Project Retrospectives
A Handbook for Team Reviews
by Norman L. Kerth
foreword by Gerald M. Weinberg

Use Team-Based Review Sessions to Maximize What You Learn from Each Project

With detailed scenarios, imaginative illustrations, and step-by-step instructions, consultant and speaker Norman L. Kerth guides readers through productive, empowering retrospectives of project performance.

Whether your shop calls them postmortems or postpartums or something else, project retrospectives offer organizations a formal method for preserving the valuable lessons learned from the successes and failures of every project. These lessons and the changes identified by the community will foster stronger teams and savings on subsequent efforts.

For a retrospective to be effective and successful, though, it needs to be safe. Kerth shows facilitators and participants how to defeat the fear of retribution and establish an air of mutual trust. One tool is Kerth’s Prime Directive:

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“His sensitivity to the complex interpersonal issues surrounding project retrospectives will help any facilitator, participant, or manager get the most out of these important learning activities.”

—Karl Wiegers, Process Impact

About the Author

With more than twenty years’ experience leading project retrospectives, Norman L. Kerth is recognized as the leading expert in the field. A principal of Elite Systems, based in Portland, Oregon, he also regularly consults and speaks on specification and design methodologies with emphasis on object-oriented technologies and pattern languages. Visit www.retrospectives.com.

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