotelian concept of the golden mean and John Stuart Mill's defense of freedom of speech share the some of the same values. Thus, while this is an interesting subject, understanding these roots is not strictly necessary for creating a Lean system.If you are new to Lean, I would not recommend this book. The concepts are not clearly explained and the book follows no clear path from start to finish.If you just want to use Lean, I am not sure whether I should recommend this book to you either. The tools and most of the reasons behind them are more clearly explained in more recent works, for example in those of Jeffrey Liker, Mike Rother, and Masaaki Imai.You should read this book if you are interested in the values that shaped Lean (although you need to read between the lines to get there) or if you are interested in a first-person historical narrative of the beginnings of Lean. It is a short book, so if you have even slight interest in these subjects, reading it will not take a long time.

While no one person invented lean, no one is given more credit than Taiichi Ohno. Access to his true thoughts and ideas are rare, and this book is the best and most useful of Ohno's work. Many lean students would want nothing more than to spend a day with Taiichi Ohno walking through their plant. This book is the closest thing we have left to that experience. Jon Miller has done a diligent job not just in translation but ensuring that the true meaning comes through in a readable fashion. You truly feel as if you are in conversation with the father of the Toyota Production System. While this book won't paint a clear picture of what to do next on your lean journey, it should be required reading for any serious student of the subject.

As always it is a pleasure reading what Taichii Ohno has to say. The book is full of wisdom and always up the game for us Lean Practitioners! Be on your toes he says - don't just accept things as they are - change and improve things. The message is clear: Ganbare! Keep on struggling to get things better!

Companies are always looking to groom and promote leaders. This book is key to self improvement

and serving as a teacher towards working smarter and becoming a leader yourself. Teh example provided by Mr. Ohno are funny. He also teaches you a little Japanese along the way.

This is an excellent collection of Ohno's observations and includes several short pieces by contemporary lean researchers

Outstanding insight directly from a student of Ohno. It provides clarity around Lean principles which we sometimes lose in our daily activities. I would recommend this to anybody who is already on the path to eliminating waste.

Five stars, because Taichi Ohno is a special person. If you know about Toyota Way, it is very interesting to hear the perspective of the man behind the system. It is enlightening that he talks mostly about leading people in change, and a bit about how to think some fundamental principles in Lean.

Great book with many out side the box ideas, for managers. Makes you take a hard look at your management style.

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