CAP799: CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS REPORT

Erica Patterson

Faculty Advisor:

Course Title

May 8, 2017

**Project Title:*How to run a project more effectively and efficiently using lean management?***

**Option 1: Project relating to Problem Solving in an Existing Organization**

**What are some of the key areas of internal organizational functioning that are most relevant to my project? How do I define each of these areas and why have I chosen them?**

The main concept of the project is the use of lean management in the efficient and the effectiverunning of a project. The key areas of internal organization functioning that are most relevant to this project are production, marketing and human resource.

The production function entails the transformation of raw materials into finished products. The production function ensures quality control so that the production standards are met. Application of the lean management in the production function offers great benefits in the efficient and effective running of a project. Lean management leads to quality performance. This is due to the fact that there are fewer defects and rework rates. There is the elimination of waste. Such wastes include; inventory, over processing, transportation, unnecessary motion and over production. Besides, with lean management, during the production process, there are fewer machine as well as process breakdowns. There are also higher efficiencies. This is due to the more output per hour. Furthermore, with lean management, there is continuous improvement in the production process (Santos, Wysk & Torres, 2014).

On the other hand, the marketing function is also relevant to the project. The market function is charged with the responsibility of enhancing awarenessof the products of the organization. The marketing function is also responsible for market research so as to identify the customer’s needs. Usually, with lean management, it helps the marketing function in the maximization of customer value while ensuring that waste is minimized. There is the creation of more value for customers when the organization is utilizing few resources. This way, a project runs efficiently and effectively (Goetsch & Davis, 2014).

Finally, the human resource function is charged with the responsibility of the recruitment of staff and their training. It is notable that it is a major challenge for organizations to enhance organizational efficiency as well as continuous improvement. Nonetheless, for the HR department, it is a double challenge. With lean management however, it ensures that there is the provision of relevant training for employees as well as ensuring that employees are couched on the improvement of projects. Lean management enhances the redesign of management of course planning for the purpose of ensuring that employees can better respond to customer’s new needs. Besides, there is the efficient utilization of the recruitment and training resources (Sparrow & Otaye-Ebede, 2014).

**What strategy am I going to use for my root cause analysis?**

Particularly, root cause analysis is a technique utilized in analyzing why a problem occurred. Since the project is on problem solving in an organization, there is the need to determine the root cause analysis of the problem. The strategy to be used is to ascertain what is happening and the specific symptoms. This way, one will understand the root cause of the problem.

**What kinds of data do I need to collect and from whom? (I.e., use of interviews, customer metrics, other business metrics, organizational documentation, focus groups etc.)**

Data collection is a critical part of a research project. Qualitative data will be collected so as to build awareness of the problem. This will offer an analysis, assessment, planning and the implementation of the project. Qualitative data will be collected from the utilization of interviews and organizational documentation. Interviews yield high response rates and allow the clarification of ambiguousanswers. On the other hand, organizational documentation is essential in collecting information for the purpose of the identification of any gapsthat led to the problem in the existing organization (Bazeley, 2013).

**What kinds of data analysis techniques will be applied? (e.g., statistics, financial analysis, qualitative analysis etc.)**

After data collection through the use of interviews and organizational documentation, there is the need to perform data analysis. Information need to be organization so that a conclusion is made. It allows the solving of the problem for the existing organization. Since it is qualitative data, qualitative data analysis will be utilized. Qualitative data analysiswill help in the provision of an explanation, the comprehension and the interpretation of the situation in the organization. This way, there will be the comprehension of the concepts that have resulted in the underlying problem (Bazeley, 2013).

References

Bazeley, P. (2013). *Qualitative data analysis: Practical strategies*. Sage.

Goetsch, D. L., & Davis, S. B. (2014). *Quality management for organizational excellence*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: pearson.

Santos, J., Wysk, R. A., & Torres, J. M. (2014). *Improving production with lean thinking*. John Wiley & Sons.

Sparrow, P., & Otaye-Ebede, L. (2014). Lean management and HR function capability: the role of HR architecture and the location of intellectual capital. *The International Journal of Human Resource Management*, *25*(21), 2892-2910.