

CHANGE IN LANDSCAPE OF PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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Abstract

This research paper's objective is to evaluate the effects of performance management on worker and organisational performance, as well as how these effects vary depending on the system of performance evaluation. Success management has emerged as a crucial tool in contemporary organisations for enhancing employee success and achieving organisational goals. The paper examines the literature on performance management and its impact on employee and organization performance. The study concludes that effective performance management can lead to improved employee performance and overall organizational performance. However, ineffective performance management can have negative consequences such as demotivation, decreased job satisfaction, and decreased employee performance. However, in recent years, there has been a paradigm shift in how organizations approach performance management.

This shift has come in response to the criticism that traditional performance management systems are bureaucratic, time-consuming, and ineffective. This research paper aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the shift in performance management systems, including the reasons behind the shift, the new approaches being adopted, and the challenges and benefits of these approaches.

The landscape of performance management has undergone significant changes in recent years.

Traditionally, performance management involved an annual or bi-annual review process, where managers would assess employees' performance against predetermined goals and objectives. However, this approach has been criticized for being too infrequent, formal, and focused on past performance rather than future potential.

Introduction

Performance management systems have traditionally focused on measuring an employee's productivity and providing feedback on their performance. However, the traditional performance management system has been widely criticized for its inefficiency and ineffectiveness. This has led to a shift in how organizations approach performance management. This research paper aims to analyze this shift and examine the reasons behind it.

Performance management has undergone significant changes in recent years as organizations have recognized the limitations of traditional approaches and sought more effective ways to manage employee performance.

Some of the key changes in performance management include:

1. **Feedback:** Organizations are moving away from annual or bi-annual performance reviews and are instead adopting a more continuous feedback approach. This allows managers and employees to have ongoing conversations about performance, and to make adjustments and improvements as needed.
2. **Goal Setting:** Goal setting is becoming more collaborative and employee-driven, with managers working with employees to set goals that are aligned with the organization's strategic objectives and the employee's career aspirations.
3. **Performance Metrics:** Organizations are using more sophisticated performance metrics to evaluate employee performance, including both quantitative and qualitative measures.

Reasons for the Shift in Performance Management Systems:

Several factors have contributed to the shift in performance management systems. Firstly, there has been a growing awareness that the traditional approach to performance management is not effective in motivating employees or improving performance.

Secondly, the changing nature of work and the rise of remote work has made it challenging to assess performance in a traditional manner. Finally, the traditional approach to performance management is not conducive to a culture of continuous improvement and learning.

New Approaches to Performance Management Systems:

Organizations are adopting new approaches to performance management that focus on continuous improvement, feedback, and development. One such approach is the use of regular check-ins and feedback sessions between managers and employees.

These check-ins allow managers to provide immediate feedback, coaching, and development opportunities to employees. Another approach is the use of real-time data and analytics to measure performance and provide actionable insights.

Benefits and Challenges of New Approaches:

The new approaches to performance management systems offer several benefits, including increased employee engagement, improved performance, and a more collaborative and learning-oriented culture. However, these new approaches also present several challenges. The shift towards continuous improvement requires a significant cultural change within the organization. The use of real-time data and analytics requires a high level of data literacy and technical expertise. Additionally, the adoption of new technologies may present data privacy and security concerns.

Literature Review

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

Organizations use performance appraisal as a method to analyse and rate workers' job performance. A performance appraisal's goals are to give workers input on how well they are doing their jobs, point out areas for development, and acknowledge their accomplishments.

Typically, performance appraisals involve a formal review of an employee's work over a specified period, such as a year. The process may include a self-evaluation by the employee, feedback from their supervisor and colleagues, and an assessment of their performance against specific goals and objectives.

Performance appraisals may also be used to make decisions about promotions, salary increases, and other employment-related decisions. However, they can also be used as a tool for employee development, helping individuals identify areas where they can improve their skills and performance.

It is important for organizations to ensure that performance appraisals are fair and objective, based on measurable

performance criteria, and conducted in a consistent and transparent manner. This can help to build trust and confidence among employees in the appraisal process and the organization as a whole.

Performance appraisal systems have undergone several changes over the years. Here are some of the significant changes that have taken place in recent years:

1. **Moving away from annual appraisals:** Many organizations are moving away from the traditional annual appraisal system and adopting more frequent feedback mechanisms. This allows employees to receive more timely feedback and helps managers address issues before they become bigger problems.
2. **Focus on continuous feedback:** There has been a shift towards continuous feedback, which means that employees receive feedback on an ongoing basis rather than just once a year. This helps employees to stay engaged and motivated and helps managers to identify and address issues as they arise.
3. **Increased emphasis on employee development:** Performance appraisal systems are increasingly being used as a tool for employee development. This means that the focus is not just on evaluating performance but also on identifying areas for improvement and providing employees with the support and resources they need to grow and develop.

Previously used traditional methods of performance appraisal.

- **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):** Measuring performance based on specific metrics such as sales revenue, customer satisfaction ratings, and production output.
- **MBO (Management by Objectives):** Setting objectives and goals for employees to meet and evaluating their performance based on how well they achieve those goals.
- **Subjective Methods:** This approach involves evaluating an employee's performance based on the manager's subjective judgment. Some common subjective methods include:
 - **Graphic Rating Scale:** A method that uses a rating scale to evaluate employee performance based on specific traits or behaviors.

