



## Seeing the Whole Value Stream

*Dan Jones, Jim Womack*

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## **Seeing the Whole Value Stream** Dan Jones, Jim Womack

When the first edition of *Seeing the Whole* was published in 2003, the world was in a mad rush to outsource and offshore in pursuit of drastically lower piece prices. Today the situation is very different; currencies have shifted, labor costs in many low-wage countries have risen, and the potential for squeezing further price reductions from suppliers is largely exhausted. What's more, high product quality and rapid response to changing demands have proved elusive along unwieldy, opaque supply chains. *Seeing the Whole Value Stream* provides managers with a proven method for understanding and improving the value-creating process. By identifying all the steps and time required to move a typical product from raw materials to finished goods, the authors show that nearly 90 percent of the actions and 99.9 percent of the time required for the value stream's current state create no value. Applying the method to a realistic example, the authors show how firms sharing a value stream can create a win-win future in which everyone, including the end consumer, can be better off. The workbook goes step-by-step through an improvement process that converts the traditional value stream of isolated, compartmentalized operations into an ideal future-state value stream in which value flows from raw materials to customer in just 6 percent of the time previously needed. The dramatically improved value stream also eliminates unnecessary transport links, inventories, and handoffs, the key drivers of hidden connectivity costs. The information in the 108-page book is supported by multiple diagrams, charts, and maps. In response to feedback asking for examples in other sectors and questions about how to understand costs more accurately, five essays have been added to the book for this new edition. These essays demonstrate how real companies have taken on the challenge of improving their extended value streams working in collaboration with their suppliers and customers.

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