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Contents; Acknowledgments; About the Authors; Preface to the Second Edition; Preface to the First Edition; Part I: The Effective IT Organization; Chapter 1: The IT Dilemma; What Good Is Information Technology?; Information Technology Misery; A Burning Platform; Information Technology Satisfaction?; The Information Technology Dilemma; Chapter 2: IT Ineffectiveness Sources and Causes; Symptoms of IT Distress; Proximate and Ultimate Causes of IT Ineffectiveness; Steps to Effective IT Management; Chapter 3: Information Technology Costs Why This Topic Is ImportantIntroduction to Benchmarking IT Spending; IT Spending-Trends, Comparisons, and Benchmarking; Key IT Cost Drivers; Scale Economies; Aligning IT Spending with Business Strategy; Taking Action Based on Spending Benchmarks; IT Spending Decisions:

Summary; Chapter 4: IT Scope and Strategy; Why This Topic Is Important; Scope of IT Activities; Setting IT Strategic Priorities;

Methodologies for IT Management; Part II: Managing the IT Department;

Chapter 5: The IT Organization; Why This Topic Is Important; IT Organization Overview; IT Department Organization Structure

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Support: CIO and Administrative Support: Other IT Organizational Issues: Summary: Chapter 6: The Chief Information Officer: Why This Topic Is Important; Critical Role of the CIO; The Talent Challenge; Responsibilities and Skills Needed; How Successful CIOs Allocate Their Time; Recruiting and Retaining the Ideal Candidate; Other Factors Impacting the CIO's Role; Getting Promoted; The Role of the IT Steering Committee; Evaluating the CIO; The CTO; Organizations for CIOs; Chapter 7: IT Standards; Why This Topic Is Important Standard Setting for Technology Areas Framework for Setting Technology Standards; Free and Open Source Software; Product Life-Cycle Analysis and Implications for Technology Standard Setting; Communicating IT Standards to the Business; Enforcing IT Standards; What to Do When You Inherit a "Highly Heterogeneous Environment"; Summary; Sources of Information for Assessing Technology Standards; Chapter 8: IT Operations and Infrastructure: Why This Topic Is Important; Scope of Operations; Performance Management and Service Level Agreements; Techniques for Standardizing IT Operations Setting Staffing Resource LevelsImportance of Process Improvement and Root Cause Analysis; Communicating Success; Evaluating Infrastructure Investments; Summary; Chapter 9: IT Problem Management; Why This Topic Is Important; Problem and Request Management; Managing an Effective Help Desk; Help Desk Outsourcing; Chapter 10: Application Management; Why This Topic Is Important; Architecture: Application Strategy: Software as a Service: Maintaining Existing Applications; Developing New Applications; Implementing Packaged Applications; Quality Assurance Testing; Summary Chapter 11: IT Human Resources

Sommario/riassunto

Praise for the The Executive's Guide to Information Technology""This book is important reading. It offers practical, real-world insight and pragmatic no-nonsense approaches for people who have a stake in corporate IT. ""--Lynda Applegate, Henry R. Byers Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School""Information systems and processes are very important parts of our due diligence assessment of a company--yet the jargon is often more difficult to understand than many foreign languages. Baschab and Piot effectively translate IT into words and concepts that busin