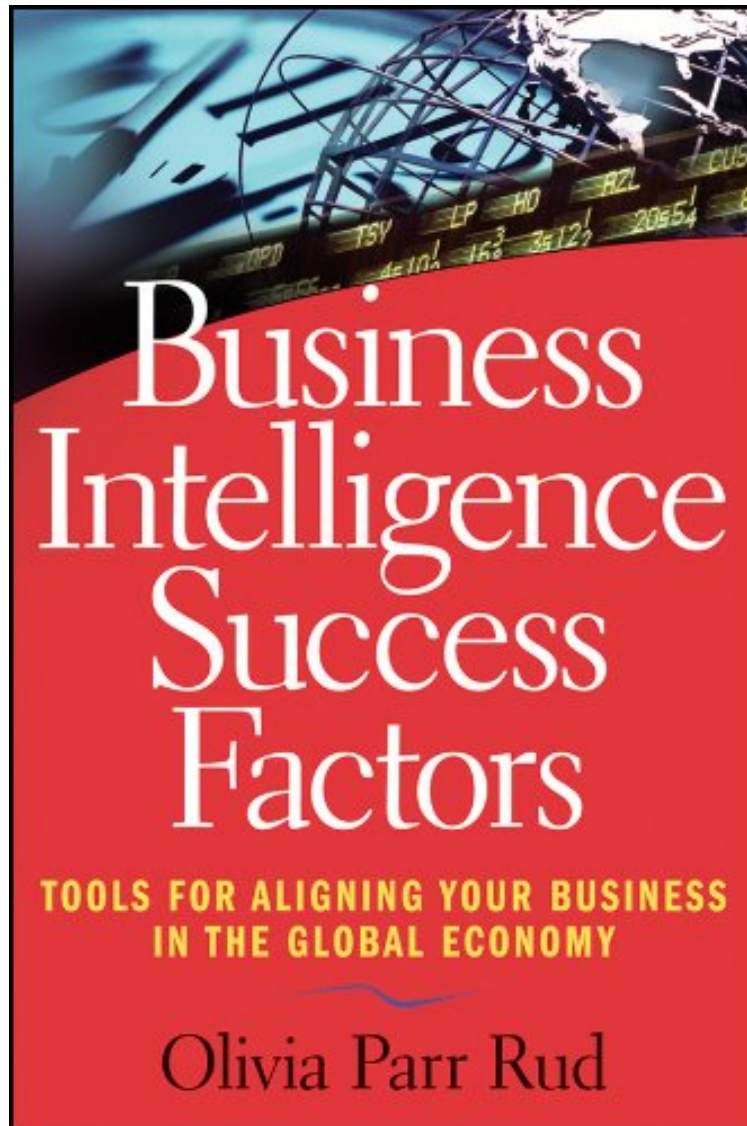


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Business Intelligence Success Factors: Tools for Aligning Your Business in the Global Economy (Wiley and SAS Business Series)

Olivia Parr Rud

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Olivia Parr Rud : Business Intelligence Success Factors: Tools for Aligning Your Business in the Global Economy (Wiley and SAS Business Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Business Intelligence Success Factors: Tools for Aligning Your Business in the Global Economy (Wiley and SAS Business Series):

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Useful For Far More Than BIBy Henri G. SchaufflerOlivia Parr-Rud

