### **BALANCING YOUR SCORECARD:**

How to Align Personnel Capability
with Business Strategy:
Evaluating and Measuring Workforce
Capability (Part II)

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## Road Map

- 1. Recap of preceding web-cast
- 2. Ideal Steps in using a capability metric
- 3. Case study outcomes
- 4. Data based recommendations
- 5. What actually happened
- 6. Why the ISP failed
- 7. So What? Potency of CD (& ED)?
- 8. So What? Accelerated Development of CD & ED?

# Example Strategic Initiative:

A Consortium Building a Large Internet Banking Product

Large U.S. Banking Client – Goal: Streamline Banking Operations SYSTEMS INTEGRATION CONSORTIUM Large Internet Service Provider (ISP) Join Consortium? Member n LASKE & ASSOCIATES' ROLE

## Client's Strategic Job 'Family' Members

- Central Consortium Coordinator
- 6 Middle Team Managers
- Chief Technology Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- HR Personnel pursuing additional hiring
- Individuals selected from 6 Software Engineering Teams

Size of Sample: 22

# Competencies Measured

- Technical Competence Know How– Software Design, Testing, & Integration
- Job Satisfaction/Frustration Index
- Subjective 'Fit' of Person to Organization's Culture

# Measuring Subjective 'Fit' to Culture

What are my subjective needs at work? How much do they impact growth in my capabilities – CD & ED?

#### **DOMAINS FOCUSED ON:**

- Self Conduct
- Task Focus/Approach
- Interpersonal Perspective

**Subjective Organizatio** -nal Press Need Gaps between Need & Prof. Aspirations Gaps between Prof. Aspirations & Cultural Climate <<<<<

**QUANTITATIVE MEASURE: Efficiency Index Improvement** 

## Capabilities Measured

• Cognitive Grasp & Reach – Attributes of general cognitive development (CD)

• Social - Emotional Understanding – Attributes of general Social – Emotional Development (ED)

# Job - Incumbent Capability Imbalances

CD/

ED

'Size' of Job/Role 'Size' of Incumbent

Under -

Stretched

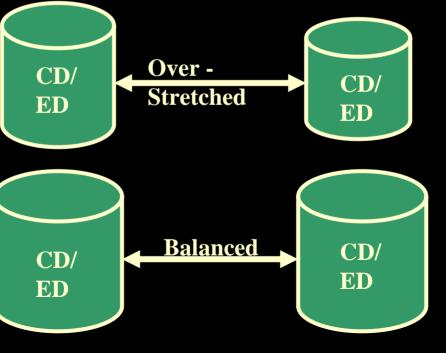
CD/

ED

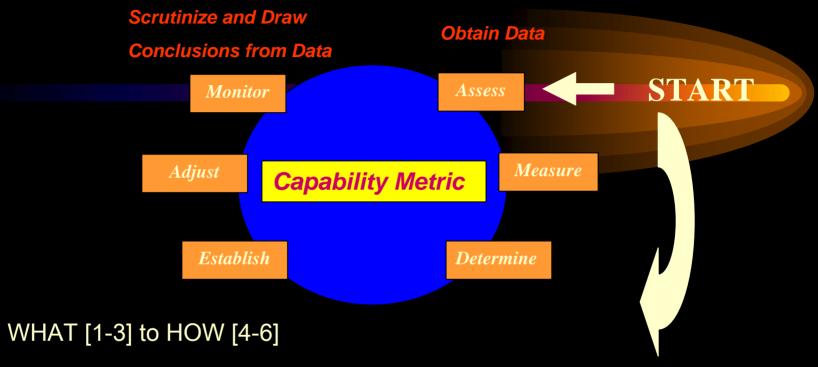
Role Requirement > Capability – "Over - Stretched"

Role Requirement < Capability – "Under - Stretched"

