

“Identifying Key Engagement Drivers and level of Employee Engagement at Technology Outsourcing firm @ Hyderabad, India ”

Dr. D. N. Venkatesh

Faculty – OB & HR Area Institute of Management Technology, Hyderabad Survey No. 38, Cherlaguda Village Shamshabad Mandal, RR DistrictHyderabad- 501218

Abstract: An employee is said to be engaged when that employee uses discretionary effort. This means the employee works that extra mile without being asked. The engaged employee leads to better customer service, which leads to better customer satisfaction, which leads to increase in Revenue. This shows that to win the customer, we need to win the employee first. The key challenge lies in linking employee morale and bottom line, which means organizations not only have to retain employees but also engage them.

The study attempts to identify the Engagement drivers in a Technology Outsourcing firm at Hyderabad. The objective of the research is to identify key factors that contribute to Employee Engagement and analyze the level of Employee Engagement.

The Secondary Research was carried out by studying several research papers. A Questionnaire was designed with 25 Questions based on a revised model. A pilot study was conducted and findings were analyzed. The trends of the responses have been plotted and five factors that contribute to employee engagement have been derived. The categories of disagreement among the employees have been noted and recommendations have been made.

Key Words: Engagement, Engagement Drivers, Discretionary Effort, Employee Motivation

I. Introduction To Employee Engagement

The envisioned future defines the futurity of your vision and consequent action. In this context, an oriental saying is as follows:

Where the vision is one year, cultivate flowers.

Where the vision is ten years, cultivate trees.

Where the vision is eternity, cultivate people.

An Employee is hired to deliver specific duties which are packaged into a job and contributes expertise to an endeavor of an employer. Employers, in order to achieve a profitable and enduring relationship with an employee, they need to balance the interests of the employee with his or her productivity. All employees are individual human beings and they have their needs, aspirations, drives and capabilities at varying degrees of intensity. Most of these remain unexpressed and the employer is left with no other option but to understand these needs, aspirations, capabilities and develop a system that creates an environment which is beneficial to all the stakeholders.

Employees add value and form an integral part of the business. Their personal values drive decisions and these decisions ultimately drive the results. Taking time to understand and **cultivate these personal values or the people** is crucial for a productive workplace, happy customers and perpetual business. Employee Engagement initiatives at an organization help in understanding and cultivating these values of people and which further aim at enhancing their loyalty. Employee engagement is the highest form of dedication where the employee is looking forward to contribute whatever he or she can for the benefit of the organization. In engagement, employees are involved in every aspect of their role performance. They would be committed to the strategic objectives, vision, mission and values of the company.

II. Literature Review

Employee engagement essentially is a combination of two well-known concepts – Organizational commitment and Job involvement.

Organizational Commitment:

Meyer J.P and Allen N.J (1991) have introduced three types of commitment: Affective commitment, Continuance commitment, Normative commitment. This model explains that commitment is a psychological state.

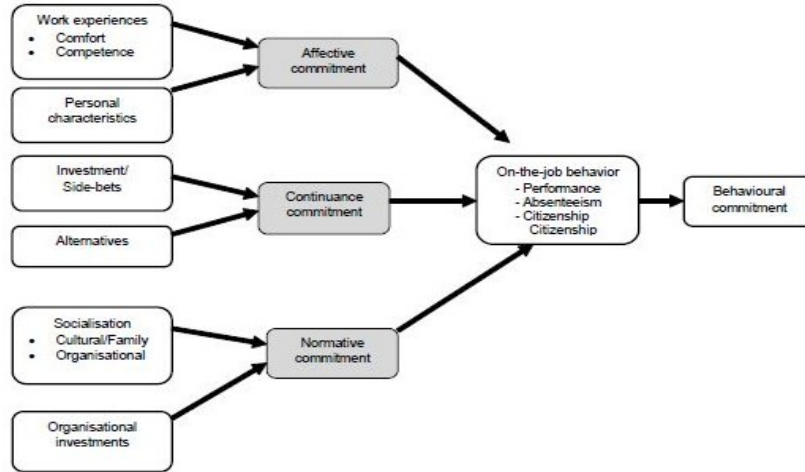


Fig 1: Meyer J.P & Allen N. (1991): A three component conceptualization of organization commitment. Human resource management Review 1, 61-89

