“What is your Strategic Management Maturity?”

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Presenter

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• 47 years experience in business structuring, strategy formulation and implementation, change management, and the design and execution of innovative operational business models and solutions in the private, public, government and nonprofit sectors through first-line and executive level management positions
• Business Experiences:
  • Senior Vice President of Administration and instructor at the Milwaukee School of Engineering – University
  • Manager and Systems Engineer in marketing, hardware, software, product development, management, consulting, education, AI/expert systems and publishing with the IBM Corporation, Milwaukee, WI and San Jose, CA
  • Member of inaugural executive-in-residence team for technology start-ups at the Plug and Play Technology Incubator in Sunnyvale, CA
  • Currently - Officer/consultant/instructor with the Strategy Management Group and Balanced Scorecard Institute on 70 client consulting, internal training and advisor engagements to date
  • Bachelor - Industrial Management; MBA – Technology Management; Doctoral candidate
Do Any of These Scenarios Sound Familiar?

- As you kick off your strategic planning effort are you unsure how far behind the curve of strategy planning and development your organization is - where do you stand compared to best practice organizations? Are you addressing all the elements of strategic management adequately to give the strategic plan a chance of success?

- Do you sense that the current strategic planning efforts are not fully supported at all levels of the organization?

- Is there a disconnect between how your leadership team would grade your strategic management maturity relative to that of executives, managers, supervisors, team leaders and shop floor/field personnel?

Learning Topics

- The various dimensions of Strategic Management Maturity Model™ (SMMM) and understand why they are important

- How to conduct an assessment of those dimensions in order to determine your organizations strategic management maturity

- How you can use the assessment information results to correct gaps in your dimensions and levels of strategic management maturity through field use of Courses of Action which led us to create Strategic Management Maturity Model™ 2.0
Maturity Level 1: Ad Hoc and Static

- Currently do not do any strategic planning or management in a formal sense
- Tend to plan only on the tactical or operational level in an ad hoc and uncontrolled manner
- Strategically planning normally by senior management behind closed doors
- Leaders spend a majority of their time addressing operational issues
- “Fire fighting” is the norm
- Never seem to ever find time to address long-term strategy
Maturity Level 2: Reactive

- Some elements of effective planning and strategic performance management are being applied
- Erratically, inconsistently and often with poor results
- Planning discipline is unlikely to be rigorous, and only happens in reaction to events or to temporarily please an individual leader
- These organizations might measure performance or even use it to punish underperformers
- Often these activities are done by individuals to meet a routine policy need and are not taken seriously

Maturity Level 3: Structure and Proactive

- Formal structures and processes in place to comprehensively and proactively engage in strategic planning and management
- These activities occur on a fairly regular basis and are subject to some degree of improvement over time
- Measurements are somewhat aligned with strategy
- Employee accountability is taken seriously
Maturity Level 4: Managed and Focused

- Strategy drives focus and decision making for the organization
- Organization-wide standards and methods are broadly implemented for strategy management
- Leaders formally engage employees in the process
- A measurement and accountability work culture help drive strategic success for the organization

Maturity Level 5: Continuous Improvement

- Strategic planning and management excellence are embedded within the culture of the organization and are continuously improved in a formal sense
- First the organization analyzes how it is performing towards its strategic goals
- Second the organization then studies how effective the strategic planning and management processes are and adapts as necessary
- Excellence in strategic management drives the organization’s competitive edge or performance success
Dimension: Leadership

- Sets a clear and consistent vision or “picture of the future” of the organization
- Pro-active in preparing the organization for the future
- Visible and engaged
- “Walk-the-Talk” in exemplifying the values, ethics and policies
- Trusts and encourages employees to contribute their ideas and grow in their careers
- “Walks Around” and works alongside staff to encourage teamwork

Course of Action: Leadership

Start with this question: “Who are the leaders when it comes to building and executing strategy?”

Why Should Anyone Be Led by You?

“Everyone agrees that leaders need vision, energy, authority, and strategic direction. That goes without saying. But we've discovered that inspirational leaders also share four unexpected qualities:

- They selectively show their weaknesses. By exposing some vulnerability, they reveal their approachability and humanity.
- They rely heavily on intuition to gauge the appropriate timing and course of their actions. Their ability to collect and interpret soft data helps them know just when and how to act.
- They manage employees with something we call tough empathy. Inspirational leaders empathize passionately—and realistically—with people, and they care intensely about the work employees do.
- They reveal their differences. They capitalize on what's unique about themselves.