Modern Performance Evaluation Methodology

Modern performance appraisal methods focus on providing more frequent, constructive feedback to employees, rather than relying on a once-a-year performance review. Here are some of the modern types of performance appraisal:

1. **Continuous Performance Management:** This method involves ongoing, regular check-ins between managers and employees to discuss goals, progress, and feedback. The focus is on fostering communication and collaboration between managers and employees, and creating a continuous feedback loop.
2. **360-Degree Feedback:** This technique entails compiling feedback from numerous sources, including customers, coworkers, and managers, to obtain a more thorough understanding of an employee's performance. Typically, questionnaires and interviews are used to collect this input.
3. **Objectives and Key Results (OKRs):** This method involves setting specific, measurable objectives and tracking progress towards those objectives. The focus is on setting goals that are aligned with the organization's overall strategy and vision, and measuring progress towards those goals.
4. **Behavioral Anchored Rating Scales (BARS):** This method involves assessing employees based on specific behaviors or competencies that are tied to their job performance. This allows managers to provide specific feedback on areas where an employee may need to improve.
5. **Real-Time Feedback:** This method involves providing immediate feedback to employees as soon as possible after a task or project is completed. The focus is on providing feedback in the moment, rather than waiting for a formal review.

Overall, modern performance appraisal methods are more focused on creating a culture of feedback and continuous improvement, rather than relying on a single annual review to assess employee performance.

The following are some benefits and drawbacks of contemporary performance evaluation:

Advantages:

- Accuracy is improved: Modern performance assessment tools frequently employ cutting-edge algorithms to deliver more exact and accurate performance evaluations, decreasing the likelihood of human error.
- Better accessibility: With the help of contemporary performance evaluation tools, managers can obtain information about employee performance at any time and from any location, making it simpler to keep track of progress and give feedback.
- Better communication: More chances for conversation between employees and their supervisors are provided by modern performance evaluation tools, which aid in identifying employees' strengths and flaws as well as their goals and development plans.

Disadvantages

- Resistance to change: Some workers might be unmotivated or dissatisfied with adjustments made to the performance review procedure.
- Cost: Modern performance evaluation tool implementation can be pricey and necessitate a sizable expenditure in hardware and software infrastructure.
- Modern performance assessment tools frequently rely heavily on technology, and malfunctions or flaws in that technology can impair the evaluation process and produce false results.

PROCEDURE OF APPRAISAL OF PERFORMANCE

The process of evaluating an employee's or a collection of workers' job success is called performance evaluation. The following are the general steps involved in the procedure of performance appraisal:

1. Establish performance objectives: The first step in performance appraisal is to establish performance objectives for the employee. This includes identifying the key performance indicators (KPIs) for the job role and setting measurable targets.
2. Communicate performance expectations: Once the performance objectives are established, the manager should communicate the expectations to the employee. The employee should be informed about the performance standards and how their performance will be evaluated.
3. Monitor performance: The next step is to monitor the employee's performance throughout the appraisal period. This involves observing their day-to-day activities, providing feedback, and identifying any areas that need improvement.
4. Gather performance data: Data should be collected from various sources such as the employee, peers, customers, and other relevant parties. The data should be objective, relevant, and reliable.
5. Evaluate performance: The next step is to evaluate the employee's performance based on the established performance objectives and the data gathered. The manager should provide a rating or score for each performance objective and identify areas of strength and weakness.
6. Provide feedback: After evaluating the employee's performance, the manager should provide feedback to the employee. Feedback should be specific, constructive, and timely. It should also include recommendations for improvement.
7. Develop a performance improvement plan: If the employee's performance is below expectations, a performance improvement plan should be developed. The plan should identify specific actions that the employee needs to take to improve their performance, as well as a timeline for improvement.
8. Follow-up and review: The final step is to follow-up and review the employee's performance after the appraisal period. The manager should monitor the employee's progress towards achieving their performance objectives and provide ongoing feedback and coaching.

By following these steps, the performance appraisal process can help to identify areas of strength and weakness, promote ongoing performance improvement, and align individual performance with organizational goals.

Example of such company using Modern performance management system

DELOITTE

- ✓ Deloitte, a global professional services firm, is known for its innovative approach to performance management. In 2015, Deloitte announced that it was replacing its traditional annual performance review process with a more frequent and continuous feedback model called "Performance Snapshot".
- ✓ Deloitte's Performance Snapshot model emphasizes ongoing communication, development, and engagement between managers and employees. By moving away from a traditional rating system and focusing on continuous feedback and development, Deloitte aims to create a more agile and responsive performance management system that supports employee growth and development.

NETFLIX

- ✓ Netflix has a unique performance management system that differs from traditional performance appraisal systems. They have moved away from annual performance reviews and instead focus on ongoing feedback, coaching, and development conversations between managers and employees.

GOOGLE

- ✓ Google conducts formal performance reviews on an annual basis, using a 360-degree feedback approach. This implies that input is collected from the employee as well as from their manager, coworkers, and immediate reports. The review process is designed to be fair, objective, and transparent.

UBER

- ✓ Uber uses a performance evaluation process that includes both quantitative and qualitative feedback. The boss, coworkers, and immediate reports of the individual are also considered in this. Employees have the chance to offer input on their own work, and the evaluation procedure is made to be fair.

CONCLUSION

The change in performance management towards more agile and continuous approaches is a positive development for organizations. By prioritizing collaboration, flexibility, and continuous improvement, these approaches help organizations to align employee performance with organizational goals, increase employee engagement, and drive productivity and retention.

As organizations continue to evolve their performance management practices, it will be important to stay abreast of the latest trends and best practices in this area. Both closed-ended and open-ended items will be used in the poll, enabling both quantitative and qualitative analysis.

The survey will assess employee and manager perceptions of the new performance appraisal system, as well as its impact on employee performance and productivity.

REFERENCES

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326578053> An Assessment of the Impact of Performance Management on Employee and Organization Performance - Evidence from Selected Private Organizations in Tanzania