Affective component: Affection to the work one does and to the organization comes from a strong emotional attachment. One would identify closely with the organization, with the values, vision, mission of the organization and would want to be part of it. The more involvement in the work, the happy experiences at work would increase the job satisfaction, which in turn would add to the affective component.

Continuance commitment: The continuance commitment comes into picture when one weighs the pros and cons of the current job. One would want to stay in the current job because he or she might assess it to be beneficial in staying there, rather than moving into another role anywhere else. These perceived benefits or losses can be categorized into Role Related, Monetary or Social.

Normative commitment: When factors such as organizational investments or Socialization are observed, this type of commitment occurs. Normative commitment creates a sense of obligation. Employee might feel obliged to the company as the company has invested its time and money on the employee or the employee’s culture has taught him or her to be loyal to the company.

Job Involvement:

Paullay, Alliger and Stone- Romero (1994) defined the job involvement as “The degree to which one is cognitively preoccupied with, engaged in, and concerned with one’s present job”. Lodahl and Kejner (1965) elaborated that “Job Involvement is the engagement regarding the internalization of values about the righteousness of work or significance of the work in the value of an individual”.

Job involvement is the key to employee motivation. It is about how people see their job, how enthusiastic they are about their work and how they maintain the work life balance. It contributes to organizational effectiveness and employee morale by engaging them and by providing an enriching experience.

Reitz and Jewell (1979) state that “Job involvement is linked to the importance of work in individual’s routine or daily life.” This means that if the employee is treating work as a significant aspect in his or her daily life then he would be loyal to the work as well as the organization and would then enhance their performance accordingly.

Literature suggests a conceptual model for engagement highlighting the predictors of Organizational commitment and of job involvement as below and summarizes that “Employee engagement is the level of commitment and involvement an employee has toward the organization and its values”

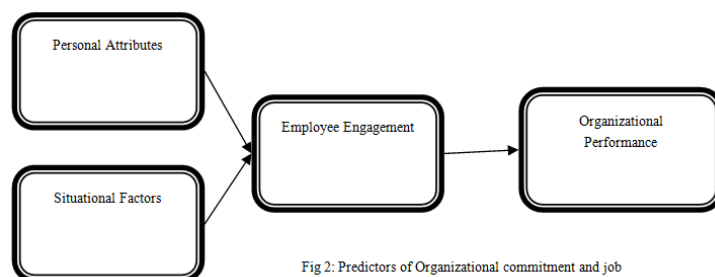


Fig 2: Predictors of Organizational commitment and job involvement

According to Kahn (1990), **Engagement** at work is stated as “*harnessing of organizational members’ selves to their work roles; in engagement, people employ and express themselves physically, cognitively and emotionally during role performance.*” In summary, his view states a psychological presence at work where in employees involve and express themselves physically, cognitively and emotionally during their performance at work.

Maslach et al (2001) proposed six determinable areas in the work-life dichotomy: Work load, Control, Rewards and recognition, Community and Social support, Perceived fairness and values. Maslach then established a relation between job engagement and the six areas that “*Engagement is facilitated by, a sustainable workload which challenges the individual without negatively impacting them mentally and/or physically. Feelings of choice and control, suitable reward and recognition, the presence of a supportive work community, fairness and integrity and meaningful and appreciated work will foster personal engagement.*”

Hewitt Associates (2004) define Employee engagement as “*the state in which the individuals are emotionally and intellectually committed to the organization or the group.*” Their concept of employee engagement focusses on three observable behaviors: Say, Stay and Survive. These elements according to Hewitt indicate “*The element of “Say” indicates how much an employee speaks positively about the organization to his or her coworkers, potential employees and customers. “Stay” measures how much an employee wants to be a member of the organization, and “Strive” measures how willing an employee is to exert extra effort and how dedicated he or she is to doing the very best job possible*”

