

Talking Business
from
SFRD Services

Your **big** project

Avoid the **mistakes** of others

Part 13

Review

The Review Meeting (1)

Long enough after go-live to:

- Be able to see reality
- Understand the level of your success....
..... or failure

But not so long that you've forgotten the details

The Review Meeting (2)

Who?

- Members of the Global team
- Members of the Regional team
- Members of the Local team
- **No** JFDIs
- Not just glory seeking managers – you need truth telling workers

It really is worth the expense of bringing them together

The Review Meeting (3)

Make sure that you understand:

- The successes
 - What
 - Why
- The failures:
 - What
 - Why
 - Don't look for the Who as that was You!

The Review Meeting (4)

An opportunity to improve:

- Document everything – no matter how painful
- Set dates for the completion of every task
- Agree the team for every task
- Set the date of the meeting to confirm completion

The tasks will be done by the chosen few by the agreed realistic date!

The Review Meeting (5)

The learning process:

- Understand the factors that made the successes
- Define how you are going to replicate the successes – every time
- Understand the causes of the **failures**
- Define how to prevent the failures ever happening again – then make sure they won't happen

Learn from the failures and embed the successes – only JFDIs look for innocent scapegoats!

Series Review (1)

Do you remember the A to Z of questions to ask - especially:

A for Ability

B for Best Practice

C for Customer

D for Data

J for JFDI

T for Team

T for Training

V for Vanity

X for Xceptions

Don't end up like the others!

Series Review (2)

Remember the messages about Best Practice:

- Must precede a systems project
- Define at the widest level of the organisation
- The importance of the Best Practice Team
- The future way of life
- Understand the 'To Be' processes
- Training
- Refine
- Measure

Then you might succeed!

Series Review (3)

Process Mapping to understand the processes:

- The successful projects have detailed maps
- The process maps identify the difference between Today and To Be
- Even a simple process is often more complex than people think – especially at the detailed level
- The maps must include every option that your business offers

Ignoring process mapping is stupid! Its something a JFDI does

Series Review (4)

Your Team:

- Critical for the success of the project
- Those you can't do without in the business because you need the best!
- Plan for the team post-project – they are your key people
- An empowered Control Board that empowers the Team
- A project manager that will inspire the team to deliver and demolish barriers
- Give the team the responsibility of making decisions
- Support the chosen team

The right team is your only hope of success!

Series Review (5)

Detailed Project Scope:

- To deliver the Best Practice you are implementing!
- Based on the To Be process
- Involve the whole organisation now – less change later
- Full definition – no ‘we can leave that until later’
- Agree the scope across the organisation – prevent Scope Creep

Allowing changes is a sign of feebleness!

Series Review (6)

Control:

- **Project Manager, Business Control Board and the Team are there to control the project**
- **Don't be weak – what is defined is the system**
- **No experiments / new ways of working from IT**

Trust your team!

Series Review (7)

Listen:

- You must listen to what you are being told – you don't know everything
- Local businesses must listen in order to understand what is being delivered
- Listen to the experiences of those who have gone before
- **STOP** thinking of yourself
 - **LOOK** at what is being delivered
 - **LISTEN** to how to implement it



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Series Review (8)

Data:

- Improve the quality of every aspect of your data
- Bad data costs you money – waste, image devaluation and inaccuracies
- Understand your data – how every field is used – what can be loaded
- Enhance your data well before the data loads start
- Test your data, then test again, and again and

Bad data kills projects and businesses!

Series Review (9)

Build:

- IT may take the lead but **business input is essential**
- **Involve the business in testing, the business must be able to use the system**
- **Keep to the agreed scope**
- **Demonstrate the completed parts so that people can see it for real**
- **Publicise progress across the business**

The business team takes the blame for bad Build!

Series Review (10)

Training:

- You must explain the **Why** as well as the **How** (key strokes)
- You must explain the **What** (has been built) and the **Why**
- Assume no knowledge – that way everyone hears the truth
- Good, interesting, detailed training material is essential – then test, test, test
- Be very careful with translations

Skimping on training is fatal!

Series Review (11)

Testing:

- Testing is critical – allow plenty of time – and then some more
- The purpose of testing is to *break* the system – then repair and test again
- Real *end to end* Best Practice scripts with real data
- Testing also tests the training material
- Understand, document and correct every error

If testing over-runs put back go-live!

Series Review (12)

Implement / Go-Live:

- The moment of truth!
- Even the best systems may uncover flaws – but they will be minimal whereas with the worst ones they'll be fatal
- If you took short cuts you'll have problems at this stage
- Learn from the cases in the presentation
- Don't celebrate too soon – it could turn into a wake!

Skimping on training is fatal!

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