

FACILITATION GUIDELINES & TECHNIQUES

Being an effective coach is the primary duty of any Manager or Supervisor. The coaching process is all about building a "Communications Link" between management and employee.

Instructions:

1. Provide a copy of the Employee portion of the text report to the employee. The Coach portion includes a job suitability rating. This portion of the report is Confidential and should not be shared with the employee.
2. Provide the appropriate Success Discovery Process (SDP) workbook
3. Ask the employee underline or highlight any statement in their copy of the report they strongly disagree with. Ask they fill out the "Success Discovery Process" Workbook and complete an Action Plan for improvement" focusing on the three most important areas to be improved. These items must be completed before the facilitation discussion.
4. Create a discussion agenda by underlining any statement on the review that, in your opinion is true, but impacts negatively on the employees' performance. Use this information along with notes from the employees' personnel file and job description to fill out your version of the "Action Plan" to be used as your discussion agenda. Also highlight positive statements that are true, use these to deliver praise to the employee. Balance development comments with praise commentary.
5. Create an unhurried setting, allow at least one hour for the facilitation process; serve a beverage, keep it casual. Remember your goal is to establish a dialog and assist the employee in creating their own development program. Allow the employee to do more than half of the talking. Ask their opinion of the Review; ask them to discuss any statement in the report with which they strongly disagree. Ask open ended questions. Ask for suggestions. Listen! Ask if you can take notes.
6. Your goal is to obtain improved performance through interactive dialog. It cannot be achieved if the employee has set up defensive barriers. Use positive comments to maintain interest. As they discuss statements from the report in dispute, it is acceptable to add your comments. Remember to agree or disagree with the REPORT not the employee. Do not be general, give specific examples. Stick to facts.
If the employee disagrees with a statement in the report and you concur say "In this instance I disagree with the report." If the employee disagrees with a statement in the report and it is true, say "In this instance I agree with the report and let me give you an example."
7. Don't allow complaints about the company, other employees, or other departments to mask the real purpose of this discussion; which is, to improve the performance of the employee being reviewed. Salary, benefits, and money issues are not and should never be part of the performance review and facilitation process. Compensation levels should increase only when the employee increases their value to the organization.
8. Combine your "Action Plan for Improvement" with theirs. Decide on mutually agreed improvement goals and write up a new "Action Plan" focusing on no more than 3 areas for improvement. Get input from the employee as to the best way to accomplish goals, and the time-frames involved.
9. Continue the momentum. Review the performance goals, weekly if necessary, to make certain focus is being maintained. When the first three areas for improvement are corrected; create a new action plan to address other issues. Focus and follow-up!