You may find yourself in a top position without these qualities, but few people will want to be led by you.

Dimension: Culture and Values

- Leaders' and employees' shared understanding and agreement with the values
- What distinguishes maturity is the degree to which those values are communicated, understood, and practiced – by the leader as well as by all employees
- Evidences of mature workforce culture and values include:
  - Applications of change management principles and practices by the leadership
  - Degree of ownership that employees feel for the vision and values of the organization
  - Degree of participation in shaping the organization's culture and ways of working
  - Level of trust, transparency and freedom to communicate with candor, as opposed to a culture of fear and denial
  - Degree of flexibility and willingness to change to align to new strategic priorities
  - Level of awareness and consistency of adherence to stated values and policies

Course of Action: Culture and Values

- Employee Satisfaction Survey/Focus Groups
- Culture Assessment
- Strategy Rollout Production Planning
- Strategy Communications Programs
- Values Development Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eight Errors that Contribute to Failed Change Initiatives</th>
<th>Eight-step Process to Implement Change</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Allowing too much complacency”</td>
<td>“Establishing a sense of urgency”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Failing to create a sufficiently powerful guiding coalition”</td>
<td>“Creating the guiding coalition”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Understanding the power of vision”</td>
<td>“Developing a vision and strategy”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Under communicating the vision by a factor of 10 or 100 or even 1,000?”</td>
<td>“Communicating the change vision”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Permitting obstacles to block the new vision”</td>
<td>“Empowering employees for broad-based action”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Failing to create short-term wins”</td>
<td>“Generating short-term wins”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Declaring victory too soon”</td>
<td>“Consolidating gains and producing more change”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Neglecting to anchor change firmly in the corporate culture”</td>
<td>“Anchorign new approaches in the culture”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

But the corporate leaders we have interviewed—current and former CEOs who have successfully led major transformations—say that culture isn't something you “fix.” Rather, in their experience, cultural change is what you get after you’ve put new processes or structures in place to tackle tough business challenges like reworking an outdated strategy or business model. The culture evolves as you do that important work.” (Harvard Business Review – April 2016)
Strategic thinking involves several traits:
• Ability to use consistent definitions of planning terms and to understand their distinctions
• Awareness of the distinctions between project planning and strategic planning
• Ability to discuss and describe items in plans at the appropriate “strategic altitude”
• Awareness of the dynamic system effects in organizations, such as delays and feedback
• Openness to new ideas and encouragement of creativity and innovation
• Openness of the planning process to a team of employees of various ranks and functions
• Ability to write and speak with clarity and simplicity evidenced by the degree of strategic thinking found in strategic planning documents
• Degree to which alternative strategies and scenarios are considered
• Linkage of strategic planning to budgeting

Possible Alternative Strategies

Strategic Management Maturity Model™ Assessment (by Organization Structure)
Dimension: Alignment

- Strategic alignment...
- Degree to which the organization's people and resources are focused on the strategy
- Opposite of alignment is “chaos”
- Alignment measures:
  - People at all levels are motivated by a common vision and strategy
  - People understand that supporting the strategy is their job
  - People are self-motivated, not merely by compliance to rules

Course of Action: Alignment

Tier 1: Organization-wide

Tier 2:
- Departments
- Business Units
- Support Units

Tier 3: Teams and Individuals

Tier 1 Scorecard:
Strategy defined in a top-level strategy map and scorecard

Tier 2 Scorecards:
Aligned strategy defined in business and support unit scorecards

Tier 3 Scorecard:
Aligned personal objectives defined by job descriptions and work assignments
• Key Performance Indicators (KPI) are aligned to the strategic plan and carry these features:
  – Are not just “KPI's” for operations
  – Focus on outcomes and results, not just money spent, tasks accomplished, or outputs delivered
  – Use appropriate ratios, sample sizes and other features in order to be more meaningful
  – Are measured and reported frequently enough to drive decision making
  – Measure “Team” and “Organization” performance, not only individual performance
  – Structured as a balanced set of KPIs that cover a range of different dimensions including not only financial data but also customer satisfaction, internal process performance and capacities of the organization
Dimension: Performance Management

- Performance management is the degree to which performance metrics are used in decision making.
- Degree to which leaders and managers feel they have the information they need to make decisions defines the level of performance management. Feature/functions to look for are, but not limited to:
  - Recognition of the organization as a dynamic system
  - Use of feedback loops — so managers get to see the results of their decisions
  - Managers are able to change things based on timely reporting
  - Strategic performance measures are available to test the strategy
  - Leaders have placed the entire organization into a “learning loop” so that they can validate their vision
  - Organization is learning what works to satisfy customers and improve the organization

Course of Action: Performance Management

Understand your impact
Help everyone in your organization understand their role in your strategy and success.