Role Requirement = Capability – Balanced

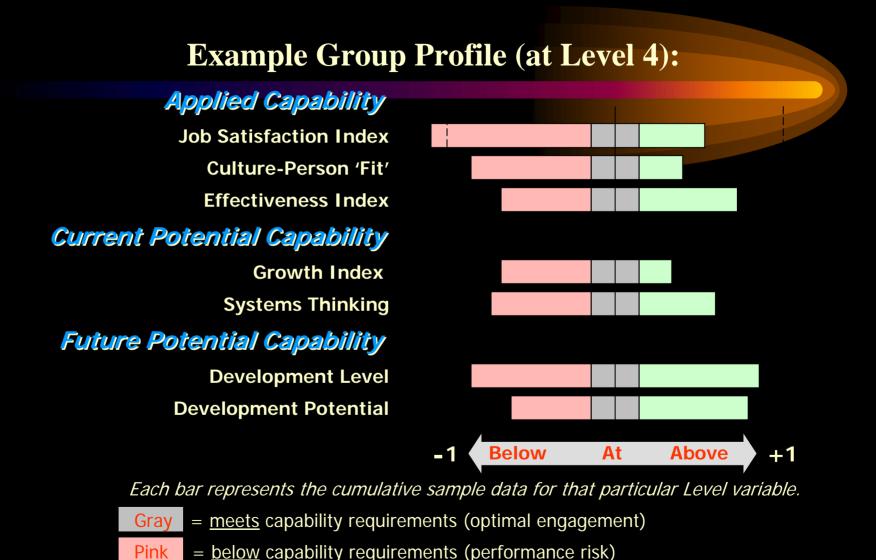


## Ideal Steps in Using a Capability Metric



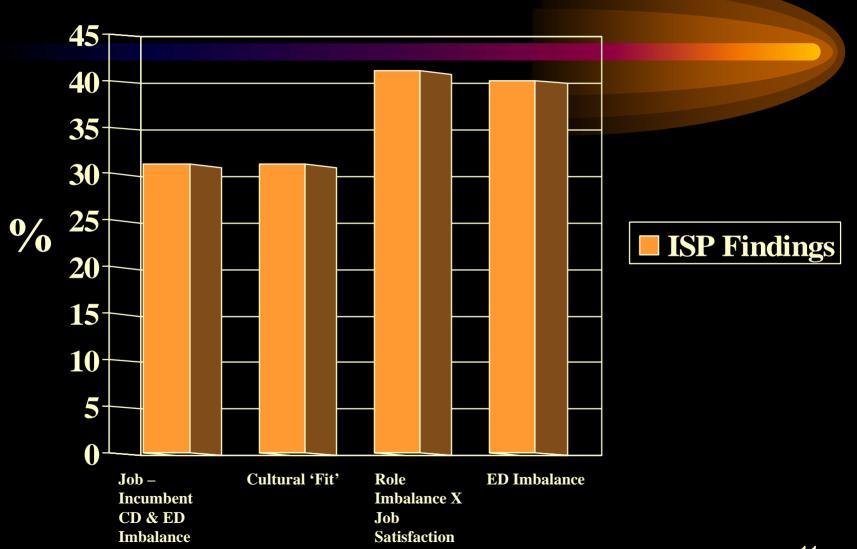
- 1. Assess "size of role" = CD & ED Job Requirements
- 2. Measure "size of person" = Current Incumbent CD & ED Capability
- 3. Determine gaps between (1) and (2)
- 4. Establish Interventions to improve capability profile a data based human capital strategy
- 5. Adjust (1) to (2) or vice versa restructure & reassign roles, fire/hire
- 6. Monitor the balance of capability distribution over time

## Capability Assessment Summary of ISP



= exceeds capability requirements (wasted potential capability)

# Capability Metric Findings for ISP



## Steps Ideally Taken by the ISP

- Acknowledge consortium venture as Risky
- Reconsider leader assignments
- Hire an Outside CD & ED Qualified Project Leader
- Improve cultural climate by other than superficial means

Basically, postpone the decision to join the consortium until viability of 'Quick – Fixes' can be evaluated

### Actions Actually Taken by the ISP

Major Finding: The 'Family Team' is "a risky bet" – May not hold up well under stress of consortium deadlines.

#### The company took the following Actions:

- CEO and CFO persuaded the Board "to give it a try"
- CEO and CFO agreed to Board mandated coaching
- The CEO introduced weekly get-togethers, to boost company climate/morale
- Team leaders required to hold a daily morning meeting
- Some of the most uncooperative team members fired/replaced
- A energetic young manager appointed as Consortium Work Leader, despite not being CD-ED qualified.

#### In short, Decision was Political rather than Data Driven

# Why the ISP Failed

- Company Management did not have an accurate feel for the realism of its strategy, given what the Workforce Capability Measures 'told' them
- CEO/CFO got their way Board failed to speak with one voice
- The chosen Consortium Work Leader was unsuited in terms of CD/ED, but was technically and "experience" qualified
- In the rush to decision, not enough time remained to correct major developmental and behavioral imbalances in the team
- Team leaders had to guide teams uneven in capability level; the leaders themselves did not have requisite ED levels [Stage 4] to succeed in collaboration

# Research on CD/ED Effects

• Investigation 1: Does CD Level of Successor in Family Businesses Effect Gross Sales?

Sandra King "Organizational Performance and Conceptual Capability: The Relationship Between Organizational Performance and Successor Capability," Family Business Review, Sept 2003.

# • Investigation 2: Can CD/ED Growth be Accelerated?

Steven Stewart & Donna Angle "Correlates of Problem Solving Performance," ARI Research Report 93-01, October 1992.

