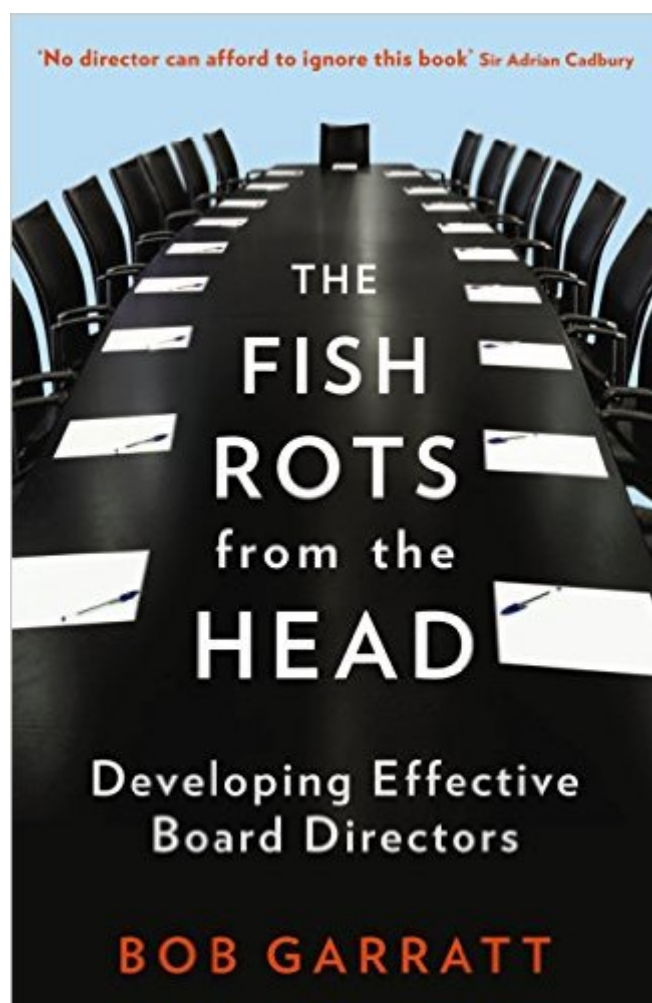


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The Fish Rots From The Head: The Crisis In Our Boardrooms: Developing The Crucial Skills Of The Competent Director



Synopsis

As a Chinese proverb says 'The fish rots from the head' and so it is with businesses and other organisations - the buck starts and stops in the boardroom. This third edition of Bob Garratt's bestselling book that highlights the importance of effective corporate governance has been extensively updated following the corporate scandals of the early 2000s - Enron, WorldCom, Tyco - and the abysmal boardroom standards that the recent credit crunch and ensuing global financial crisis brought to light. This new edition builds on the Learning Board model developed by the author and now widely used internationally by corporations and public sector organisations such as the NHS. The result is a thought-provoking and highly practical book that will be invaluable to all those with responsibility for corporate governance - and also those who subject them to scrutiny. What Sir Adrian Cadbury, whose committee's groundbreaking report on corporate governance was published nearly twenty years ago, said about the first edition remains as true today as ever: 'No director can afford to ignore this book'.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have been a company director of many companies for 20 years and been insisting that all new company directors on my boards read this book for the last 15 years This is an update and keeps it as the best and most complete compendium of information about the role and responsibilities of company directors available today.

This is a book for deeper insight and understanding of the complex world every director, ceo, shareholder, executive and stakeholder has to deal with. Bob's view of the dynamics take you up to 50,000 feet, gives a great overview, and break things up for greater understanding. Recommended as a must read for directors.

Bob Garratt's "The Fish Rots..." for me is a first-of-a-kind kind of book. While tons and tons of management books deluge us every day this particular book stands out by expertly handling a somewhat "uncharted" territory. A territory that ordinary mortals like the majority of us have not much inkling on...on what really transpires (or what SHOULD transpire) in those subduedly-lighted, eerily silent, wood-paneled top-floor suites of corporate HQ reserved for the Board, accessible only by a non-stop key-driven elevator. The book struck my interest deeply that it inspired me to recommend it to our Business Intelligence group to develop an information system on that will support The Learning Board's four directoral dilemmas as vividly treated in Mr. Garratt's book. All these years we spoke of and endlessly developed and maintained management information systems. I reckon that we should now look at developing a Board information system using BI, data warehousing, management science techniques, external monitoring systems and so on. With the crisis of confidence in Corporate America brought about by the boards of Enron, WorldCom, etc I believe such system will help "clean up" the mess and bring back the past glory days of American corporations. Kudos to Mr. Garratt for an excellent book !!!

It's book gives a valuable basis for looking at how boards function. Working inside government bureaucracy as I do, it helps point out the real weaknesses in public sector boards compared with private sector boards. There's a world of difference and Garratt's insight into private boards highlights the differences with the public sector. I found it a really useful read.

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