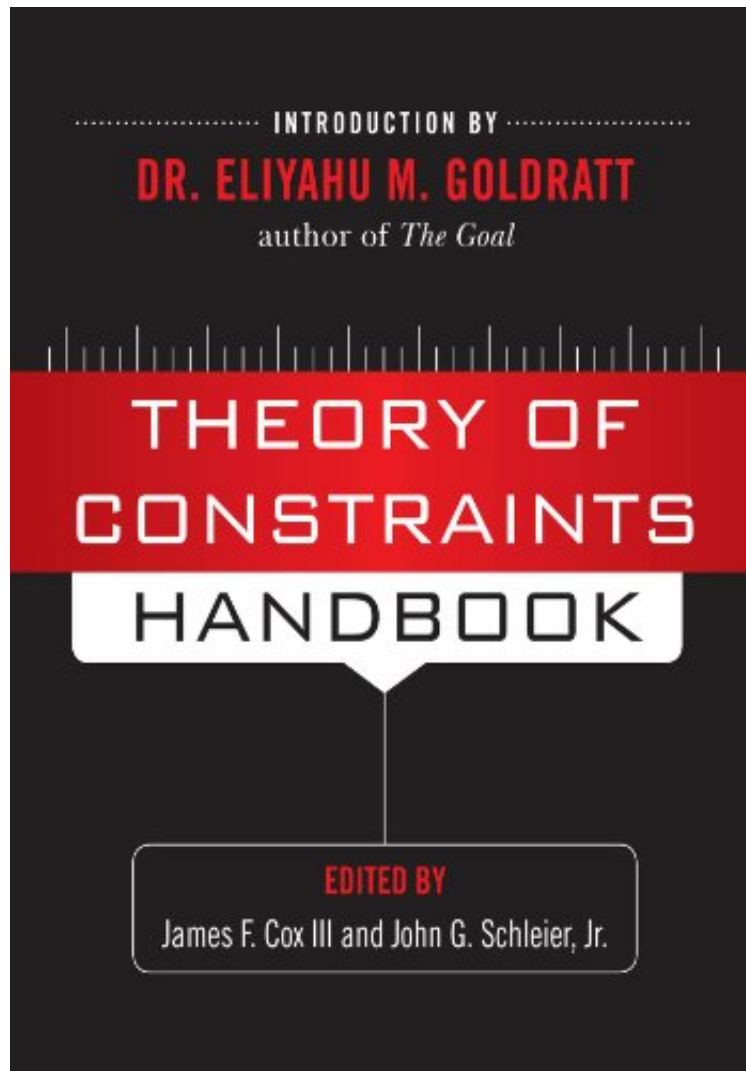


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Theory of Constraints Handbook

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James F. Cox III, John Schleier : Theory of Constraints Handbook before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Theory of Constraints Handbook:

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. All the details... but only the wrong ones. By J. Collins The book is very hit-or-miss; as each chapter was written by a different person, and the readability varies immensely. Generally, it is bearable, but something of a slog. It is insufficiently edited. I found at least one error every five pages or so, and this is on a simple reading; I'm not looking for them, they just leap out at me, distracting me from the text. And the text really could use some distraction; One or two of the chapters are really just the vaguest of descriptions, while others go into the minutest details on points ...that don't actually tell you much about implementation. Every SINGLE term in the book is abbreviated, and the abbreviations are NOT always explicated. What every chapter seems to have in common

