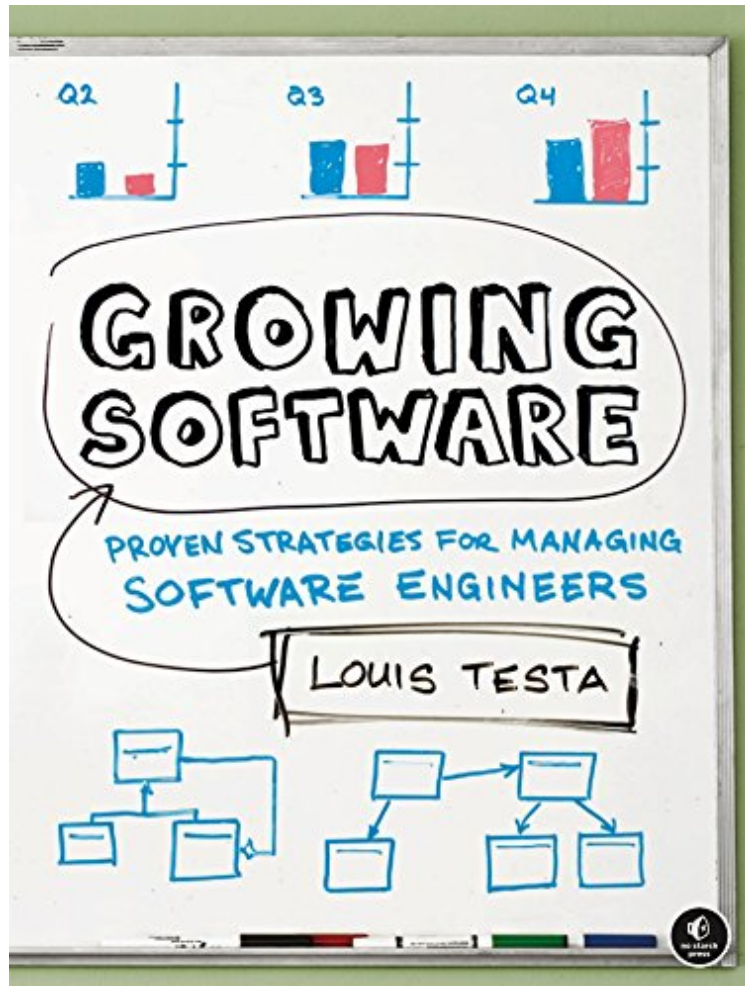


Growing Software: Proven Strategies for Managing Software Engineers

Louis Testa

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Louis Testa : Growing Software: Proven Strategies for Managing Software Engineers before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Growing Software: Proven Strategies for Managing Software Engineers:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Not quite what I expected...By Mark HBased on the subtitle of the book, I anticipated more information about the unique challenges of managing software engineers, but the focuses a lot more on managing software *projects*.For example: managing egos, mediating conflicts, creating a productive work environment, incentivizing (beyond just money), and measuring results.But the book focuses more on what steps to take if you were to take the helm at a small company: who to talk to, what plans to make, and documentation to gather, etc.Another thing that irks me are the little vignettes scattered throughout the book. These are supposed to be real-life experiences related to that particular chapter's content. But there are no names attached (people or companies)

and the stories are so vague that they don't feel real at all. I like writing where people refer to people and places that we've all heard of. (See Joel Spolsky's story about meeting Bill Gates when he worked on the Excel team.) Otherwise, it's a fine book, just not what I had expected. (And I think the title is a bit misleading.)

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great resource for a senior development manager

By E. Weber

The book is aimed toward the head of engineering/senior development manager. It covers a lot of aspects that a development manager has to deal with in his growing organization. Overall a great resource maybe at sometime a little outdated.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Overall a good book - some places have been a let down

By Sumit Pal

Overall a Good book - especially chapter 1-4. Well written with examples and conceptualizing real scenarios and what to do's in a new organization where one ends up joining as a S/W Dev Manager. Some areas of the book like estimation, scheduling - looks light and I lost interest - could be 2 reasons, I do not like estimation, since it is not a true science OR may be the author was not good enough in explaining and exploring this facet of S/W Development. However as I mentioned liked the first 4-5 chapters

As the technology leader at a small software company, you need to focus on people, products, processes, and technology as you bring your software to market, while doing your best to put out fires and minimize headaches. *Growing Software* is your guide to juggling the day-to-day challenges of running a software company while managing those long-term problems and making sure that your business continues to grow. With practical, hands-on advice, *Growing Software* will teach you how to build and lead an effective team, define and sell your products, work with everyone from customers to CEOs, and ensure high-quality results. Instead of learning by trial and error, you'll benefit from author Louis Testa's 20+ years of management experience. Testa combines big-picture advice, specific solutions, and real-life anecdotes to teach you how to:

- Work effectively with your CEO and executive team
- Improve development team efficiency and enthusiasm
- Evaluate your software methodology to improve effectiveness and safeguard against failure
- Use product prototypes to bridge the gap between marketing and engineering
- Defuse technology time bombs

Whether you're new to managing software or newly lost, *Growing Software* will help you and your growing company thrive.

About the Author Louis Testa is Senior Engineering Manager at Galois, a small company that specializes in high-assurance software. He received his BS (with honors) in Engineering from Caltech and his MS EE from the University of California, Berkeley. He has managed engineering teams for over 20 years, and his papers have been featured at many technology conferences. He blogs at www.gspractices.com.