Continuous Improvement Toolkit

Force Field Analysis



Managing Deciding & Selecting **Planning & Project Management*** Pros and Cons PDPC Risk Importance-Urgency Mapping **RACI** Matrix Stakeholder Analysis **Break-even** Analysis **RAID** Logs FMEA Cost Benefit Analysis PEST PERT/CPM Activity Diagram Force Field Analysis Fault Tree Analysis SWOT **Pugh Matrix Project Charter** Roadmaps Voting Gantt Chart **Decision** Tree Risk Assessment* TPN Analysis PDCA **Control Planning** Matrix Diagram Gap Analysis OFD Traffic Light Assessment Kaizen **Prioritization Matrix** Hoshin Kanri Kano Analysis How-How Diagram **KPIs** Lean Measures Paired Comparison Tree Diagram** Critical-to Tree Standard work **Identifying &** Capability Indices OEE Cause and Effect Matrix Pareto Analysis Simulation TPM Implementing RTY MSA Descriptive Statistics Confidence Intervals Understanding Mistake Proofing Solutions*** Cost of Quality **Cause & Effect** Probability **Distributions** ANOVA Pull Systems JIT Ergonomics Design of Experiments Work Balancing **Reliability Analysis** Graphical Analysis Hypothesis Testing Automation Regression Bottleneck Analysis Visual Management Scatter Plot Correlation Understanding **Run Charts** Multi-vari Charts Flow Performance 5 Whys Chi-Square Test 5S **Control Charts** Value Analysis **Relationship Mapping*** Benchmarking Fishbone Diagram SMED Waste Analysis Sampling TRIZ*** Focus groups Brainstorming **Process Redesign** Time Value Map Analogy Interviews SCAMPER*** IDEF0 Value Stream Mapping Nominal Group Technique Mind Mapping* SIPOC Photography **Check Sheets Observations** Affinity Diagram Attribute Analysis Flow Process Chart Process Mapping **Ouestionnaires** Visioning Flowcharting Service Blueprints Lateral Thinking Data Critical Incident Technique Collection **Designing & Analyzing Processes** Creating Ideas**

- □ A decision making technique that can be used to analyze the pros and cons of a decision.
- □ It looks at forces that are driving or blocking movement toward a goal.
- □ Better decisions are made by weighing up the pros and cons.
- □ The greatest overall force wins!
- **It is widely used in the fields of:**
 - Organizational development
 - Social sciences
 - Process management
 - Change management.



When to Use It?

- When decision making is hindered by a number of significant points for and against a decision.
- □ To decide whether to go ahead with a change or not.
 - It helps analyzing the opposing forces.
 - The main goals is to strengthen the forces supporting the change and managing those against it.
- □ To identify risks to a planned action.
- To help communicate the reasoning behind the taken decision.



How to Construct a Force Field Diagram:

- Gather the team and describe the intention for decision making.
- □ Write the decision in a box in the top middle of a paper or white board.
- Draw a line down the middle of the page.
- □ List the helping forces in a column on the left side of the page.
- □ List the hindering forces in a column on the right side of the page.
- Allocate a score to each of the forces using a numerical scale (e.g. 1: extremely weak and 5: extremely strong).
- Add up the scores of both columns to find out which of them wins.



Questions to Help Identify the Forces Involved:

- □ What are the benefits?
- □ What are the costs?
- □ What must we do to make it work?
- □ How could it fail?
- □ What is the best or worst thing that could happen?
- □ How easy or difficult will it be to implement?
- □ How long it will take?
- □ What would happen if the decision was not made?



Tips:

- It's important to identify as many of the factors that will influence the change as you can.
- □ Each argument or force could be shown on an arrow.
- □ The length of each arrow indicates the weight of that force.
- □ The total score on one side is then formed by the combination of both the number and weight of forces.
- Where appropriate, involve other people such as experts.
- Care should be taken for factors relating to health and safety before using this technique.



Example - Employing an Internal Over an External Consultant?



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Actions should be taken where forces are overwhelming