

Strategy:
Systems & Culture - How much of each?

Achieving Organizational High Performance -

- ☑ Pipeline
- ✓ Mining
- ☑ Refinery
- ☑ Turnaround
- ☑ Maintenance





Strategy: Systems and Culture - How much of each?

Over the past 20 years there has been increased focus on management systems and cultural strategies for organizational improvements and strategies have evolved that include focusing on management systems, developing leadership, behavior based safety and many other techniques. Generally, there are two groupings: 1) Systems and 2) Culture.

Systems represent the processes, procedures, forms and mechanisms.

Systems / Procedures are only as effective as the workforce behaviors that use them

Culture represents the people and behavioral elements.

Many organizations focus their efforts on systems only to wonder why performance is not improving and some even blame international standards as being in effective. Others implement behavioral approaches only to realize their operations are inconsistent, unreliable and are not able to handle changes in personnel and organizational changes very well. Depending solely on systems or solely on culture always ends in disappointment, frustration and a bad taste. Organizations needs to realize each has strengths, weakness and opportunity.

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Strengths

- Involvement
 - Participation Creativity
- **Energy and Passion**

Weakness

- Too much emphasis leaves knowledge and power with a worker
- People are human and make mistakes

Opportunity

- Have the workforce hearts Will get involved
- Specific behaviors are aligned with producing at high performance

- Know who does what when and how
- Clear set of processes
- Consistent application
- Reproducible
- Easily verifiable
- Can be burdensome
- Only as effective as the behavior of the workforce using the system

Systems

- Consistent reliable process
- Can minimize and absorb turnover
- Can communicate it to stakeholders
- Provide assurance checks and balances in place

Finding the right combination of Systems and Culture can provide the right combination Focus on the strengths, minimize the weakness and realize the opportunity

Systems & Procedures

- Management System
- **Procedures**
- Work instruction



Culture & Behaviour

- Leadership
- Coaching
- Mentoring
- Behavior based safety

We recommend all organization perform a strategy review annually or as material changes in performance, organizational changes and market changes.

What is the best strategy for a system and what is the best strategy for a culture? What is the right combination of both for our specific organization?



Safety Science is a small, high-caliber consulting company with offices in Toronto, Canada and Houston, Texas. We are specialists in services for corporate boards, corporate groups, operations, facilities and field operations.

The figure below provides some insight into the balance of systems strategy and culture strategy.

Systems and Culture

System Elements
Formalized

Regimented

Moderate
Control, Varying
Reliability

Lack of control,
Not Reliable

Empowered
Not Reliable

Individuals Communication Involvement Team

Culture Strategy

The following figures provides some insight into questions that provide some direction as to the level of systems and culture your organization requires.

'The right combination'

Systems



Culture

- · Are we over-burdened by forms, paper-work?
- Do we learn from our system or do we just operate it?
- Do we identify risks and focus on controls and their effectiveness?
- Do we use analysis, trending, near miss as analysis tools?
- Is our system verifiable to assure performance?
- Are we getting the right data to know if our expectations are being met?
- If a person left the organization would there be a problem finding data and controlling risks?
- Do we operate consistently?
- Are we or parts of our business operating on luck?

- Do we rely too much on people to make individual judgement?
- Do we expect specific behavior, communicate and monitor?
- Do we have consistent behaviors?
- How do we know what the behaviors are in the field?
- Do we know if infractions are occurring?
- Are our workers taking shortcuts?
- Do we have open communication?
- Are our workers participating?
- Are the attitudes of our workforce adequate?
- Do our Supervisors coach the workforce?
- Are our Supervisors aligned with our vision?

Please contact us for more information.



Professional Services

In pursuit of our clients achievement of Operational Excellence

Corporate and Board Consulting

- Organizational Strategy and Vision
- Governance Standards
- Corporate Reporting and Processes
- Organizational Structure and Accountability Frameworks
- **Culture Strategy**
- Enterprise level risk assessment
- **Executive** workshops
- Internal controls and self-assessments

Organizational Leadership

- Culture and climate strategies
- Leadership frameworks
- Behavior inventories
- Coaching for Success

Performance

- Performance Analysis
- Fatality Investigations and Organizational Assessments
- Forensic analysis
- EHS metrics tracking, design and reliability
- Incident Learning / Lessons Learned

Other Services

- Contractor management programs
- Field assessments
- Construction Project Safety Programs

Systems

- International EHS standards consulting (14001, 18001, ANSI, ILO, CSA)
- Integrated systems QHSE
- Hazard, Risk and Control focused approaches
- Compliance assurance management systems
- EHS Integration with Enterprise Risk Management functions

Assurance, Audits & Assessments

- EHS Compliance Audits federal and all Canadian provincial requirements
- Management System Assessments
- Assessment Program design and development
- Mining Association of Canada TSM performance indicators

Programs

- Fatigue and Shift-work Programs
- Emergency, Crisis and Disaster Preparedness and Response Management Systems (Plans)
- Hazard Program Design and Critical
- Crisis / Disaster / Emergency preparedness assessment

Training and Workshops

- Advanced Safety System Assessor
- Governance and Assurance System Design
- Advanced Incident Causation Models Incident Analysis
- Risk and Control Techniques
- **EHS** Performance Improvement
- **Advanced Contractor Management**

Other Safety Science Articles:

- ☑ Keeping the Workforce Focused
- ✓ Supervisory Leadership **Behaviors**
- ☑ Acting on Near Miss
- ☑ Managing Infractions
- Job Planning and Task Planning
 - **Effective Incident Causation** & Trending - A better approach



Mining





Construction







Refinery

Industrial

Governance & Assurance **Board of Director** Reporting **Audits & Assessments Contractor Safety Programs**

Mining Utility **Heavy Construction** Pipeline Construction Manufacturing Refinery