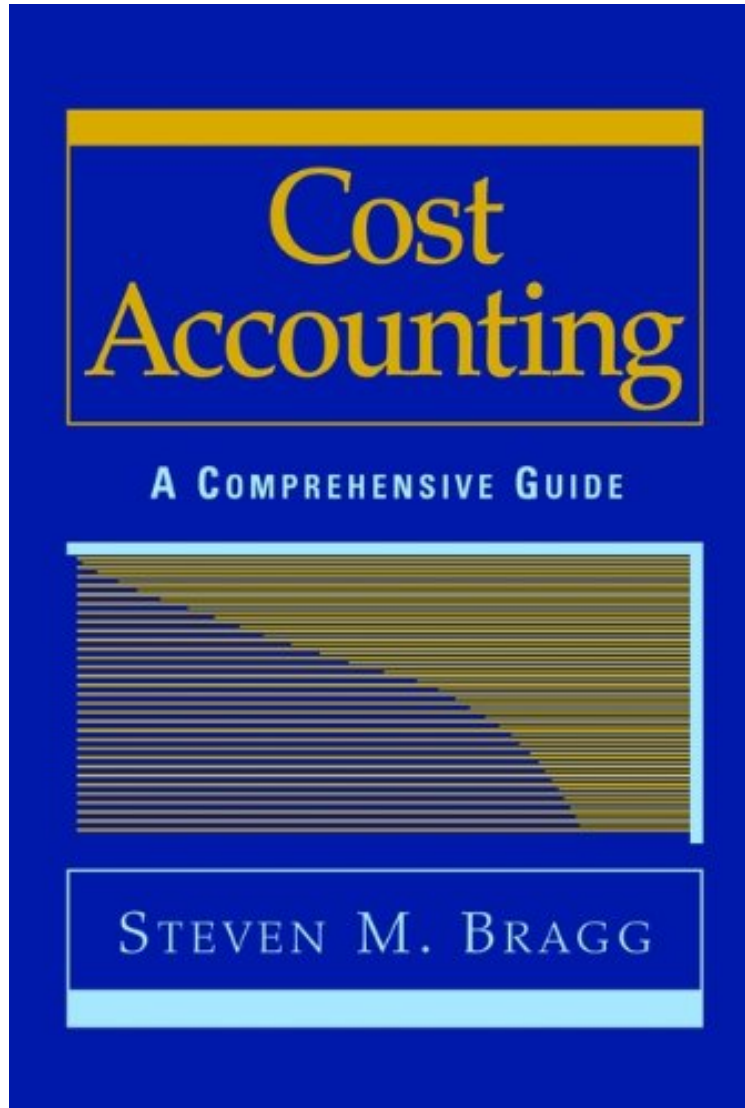


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Steven M. Bragg

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become) profitable. It is as cyclical as the economy. If you are in such a situation, this book will guide you through the process. The payoff can be very big and, once in place it is easily maintained. Five star recommendation for this book. Keep it on you desk. The book is written primarily for the practicing (or would-be) cost accountant or accounting manager. It starts with a discussion of how cost accounting (CA) can be used most effectively to help management. The crux of CA is to improve costs in the organization. Why you need it, what data to collect, how to collect it, what to do with it. There are 7 parts to the book covering 40 chapters. The shorter segments allow the reader to quickly locate important information without digging through the index. This is a very handy feature that most accounting tomes don't address. The book addresses; The Purpose of Cost Accounting, Role of Cost Accounting, Cost Accountant's Job, Ethics (Really!), Costing Systems and Data Collection, Data Collection Systems, Timekeeping, Chart of Accounts, Cost Accounting Software, Paper-based documents, Costing Methodologies, Job Costing, Process Costing, Direct Costing, Standard Costing, Last-in-first-out (LIFO), FIFO and Average costing, Throughput Costing, Joint and by-product costing, Activity-based costing, Target costing, Costing systems summary (which is most (and least) useful, Using Costs in Pricing, Variance and Operational Analysis, Variances, Spoilage, waste and scrap, Cost-volume-profit, Analysis reporting, Managing Costs, Control Systems, Capital budgeting, Capacity management, Material requirements planning (MRP), Just-in-time (JIT), Quality, Cost variability, Pricing Issues, Transfer pricing, Pricing laws, Corporate strategy, Benchmarking, Valuing inventory, Best practices, Budgeting, Service environments, Spreadsheets, Taxation, Fraud, and a Bibliography and Glossary. Very comprehensive. This is a quite an array of problems the book addresses. It is a highly recommended reference for the practicing Cost Accountant, or anyone for that matter who wants to know where to start controlling their own costs. Let's face it. All the really easy problems, in your company, have probably been resolved long ago. What's left are opportunities waiting to be discovered. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An Excellent and Practical Guide to Cost Accounting By A Customer In today's economic environment the role of the cost accountant has become more complex and vital to an organization's success. Cost Accounting: A Comprehensive Guide is a practical resource for the professional. How refreshing to have a cost accounting book that addresses the daily issues encountered in the operations of a company rather than a theoretical approach to the subject. I recommend this book to the entry-level cost accountant through the well-seasoned practitioner. Excellent!

Details how cost accounting systems work and how the resulting information can be used. Includes a list of the most common costing problems, along with recommended solutions. Provides case studies on costing issues and sample journal entries for the most common cost entries. Includes a dictionary of cost accounting terminology. Includes flowcharts and control point listing for several types of costing systems.