is multiple links to the website of its author. Now normally, that's a good thing. Normally it's GREAT when the author cares enough to keep adding to the book even after it goes to the publisher; adding tips and tricks, clearing up common misreadings that the readers ask about... Not here. Here, half the links are dead, one used to lead to a piece of their COMMERCIAL software (which, by the way, has moved), and the rest lead to the TOC official site, where one may buy e-copies of the individual chapters. Yes, that's right; The book has links... to buy another copy of this book. Chapter 25 specifically sends you to that site a half-dozen times. "For an example of this completely vague thing I've just failed to describe, go to Appendix G, at <http://>". Following the link does not lead to Appendix G, but to another \$6.95 version of THE STUPID CHAPTER I'M ALREADY READING, with no Appendix G to be found. I'm used to textbooks being poorly written. I'm even used to TOC books being unevenly edited. But I'm NOT used to TOC books being confusingly written. After reading "The Goal" (multiple editions), "It's Not Luck", "Isn't It Obvious", "Necessary But Not Sufficient", "Critical Chain", "The Haystack Syndrome" AND "What Is This Thing Called The Theory of Constraints", I had a certain level of expectation. But that expectation, for the first time ever, was not met. If you MUST check this out for completeness, get the much dreaded Chapter 25 online, as it is the only source I've seen for the Strategy and Tactics Tree, and then go back and reread It's Not Luck, taking careful notes. Flipping through this, it almost feels like Dr Goldratt would prefer you to do exactly that. 16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. A most useful volume By Jeffrey Schraeder I have been working with Theory of Constraints concepts and methods since 1989 when I discovered "The Goal" by Dr Eli Goldratt. Since "The Goal" many books have been published by Dr. Goldratt and other practitioners. Up until now the most practical way to learn and understand the basic ideas and practices of TOC was to acquire those books. I was almost reluctant to buy this handbook thinking that my library of over 40 books was sufficient. However, I couldn't resist, I bought it. It's a big book in many ways. It is over 1100 pages and covers TOC in a systematic and complete manner from philosophy to basic concepts to practical checklists and formats for using the tools. The chapters are written by people who have been influential in originating and putting into practice TOC methods. It is not just a compendium of their older work, it contains much that is new and written specifically for this volume. Efrat Goldratt-Ashlag's chapter on 'The Layers of Resistance - The Buy-In Process According to TOC' will change the way you think about, not only how you work with your customers but also how you conduct yourself in other relationships. This chapter alone was worth the price of the book for me. Lisa Scheinkopf's chapter on "Thinking Processes Including ST Trees" is like a guided tour through the process of diagnosing what is keeping an enterprise from achieving its goals right through to developing a strategy for success. You will be a better consultant, manager, or person after reading Dr. Goldratt's introduction and the two chapters I mentioned above. 1100 pages is a lot to read. So far I have only sampled in the rest of the book but everything I have read has been clear, accessible, and useful. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Theory of Constraints Handbook By gacleader 1 The Theory of Constraints Handbook is certainly not for the casual reader; rather this is a compilation of work by different authors, written for those who truly want a deeper understanding of the mechanics of T.O.C. The T.O.C. Handbook would be better viewed as a series of text books compiled into a single binding; each section can actually be studied independently of other sections. At nearly 1200 pages, and with its depth of the material, this is certainly not light reading. Unfortunately, many of the chapters were not reader friendly and were rather difficult to get through; however stick with it and you will gain knowledge critical to the success of your business or your personal life. To get the most from this book, each chapter should be studied with paper and pencil in hand, and treated as a course in itself. One nice aspect of this book was the variety of different styles between authors. I have now found several authors whose books I would like to study as a result of reading this publication.

The definitive guide to the theory of constraints In this authoritative volume, the world's top Theory of Constraints (TOC) experts reveal how to implement the ground-breaking management and improvement methodology developed by Dr. Eliyahu M. Goldratt. Theory of Constraints Handbook offers an in-depth examination of this revolutionary concept of bringing about global organization performance improvement by focusing on a few leverage points of the system. Clear explanations supplemented by examples and case studies define how the theory works, why it works, what issues are resolved, and what benefits accrue, and demonstrate how TOC can be applied to different industries and situations. Theory of Constraints Handbook covers: Critical Chain Project Management for realizing major improvements in delivering projects on time, to specification, and within budget Drum-Buffer-Rope (DBR), Buffer Management, and distribution for maximizing throughput and minimizing flow time Performance measures for applying Throughput Accounting to improve organizational performance Strategy, marketing, and sales techniques designed to increase sales closing rates and Throughput Thinking Processes for simple and complex environments TOC methods to ensure that services actions support escalating demand for services while retaining financial viability Integrating the TOC Thinking Processes, the Strategy and Tactic Tree, TOC measurements, the Five Focusing Steps of TOC, and Six Sigma as a system of tools for sustainable improvement

About the Author James F. Cox III, Ph.D, CFPIM, CIRM, holds TOCICO certifications in Production and Supply Chain, Performance Measurement, Critical Chain, Strategy and Tactics, and Thinking Processes. He is a Jonahr's

Jonah, Professor Emeritus, and was the Robert O. Arnold Professor of Business in the Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia. Prior to his tenure at UGA, Dr. Cox held the E. L. Lowder Professorship in the School of Business at Auburn University. John G. Schleier, Jr., holds TOCICO certifications in all disciplines. He was President and Chief Operating Officer of the Mortgage Services Division of Alltel, Inc., Executive Vice President of Computer Power, Inc., and Director of Office Systems and Data Delivery for IBM, where he directed major software development projects, sales administration, and financial functions. Mr. Schleier served on the faculty of The University of Georgia Terry College of Business Administration as IBM Executive in Residence and as Executive Professor of Management.