## Investigation 1

### DOES CD IMPACT THE BOTTOM-LINE \$\$?

#### **INVESTIGATION'S CHARACTERISTICS:**

Purpose: Does Successor CD Impact Gross Sales Revenue in Family Owned Businesses?

#### **SALIENT STUDY CHARACTERISTICS:**

- Near True Experimental Design to show Cause Effect Linkages
- Included 29 Family Owned Businesses cutting across varied industries
- Was longitudinal Assessed impact of  $\Delta$  in Successor Predecessor CD on Gross Sales \$\$ over 3 Years
- Factored out competing alternative explanations for findings

# Description of Sample

# Relationship of Successor – Predecessor CD Level to Revenue Production in Family Owned Businesses

Sample Size = 29 Companies

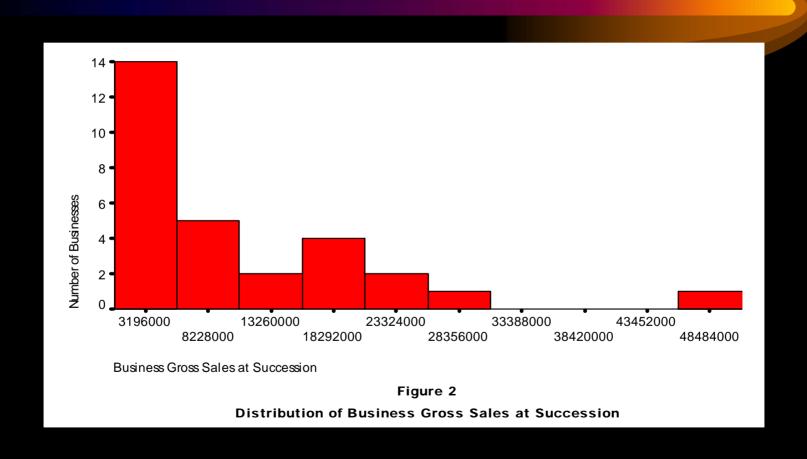
### Gross Sales Dollars at Time of Succession

| Mean    | \$10,660,441 |
|---------|--------------|
| Minimum | \$681,625    |
| Median  | \$5,860,000  |
| Maximum | \$50,792,361 |

## Successors & Predecessor Age at Time of Succession

| Variable             | Mean  | Standard<br>Deviation | Minimum | Maximum | N  |
|----------------------|-------|-----------------------|---------|---------|----|
| Successor's<br>Age   | 34.79 | 4.91                  | 27      | 46      | 29 |
| Predecessor's<br>Age | 63.93 | 5.78                  | 52      | 76      | 29 |
| Difference           | 29.14 | 5.58                  | 19      | 41      | 29 |

## Gross Sales @ Succession in \$\$

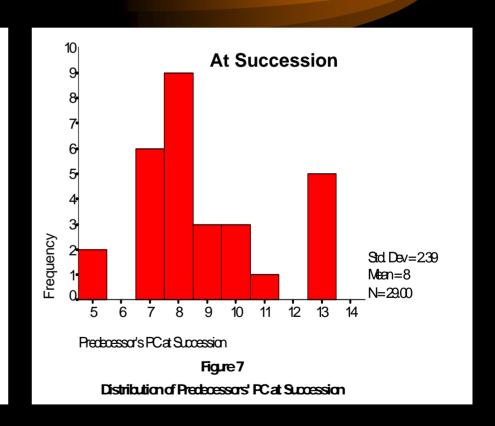


# Successor – Predecessor CD Level @Time of Succession

#### **CD Level of Successor**

#### 10 At Succession Frequency 3rd Dev=1.80 Men=76N=290060 7.0 80 90 100 11.0 120 50 Successor's PCat Succession Figure 6 Distribution of Successors' PC at Succession

#### CD Level of Predecessor

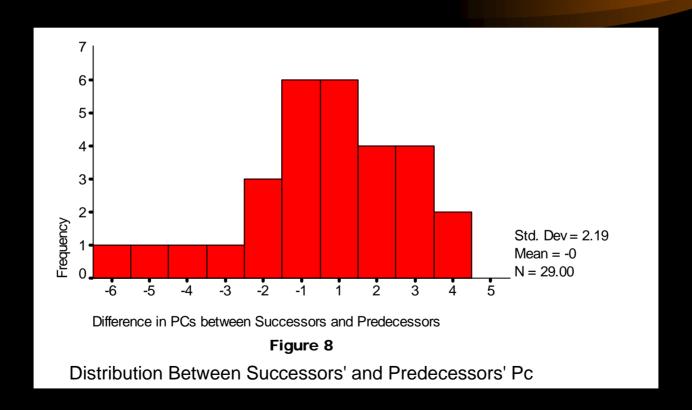


# Hypothesis Investigated - Tested

HYPOTHESIS: If Successor CD > Predecessor CD, Gross Sales \$\$ will grow.

