

Systems Approaches to Management

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Systems Thinking is a new paradigm set to revolutionize management practice in the 21st century. *Systems Approaches to Management* is the most comprehensive guide available to the application of this new paradigm in the field of management. The Volume:

- Traces the emergence of holistic thinking in disciplines such as biology, control engineering, sociology and the natural sciences
- Details and provides a critique, based upon social theory, of the range of systems approaches, methodologies, models and methods
- Offers numerous case studies to illustrate systems thinking applied to management

Introduces critical systems thinking' as a coherent framework that brings unity to the diversity of different systems approaches and advises managers, consultants, scholars and students on their use

Provides an accessible source of inspiration for managers, management consultants, scholars and students

Covers chaos and complexity theory, the learning organization, system dynamics, living systems theory, soft systems methodology, interactive management, interactive planning, total systems intervention, autopoiesis, management cybernetics, the viable system model, operations research (hard and soft), systems analysis, systems engineering, general system theory, sociotechnical systems thinking, the fifth discipline, social systems design, team synteegrity, postmodern systems thinking, critical systems thinking, and much more.

Considers the work of Ackoff, Banathy, Beer, Capra, Checkland, Churchman, Eden, Emery, Flood, Forrester, Friend, Freire, Jackson, Jantsch, Linstone, Luhmann, Mason, Maturana, Miller, Mitroff, Prigogine, Rosenhead, Senge, Stacey, Trist, Ulrich, Varela, Vickers, von Bertalanffy, Warfield, Wheatley, Wiener, and many more.

Michael C. Jackson has worked in public sector management, in academic life and as a consultant. He is currently Director of the University of Hull Business School, in the United Kingdom. He is author (with R.L. Flood) of *Creative Problem Solving*, Wiley, 1991, of *Systems Methodology for the Management Sciences*, Plenum, 1991, and of numerous articles in academic and professional journals. Professor Jackson is editor-in-chief of *Systems Research and Behavioural Science* and associate editor of *Systemic Practice and Action Research*. He has been Chair of the UK Systems Society, and President of the International Federation for Systems Research. He is currently the President Elect of the International Society for the Systems Sciences.



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