

# Project Human Resource Management

## What is Project Human Resource Management?



- Project human resource management includes the processes required to make the most effective use of the people involved with a project. Processes include
  - Organizational planning
  - Staff acquisition
  - □ Team development

## Keys to Managing People

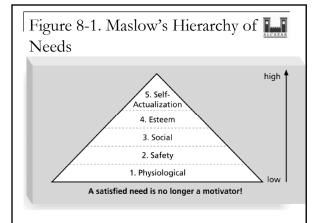


- Psychologists and management theorists have devoted much research and thought to the field of managing people at work
- Important areas related to project management include
  - motivation
  - influence and power
  - effectiveness

#### Motivation



- Abraham Maslow developed a hierarchy of needs to illustrate his theory that people's behaviors are guided by a sequence of needs
- Maslow argued that humans possess unique qualities that enable them to make independent choices, thus giving them control of their destiny



#### Thamhain and Wilemon's Ways to Have Influence on Projects



- 1. Authority: the legitimate hierarchical right to issue orders
- 2. Assignment: the project manager's perceived ability to influence a worker's later work assignments
- 3. Budget: the project manager's perceived ability to authorize others' use of discretionary funds
- 4. Promotion: the ability to improve a worker's position
- 5. Money: the ability to increase a worker's pay and benefits
- 6. Penalty: the project manager's ability to cause punishment
- 7. Work challenge: the ability to assign work that capitalizes on a worker's enjoyment of doing a particular task
- 8. Expertise: the project manager's perceived special knowledge that others deem important
- 9. Friendship: the ability to establish friendly personal relationships between the project manager and others

## Ways to Influence that Help and Hurt Projects



- Projects are more likely to succeed when project managers influence with
  - expertise
  - work challenge
- Projects are more likely to fail when project managers rely too heavily on
  - authority
  - money
  - penalty

## Improving Effectiveness - Covey's



#### 7 Habits

- Project managers can apply Covey's 7 habits to improve effectiveness on projects
  - Be proactive
  - Begin with the end in mind
  - Put first things first
  - □ Think win/win
  - Seek first to understand, then to be understood
  - Synergize
- Sharpen the saw

## Empathic Listening and Rapport



- Good project managers are empathic listeners: they listen with the intent to understand
- Before you can communicate with others, you have to have rapport
- Mirroring is a technique to help establish rapport
- Professionals often need to develop empathic listening and other people skills to improve relationships with users and other stakeholders

## Organizational Planning



- Organizational planning involves identifying, documenting, and assigning project roles, responsibilities, and reporting relationships
- Outputs and processes include
  - project organizational charts
  - work definition and assignment process
  - responsibility assignment matrixes
  - resource histograms

#### Staff Acquisition



- Staffing plans and good hiring procedures are important in staff acquisition, as are incentives for recruiting and retention
- Some companies give their employees one dollar for every hour a new person they helped hire works
- Some organizations allow people to work from home as an incentive
- Research shows that people leave their jobs because they don't make a difference, don't get proper recognition, aren't learning anything new, don't like their coworkers, and want to earn more money

#### Resource Loading and Leveling

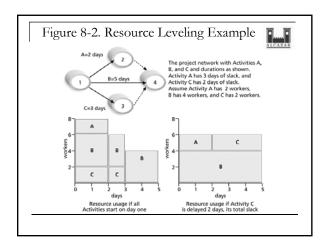


- Resource loading refers to the amount of individual resources an existing project schedule requires during specific time periods
- Resource histograms show resource loading
- Over-allocation means more resources than are available are assigned to perform work at a given time

### Resource Leveling



- Resource leveling is a technique for resolving resource conflicts by delaying tasks
- The main purpose of resource leveling is to create a smoother distribution of resource usage and reduce overallocation



## Team Development



- It takes teamwork to successfully complete most projects
- Training can help people understand themselves, each other, and how to work better in teams
- Team building activities include
  - physical challenges
  - psychological preference indicator tools

## Social Styles Profile



- People are perceived as behaving primarily in one of four zones, based on their assertiveness and responsiveness:
  - Drivers
  - Expressives
  - Analyticals
- People on opposite corners (drivers and amiables, analyticals and expressives) may have difficulties getting along

# Figure 8-3. Social Styles Task-Directed Responsiveness Ask-Directed Assertiveness Analytical Driver Amiable Expressive People-Directed Responsiveness

## Reward and Recognition Systems



- Team-based reward and recognition systems can promote teamwork
- Focus on rewarding teams for achieving specific goals
- Allow time for team members to mentor and help each other to meet project goals and develop human resources

## General Advice on Teams

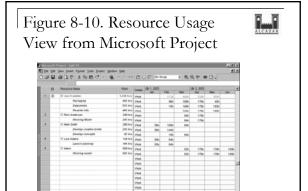


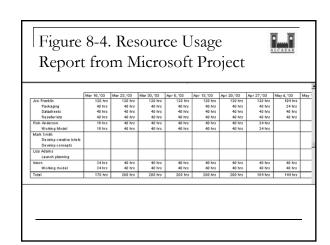
- Focus on meeting project objectives and producing positive results
- Fix the problem instead of blaming people
- Establish regular, effective meetings
- Nurture team members and encourage them to help each other
- Acknowledge individual and group accomplishments

## Using Software to Assist in Human Resource Management



- Software can help in producing RAMS and resource histograms
- Project management software includes several features related to human resource management such as
  - viewing resource usage information
  - identifying under and over-allocated resources
  - leveling resources





Project Resource Management Involves Much More Than Using Software



- Project managers must
  - □ Treat people with consideration and respect
  - Understand what motivates them
  - Communicate carefully with them
- Goal is to enable project team members to deliver their best work