If Successor CD < Predecessor CD, Gross Sales \$\$ will fall.

If Successor CD = Predecessor CD, Gross Sales \$\$ = 0, same.



## Investigation 1's Outcome

Conclusion: CD significantly influences business growth, over and above the effects of possible competing explanations.

Therefore, If Successor CD > Predecessor's, GS \$\$Grows!

# Investigation 2

#### CAN CD & ED GROWTH BE ACCELERATED?

#### **'EXPLORATORY' INVESTIGATION:**

Purpose: Does a Structured Intervention Significantly Impact Unstructured Problem Solving Performance?

#### **SALIENT STUDY CHARACTERISTICS:**

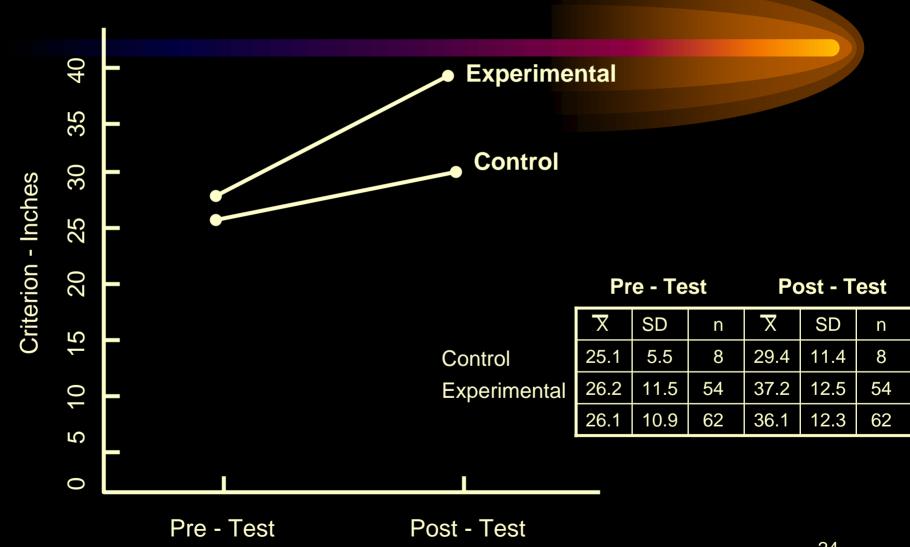
- Pre-Test Post- Test, Experimental Control Design
- Control Group's 'Treatment' = Conventional Intervention
- Experimental Group's Intervention designed to impact CD & ED growth



## Salient 'Treatment' – Intervention Characteristics

- Volatile, Complex, Uncertain, & Ambiguous Environment
- Develop Solutions for Series of Unstructured Problems 'No Answers'
- Problems Increasingly Difficult
- Action Oriented Learn by Doing: Do Debrief Do
- Safety Net Couldn't Fail, if 'Tried' to Perform > Risk Taking
- Solutions were Tested Score based on MEASURABLE Test 'Proof of Concept'
- <u>Problem</u> Design the *highest free standing structure* you can with 1 5 X 8 Index Card, using a ruler and scissors only, and 3" of scotch tape

# Significant Findings



### Statistical Results

# Post-Test Experimental & Control Group Comparison Controlled for Pre-Test Performance – Analysis of Covariance Summary

Source of Variation

**Pre-Test** 

**Experimental/Control** 

Pre-Test X

**Experimental/Control** 

**Error** 

| SS      | <u>df</u> | <u>MS</u> | <u>F</u>    | <u>p</u> |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| 66.0    | 1         | 66.0      | .57         | .45      |
| 344.73  | 1         | 344.73    | <u>2.99</u> | .09      |
| 534.41  | 1         | 534.41    | 4.64        | .04      |
| 6682.29 | 58        | 115.21    |             |          |

# Investigation 2's Major Findings

- Intervention has Significant Effect on Unstructured Problem Solving Performance
- Intervention, Inferentially, seems to impact dimensions 'Driving' Performance, CD & ED
- Intervention's True, Full Impact NOT Assessed
- True Impact is Much Higher Whole Person Effect

### What We Have Shown?

- Both Competences and Capabilities should be taken into account when Valuating Human Capital
- CD and ED enablers are <u>correlated</u> (0.6), and so are Capability and use of Competences
- Human Capital Valued on Competences alone ignores the level at which they are used
- CD & ED are positively related to Bottom Line outcomes
- It appears that CD and ED workforce levels can be accelerated through Intervention

# LASKE & ASSOCIATES LLC & Center for Executive & Organizational Growth

Specialists in Capability Assessment

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What gets measured, gets managed!