

## **Book Review:**

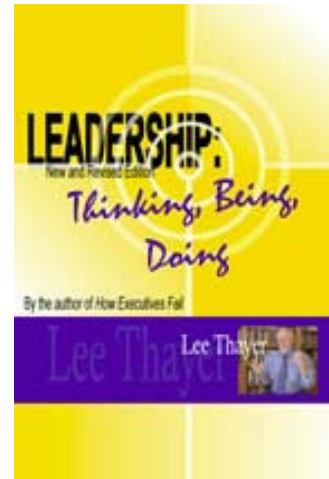
### ***Leadership: Thinking, Being, Doing* (new and revised edition)**

By Lee Thayer

“You can’t learn to be a leader. Only history will decide that. All you can do is be prepared if you are ‘called on’ to provide leadership.”

This quote comes from renowned thought leader and author, Lee Thayer, in his new and revised edition of *Leadership: Thinking, Being, Doing*. Thayer once again challenges existing leaders and their would-be counterparts to join the excellence of “thinking, being and doing.”

In a world that, at times, can appear to be too caught up in rhetoric and celebrity, Thayer’s book shines a light on leadership qualities that are vitally important, but sometimes forgotten or, worse yet, ignored.



For example, in Chapter Two, he identifies a series of “think pieces” that clarify how one must be able to think differently from the mainstream in order to lead oneself and others in the pursuit of optimum performance. He notes that while most people are event-driven, true leaders and the organizations they lead are purpose-driven; and, he cautions – “don’t let what you can’t do define what you can do;” as well as – “necessity is what drives extraordinary performance.” Thayer’s insights allow anyone aspiring to leadership to look introspectively and quite likely see their role in ways not visualized before.

In Part IV, “Some Tools for Making It Happen,” Thayer provides the reader with the necessary resources great leaders bring into play to align others with their mission. Thayer’s “tools” involve developing the competencies of people and their roles, creating ‘smart’ systems that both encourage and accommodate higher levels of performance, and acquiring the critical mass of leaders who exemplify the kind of culture that makes high performance simply the “order of the day.”

James O’Toole, author of *Leading Change*, calls the book “terrific.” Max De Pree, Chairman Emeritus of Herman Miller, Inc. states that the book “is itself the art of leadership (and) has a penetrating quality.” One of the strengths of Thayer’s work is that the principles and concepts he presents have been successfully field-testing numerous times – ideas based on years of experience.

*Leadership: Thinking, Being, Doing* is aimed at CEO’s and anyone aspiring to become the leader of his or her organization. It is published by Windsor Media Enterprises and is available on their website at [www.wmebooks.com](http://www.wmebooks.com).