- Understand strategic roles and contribution
  - Spider Impact communicates your strategy to everyone in your organization. Everyone must be able to see how their role contributes to these big picture goals.

Visualize dependencies to ensure you meet your goals
Achieving your objectives may involve coordinating many people and tasks. If one person doesn’t complete a task, performance is at risk. With Spider Impact, you can view initiative dependencies across objectives, departments, and teams, and take action to get back on track.

Create accountability
Let your team know how they’ll contribute to meeting performance objectives.

- Assign ownership
  - When Spider Impact is rolled out across your entire team, departments, or organizations, you can use it to assign ownership and accountability to each team member.

- Never miss a chance to improve performance
  - Choose to be alerted when any KPI turns red. Or, set alerts for specific items, like when a KPI falls below a certain value.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KPI</th>
<th>IMP</th>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>FEB</th>
<th>JUL</th>
<th>AUG</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rank Revenue</td>
<td>$19.5K</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$275K</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$434K</td>
<td>$436K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Profit</td>
<td>$366K</td>
<td>$368K</td>
<td>$370K</td>
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Process improvement includes an assessment of:
- Organization's knowledge about its strategically important work processes
- How well these processes are being improved updated and documented
- How efficiently these processes perform compared to industry benchmarks
- Skills, practices and technologies used to improve process quality and efficiency
- Knowledge of core competencies and capacities of the organization and how well they are employed in running the processes
- Level of employee awareness of customers and their expectations
- Existence of contingency plans for future risks, such as disasters, funding shortages, and leadership succession

SEVEN TENETS OF PROCESS MANAGEMENT

Reference: https://www.apqc.org/search?keys=seven+tenets
Dimension: Sustainability of Strategic Management

- Sustainability of the strategic management of the organization is defined by:
  - How well the organization is maintaining its focus on its strategic vision, plans and initiatives
  - People, systems, and communication activities are in place to maintain the momentum of desired change
  - A sense of urgency in the staff and workforce
  - Reward and recognition systems that support efforts to motivate employees to do the right things
  - Presence of “champions” to keep the workforce informed about the strategic priorities and levels of performance that are desired
  - Presence of an “Office of Strategic Management” to deploy the strategy and track performance
  - Degree to which strategic management has been institutionalized, so that “strategy is everyone’s job”

Course of Action: Sustainability of Strategic Management

**Strategy Execution**: The systematic implementation of strategy through employee activities and processes that are aligned with the organization’s mission and vision.
Test Drive a Strategic Management Maturity Model™ Assessment

Go to this link: https://balancedscorecard.org/strategic-management-maturity-model-assessment/
- Press: Begin the Assessment
- Enter registration information
- Press: Begin the Assessment
- Complete the assessment (typically 5-10 minutes to complete)
- Your results will be emailed to you

Once you have your SMMM Results, contact me to confirm a date/time for a conference call for a review and analysis of your results:
- San Jose, California Office: +1 408 826-4417
- Email: jdecarlo@strategymanage.com

Approaches to Conducting Strategic Management Maturity Assessments

**Approach 1**
Conduct a baseline assessment followed by an annual assessment from the following organization populations:
- Executive and Managers

**Approach 2**
Conduct a baseline assessment followed by an annual assessment from the following organizations segmented populations:
- Executive Suite
- C-Suite (Lines of Business)
- Managers
- Supervisors
- Team Leaders
- Shop Floor/Field Personnel

**Approach 3**
Conduct a baseline assessment followed by an annual assessment from the organizations segmented populations in Approach 2 by contacting the Balanced Scorecard Institute (BSI). The BSI conducts this type of SMMM project work, routinely, which includes the data collection, data analysis and final report with insights from our collective experiences across worldwide businesses, governments and non-profit organizations.
Thank You!

Questions or further information contact:
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