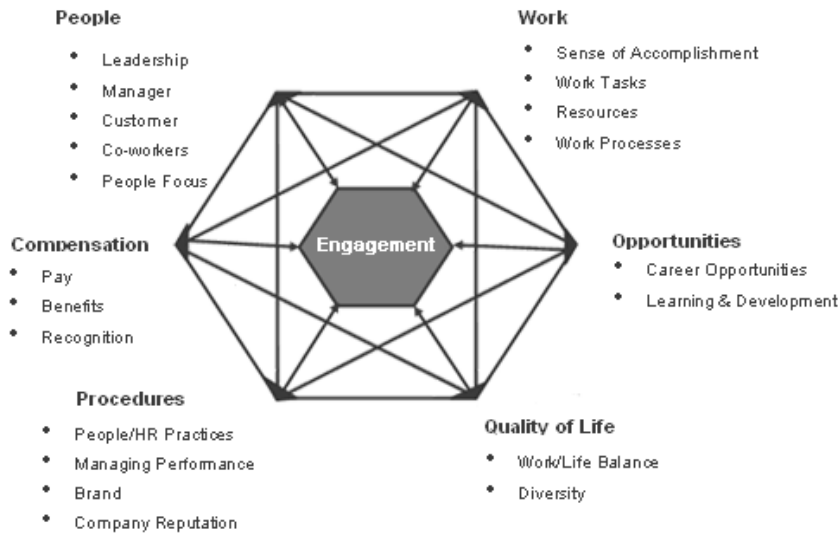


Fig 3: Hewitt Associates (2004)

Robinson et al (2004) model of the drivers of employee engagement defines the importance of ‘feeling valued and involved’ as the key driver of employee engagement. The following shows the Robinson’s et al model of employee engagement.

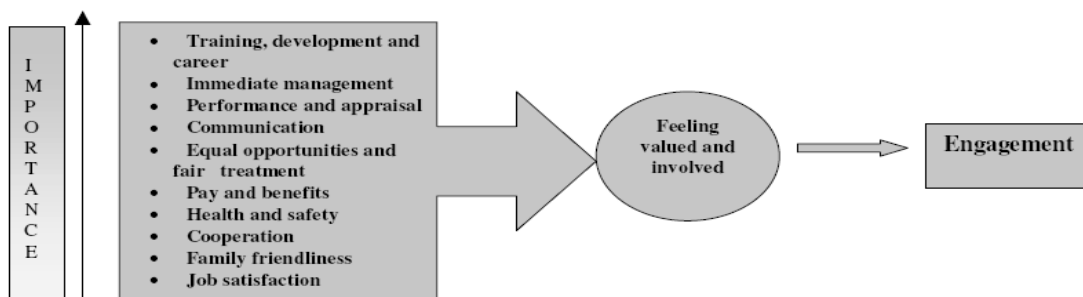


Fig 4: Robinson et al (2004)

Robinson et al defined employee engagement as “a two way relationship between employer and employee”. The model shows job satisfaction , family friendliness , cooperation , health and safety , pay and benefits , equal opportunities and fair treatment ,Communication, Performance and appraisal, Immediate management and Training, development and career as the employee engagement drivers that make the employee feel that he or she is valued and involved which enhances the level of engagement.

Penna (2007) model of hierarchy management illustrates “the impact each level will have on attraction, engagement and retention of talent”. This model represents the Maslow’s need hierarchy model and Herzberg’s theory at the bottom, with basic needs of pay working hours and benefits. The model conveys that once an employee is satisfied with the pay and benefits, he or she would look forward at learning and development and later on development opportunities and leadership, Respect and trust factors. Once an employee attains satisfaction at all these levels, he or she would aim at meaning at work.

