

Delegate to Motivate - Flip Charts

[In this “Socratic” style program, we asked participants to answer questions and recorded their flip chart responses. The trainer added only if substantial points were missing.]

Strategies and Challenges

- Strategies
 - Being timely
 - Planning in advance
 - Communicating x4
 - Matching tasks with skills
 - Investigating skill sets and using them to your advantage x2
 - Clarifying
- Challenges
 - Providing clarity in expectations and reception of delegations
 - Communicating x3
 - Finding time to invest in the delegation process x2
 - Motivating operators effectively x2
 - Knowing the risk around learning
 - “Letting go” x2
 - Trusting your staff x2

What is Delegation?

- Assigning and clearly defining tasks
- Retaining responsibility
- Planning/developing a strategy

What are the Benefits?

- Allows for greater productivity
- More time to focus on higher level tasks
- Develops a stronger team
- Grows the people
- Increases confidence

What are the Risks?

- Tasks could have a connection with fairness and/or status
- Staff may be resistant to learn
- Burning out best people
- Work may not be done well, or at all
- Possible losses to the company

What are the Phases of Delegation?

- Evaluation

- Work analysis
- Deadlines and timelines are secured
- Resources in place
- Selecting the “Who”
 - Handover
 - Handoff process
 - Support
 - Check-ins
 - Monitoring
- Work completed
 - Debrief
 - End: evaluation

Evaluation

- Tasks
 - Which tasks can be delegated?
 - Easy, quick, stretch, or development
 - Uncritical tasks
 - Requires small amount of training
- People
 - How do you find out what your staff can do? (Now and over time)
 - Experiment
 - Time and experience
 - Find out what they are asking for
 - Assign a small piece of a project for them to do as a trial
 - Assess strengths by asking
- Matching tasks with people
 - Availability
 - Current workload
 - Novelty
 - Challenge
 - Life circumstances

Handover

- What will you need to do and think about to get ready to hand over the task?
 - A background document
 - Broad brushstroke sketch
 - Materials to other resources
 - Vendors
 - Security access
 - Data

- Autonomy
 - Timeline/Milestones
 - Define reporting and communication frequency
 - Clarify the level of support you will provide
- What should happen in the handover meeting?
 - Clear definition of the tasks
 - Timeline
 - Provide tools
 - Communicate Confidence
 - Briefing
 - Explain the purpose of tasks
 - Beware: death by meeting
 - Confirm understanding
 - Clear next step

Support

- What should you do to support your employee after the handover?
 - Explain your open door policy
 - Have credibility as a supportive individual (make sure your actions support your words)
 - Be even keeled
 - Be humane and empathetic
 - Maintain expertise
 - Lead by example
 - Offer reward questions
 - Extend support
 - Check in on progress
 - Communicate: relay info
 - Be aware of the environment and continually adapt to it
 - Abide by agreements
 - Especially the ones in regards to autonomy

Debrief

- What should you do with your employee after the task has been completed?
 - Review
 - Ask how things went
 - What would they have done differently if they were to do it again?
 - Was it easy? Challenging?
 - Find out if there is anything left to do or follow up with
 - Compare results to defined outcomes
 - Analyze the positives and negatives of the assignment

- Create a supportive learning framework
- Lessons learned document
- Provide recognition