has written an extraordinary book in "BI Success Factors." It offers a great deal, of course, for the BI practitioner. What struck this non-BI schooled reader, however, is the tremendous amount of wisdom to be found in this volume for anyone serious about change. Indeed, anyone who's involved in the dynamics of an organization, from small business to Fortune 500; from for-profit to non-profit, will learn much from Parr-Rud's wisdom. The work is overtly about a 21st century view of success in mining BI, but as she develops her core ideas, Parr-Rud delves into just about every area that involves any organization's productivity, excellence, relationships and output to its customers. She touches on communications governance, systems thinking, collaboration, leadership and the need for flexibility in the new century. Indeed, what else is there of importance to a developing and growing organization? This work goes highly recommended to a leader of an organization of any type, at any level, that wishes to help facilitate positive change.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Worth a Look By Dr. Joseph S. Maresca Business Intelligence Success Factors Review By Dr. Joseph S. Maresca, CPA (New York, USA) The author presents a whole series of insights aimed at streamlining system processes. Some of the human elements in the equation include attentiveness, letting go of inner clamor/noise, deferring to others, honoring boundaries, suspending judgment until reviewing facts and clarifying intentions. The book goes on to explain how collaborative teams avoid failure via increased transparency, pattern recognition, online tools, peer level participation, open systems to preclude hoarding information and collaborative contributions. Some of these steps sound easy enough assuming that an organization can screen out environmental noise, politics and other factors which interfere with a rational internal decision-making process. There is a very interesting section on the functioning of the human brain. For instance, the left cerebral cortex gathers and interprets facts while the right cerebral cortex "sees the big picture." These functions may be optimal when we are young; however, middle and old age sets in along with a modicum of cerebellar atrophy. The book describes how risk management failed to adapt to a changing business landscape; thereby precipitating the 2008 business meltdown. More specifically, the business approach to derivatives, stock market variability and real estate was devoid of the fundamental analysis and coordinated regulatory oversight necessary to separate authentic/verifiable transactions from ill-conceived ones. New systems should be designed to leverage chaos and adapt non-linear approaches to classic challenges faced daily. In addition, our social consciousness now recognizes empathy, attunement, inspiration and intuition. Cost minimization alone should never be the ultimate determinant. For instance, outsourcing may seem to be the best option until an earthquake or major tsunami wipes out major parts of an organization's operations overnight. There are cases where data redundancy may be the best option so that company information can be recreated no matter what happens or where it happens. Sustainability is another important consideration in designing business operations. What happens when the water supply dries up? Hopefully, the technologies of the 21st century will solve some of these problems through desalination plants and virtual power from the "Artificial Sun," artificial intelligence power grids and other scientific innovations just percolating in labs right now. The Tragedy of the Commons describes how shared resource overload leads to ultimate depletion of resources. One of the reasons for offshore drilling involves the ever-growing scarcity of provable oil reserves on land. Ultimately, the Tragedy of the Commons in the oil industry must give way to alternative energy sources; such as, coal gasification, wind, solar, natural gas, smart power grids, ocean wave power and other technologies yet to be perfected this century or even the next. The concept of a holacracy admits to the existence of multi-intersecting decision points. Decisions and operations of one circle are never fully independent of others. Each whole circle is also a part of a much wider circle and shares its environment with other functions and subcircles of a broader circle. The goal is to find workable decisions and not necessarily optimal ones. A number of chronic foreign policy decisions involve searching for workable solutions which satisfy the basic threshold goals of the major strategic constituencies in the various groups and subgroups which constitute nation states or portions thereof. This type of decision-making schema may suffice in an organic organizational structure; however, keen competition in an industry may require more optimal decisions to differentiate from competitors. For instance, optimality may be needed in a power grid design or water distribution system to minimize waste. Overall, the book provides additional methodologies and data analytic processes to aid businesses (large and small) in the never-ending search for solution sets to problems from the simple and linear to the highly complex, interdisciplinary and non-linear.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It is about people By Jim Estill I had this book for a while but was avoiding reading it because I was thinking it was about Data Mining/IT etc. I was wrong, the book is more about people and getting the most from teams. She talks about the Seven Business Realities that Jeopardize Business Survival (from Information Revolution). Stuff like business cycles are shrinking and globalization helps and hurts. She has a good list of 11 ways to avoid failure with collaborative teams (like replacing management controls with online collaboration tools). She has 10 Principles for Leading a Dynamic Organization (like create adaptive strategies) There was an excellent section on closed loops and feedback. Closed loops are a great way to solve problems. I am not an advocate of paperwork and admin but one thing I like about ISO9000 is the closed loop they advocate. IE - not only solve the problem but look to why there was a problem in the first place and put in place processes to solve that. Good book - better than the title.

Praise for Business Intelligence Success Factors: Tools for Aligning your business in the Global Economy "Olivia Parr

Rud does a remarkable job of weaving together many topics in a strategic way. As 'quants,' we're fascinated with data and fact-based decision-making. But success only comes when you consider the human factor, especially effective communications. Making topics like evolutionary biology, complexity science, and systems thinking relevant for business success is a unique and compelling view. As Max Frisch said, "We hired workers and human beings came instead." —Anne Milley, Senior Director, Technology Product Marketing, SAS "Business Intelligence Success Factors is a must-read for anyone implementing BI on an organizational level. This book explains the business landscape and the underlying reasons for our current volatility, offering clear guidance on navigating our information rich global economy." —Ron Powell, Editorial Director, Business Intelligence Network Transform challenges into opportunities with emerging Business Intelligence technologies Written by an expert in data mining and statistical analysis, this valuable resource unveils the connection between the increased use of BI and the need for new, proven theories and models in BI, as well as the guidance to implement them successfully in your organization. Are you ready to become adaptable? Learn how to harness today's rapidly evolving global economy with Business Intelligence Success Factors.

From the Inside Flap Over the last few decades, the growth of Business Intelligence has enabled companies to streamline many processes and expand into new markets on an unprecedented scale. New BI technologies are also enabling mass collaboration and innovation. However, implementation of these BI solutions often gives rise to new challenges. Business Intelligence Success Factors shows you how to turn those challenges into opportunities by mastering five key skills. Olivia Parr Rud shares insights gained from her two decades of experience in Business Intelligence to offer the latest practices that are emerging in organizational development. Written to help enhance your understanding of the current business climate and to provide the tools necessary to thrive in this new global economy, Business Intelligence Success Factors examines the components of chaos theory, complex adaptive systems, quantum physics, and evolutionary biology. A scientific framework for these new corporate issues helps explain why developing these key competencies are critical, given the speed of change, globalization, as well as advancements in technology and Business Intelligence. Divided into four cohesive parts, Business Intelligence Success Factors explores: The current business landscape as well as the latest scientific research: today's business realities and how and why they can lead to chaos