

Improving The Extended Value Stream: Lean For The Entire Supply Chain;
Darren Dolcemascolo; Productivity Press, 444 Park Avenue South, New York, NY
10016, ISBN: 13: 978-1-56327-333-9, 209 pp. Listed: \$xxxxx

The extended Value Stream, according to the author Darren Dolcemascolo, should go beyond the door to door internal lean implementation, to the key suppliers of the company's main operations. This book provides straight forward templates and a hypothetical company used as the case study of how to implement the lean across the supply chain and in the key suppliers.

This book provides very good criteria for evaluating and selecting suppliers as the lean partners. The evaluation areas include: 1. Financial and Operational, 2. Technical and Process expertise, 3. Business Relationship. Under each area, it also includes several key metrics for evaluation and scoring. These approaches, by itself, serves as a very valuable source for evaluating and selecting suppliers, not limited to selecting a lean partners.

This book is self contained. It provides a comprehensive review of the lean tools and how it can apply to the suppliers.

This book discusses the approaches at the theoretical level, even the examples provided are with hypothetical case studies. So my serious concern is that this theory is not yet through the test of a real world application . A real case study of implementing the lean across the supply chain, the obstacle encountered, lessons learned and the improvement and the value created by the approach proposed in this book is more convincing. Without this real case study, this book can only presented as an untested theory.

*Shin Ta Liu,
Lynx Systems
San Diego*