Thoughtful DI Acumen into IoC Alphabet Soup

Patterns evolve and formalize from everyday use; software patterns are not an exception and the taxonomy for software architecture and patterns evolve from reinforced observations. Dependency inversion, dependency Injection, SOLID programming techniques, inversion of control, interception, cross cutting concerns, containers, context etc. are some of the development concepts and techniques which have evolved over time and now have a well understood classification and taxonomy in software development. For those of us less unenlightened in understanding and use of these methodologies for writing more maintainable, testable, loosely coupled code, Mark Seeman's Dependency Injection in .NET is the best place to get started and keep going.

In contrast with various other technical books which serves more as API manuals, Seeman's Dependency Injection in .NET is very opinionated and personal which is a good thing. It talks to you in first person about what works and what would be deemed an anti-pattern while taking a detailed look at inversion of control by tracing it back to the underlying principles and patterns it is originally based off. Even though the book covers common IoC frameworks like Unity, Castle Windsor, StructureMap, and Ninject, it delves much deeper into finding commonalities across these frameworks such as lifetime management, decommissioning, interception; this helps reader understand the nuts and bolts of DI containers vs. merely learning how to use, say StructureMap.
This over 500 page book is divided into 15 chapters and four parts namely putting dependency injection on the map, DI catalog (patterns, anti-patterns, refactoring), DIY DI (composition, lifetime, interception) and finally ushering into the containers primer which spans over 200 pages and can be made a selective reading. Let's not have thickness of this amazing book intimidate you since author's writing style flows very well as he dissects inversion of control by explaining dependency inversion, the types of inversion of control, and dependency injection.

Laden with conceptual maps, illustrations and selective code samples, anyone starting out in the uncharted DI water or even a DDD veteran will equally find this book a pleasure to read.
About the Reviewer

Adnan Masood works as a web architect and technical lead for Green Dot Corporation where he develops SOA based middle-tier architectures, distributed systems, and web-applications using Microsoft technologies. He is a Microsoft Certified Trainer holding several technical certifications, including MCPD (Enterprise Developer), MCSD .NET, and SCJP-II. Adnan is attributed and published in print media and on the Web; he is technical editor for "Microsoft Windows Server AppFabric Cookbook" and also taught Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) courses at the University of California at San Diego.

Adnan regularly presents at local code camps and user groups. He is actively involved in the .NET community as cofounder and president of the of San Gabriel Valley .NET Developers group. Adnan holds a Master’s degree in Computer Science; he is currently a doctoral student working towards PhD in Machine Learning; specifically interestingness measures in outliers using Bayesian Belief Networks. He also holds systems architecture certification from MIT and SOA Smarts certification from Carnegie Mellon University.