

Program Managers I've Known and "Loved"
and their report card on people skills, processes and technology

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- Attila the Manager – crush the insurgents
- Kill Bill the Manger – smother the customer
- The Coach Manager – focused on the team and the customer

■ Attributes

- Rules the program with an “iron fist”
- Thick notebook of knowledge
- Surrounded only by loyalists
- Questioning Attila is met with retribution
- One way communications – Attila to the troops

Attila the Manager Strengths, Weaknesses, Report Card

- Strengths
 - Intelligent, Broad Background, Strong Team of Loyalists
- Weaknesses
 - Inward Focus, Communication Skills
- Report Card
 - Technology – 33%, Processes – 33%, People Skills – 15%. Grade is 81 (B)



■ Attributes

- “Joined at the hip” with the customer
- Whips the team in response to all customer requests
- Customer is right 100% of the time, no questions asked
- Shoots anyone the customer wants
- Replanning R Us

Kill Bill the Manager Strengths, Weaknesses, Report Card

■ Strengths

- Loved by the Customer, High Contract Award Fees, Liked by the Team (Usually)

■ Weaknesses

- Program Costs/Schedule Second to Customer Satisfaction, Hard to Keep Dedicated Team in Place, Inter-team Communications

■ Report Card

- Technology – 30%, Processes – 30%, People Skills – 15%. Grade is 75 (C)



■ Attributes

- Good relationship with the customer
- Carries team generated best ideas/processes to the customer
- Surrounded by best qualified people
- Focused on open communications
- “Freedom from fear” working environment

The Coach Manager Strengths, Weaknesses, Report Card

■ Strengths

- Open and Honest Communications, Able to Correct Problems Quickly, Support of the Team

■ Weaknesses

- May Deliver Bad News at Bad Times, Can be Criticized by Management if not Focused on Financials, Absorbs the “Arrows” for the Team

■ Report Card

- Technology – 30%, Processes – 30%, People Skills – 30%. Grade is 90 (A)



- All Different Types of Program Managers Serve a Useful Function. Most are Effective in Their Own Style
- You Must Pick the Style that will be your Winning Style