BOOK REVIEW

Socio-Technical Knowledge Management: Studies and Initiatives

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Socio-Technical Knowledge Management: Studies and Initiatives
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Socio-Technical Knowledge Management: Studies and Initiatives is a book that attempts to ground knowledge management in socio-technical theory and then present research results gained using socio-technical research methods. Directed to graduate students and KM practitioners, it is also useful for anyone who wishes to understand how an organization can prevent knowledge management from failing by optimizing the technical and social aspects of knowledge management.

The book consists of twenty-two chapters divided into four sections. Section I, Theoretical Foundations of Knowledge Management has three chapters. Section II, Studies of Technology-Based Knowledge Management Initiatives has eight chapters. Section III, Studies of Socially-Oriented Knowledge Management Initiatives, has eight chapters. Section IV, Issues and Challenges for Knowledge Management Practice and Research has three chapters. These sections provide a thorough coverage of knowledge management.

Theoretical foundations of knowledge management defines basic KM concepts and places them in an integrated framework. The proposed integrative framework is interesting and incorporates the commonly accepted functions of KM and many of the enablers and reflections of KM success. However a criticism of the model is that it is not current with KM success research. Overall, though, the section provides good coverage of the KM body of literature.

Studies of technology-based knowledge management initiatives focuses on the application of various technologies to supporting KM. Topics such as groupware, artificial intelligence,
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