Blessing white(2008) ; Erickson(2005); Macey and Schnieder(2008) define Engagement as “passion and commitment – the willingness to invest oneself and expand one’s discretionary effort to help the employer succeed, which is beyond simple satisfaction with the employment arrangement or basic loyalty to the employer.”



Fig 5: Penna (2007) model of hierarchy

Joshi and Sodhi (2011) emerged with six management functions as critical determinants of employee engagement for the executives namely: Job content, Compensation/Monetary Benefits, Work Life Balance, Top-Management Employee Relations, Scope for Advancement and Career Growth and Team Orientation. They have also found engagement drivers for the non – executives, supervisors and workers as: Work Life balance, monetary benefits, union or association management relations, Recognition and Rewards and welfare facilities.

CIPD (2006c) model of employee engagement shows the factors that contribute to engagement and how each of the factors influences the others with the arrows in the diagram below depicting the directions of influence. The individual factors could be gender, age, work ethics or family background. Working life describes the hours of work and pay, roles and responsibilities. Management, Leadership and communication is about how employees view the management, the level of trust and transparency in the system. An attitude at work is about job involvement, commitment, loyalty and well-being. Engagement here comprises of three types – cognitive, emotional and physical engagement. Finally, Attitudes to work and Engagement lead to outcomes for the organization.

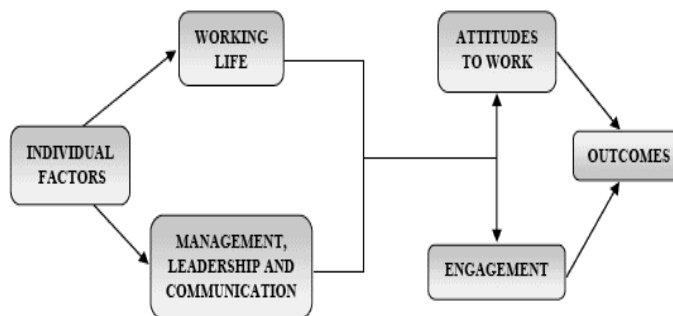


Fig 6: CIPD (2006c) model of Employee Engagement

Gallup’s Engagement Hierarchy (2011) is a conceptual way of thinking about Engagement. The model is divided into four sections. Gallup refers to the bottom two sections as foundational items where the work groups

have to focus more on. The bottom most is referred as the “Basic needs” section helping the employee understand his or her expectations and the tools required to perform the job. The next level “What do I give?” is referred as the “Management” section and it is about having someone who encourages at work or providing frequent recognition etc. The next level “Do I belong?” is referred as the “Team Work” Section .It’s about the mission of the company connecting to the employees or having a best friend at work etc. The final level at the top “ How can we grow?” is referred as the “Growth” section and it tells us whether someone has discussed about the progress in last six months or were there enough opportunities for the growth etc.



Taking perspectives from the above literature and more, this study has consolidated the drivers of employee engagement and a revised model was adopted as shown below. Job content describes about the autonomy, the challenging opportunities at work, scope for learning new skills etc. Work life balance is about having time to spend with family, giving importance to personal responsibilities and more. Supervisor-Employee Relations is about employee’s approachability to the supervisor, providing equal opportunities to all the employees, providing a friendly environment and encouraging the team, eager to hear the employee’s concerns .Scope for advancement and career growth is about well-designed and well communicated policies, helping the employees in their career growth with clearly laid down career plans and adequate opportunities for career growth. Team Relations is about the trust, cooperation, support and friendly atmosphere within and across the teams. Recognition is about rewarding and appreciating employees for their hard work, high performance and creative ideas and about policies that administer their performance in a fair manner



Fig 8: Revised model of Employee Engagement

III. Overview of Employee Engagement IT Industry

Overview of It Industry

Industry is defined as “A classification that refers to a group of organizations that are related in terms of their primary business activities”. These group of organizations offer comparable services in order to satisfy the customer needs. India’s IT industry can be broadly classified into five segments: Software products, IT services, and Engineering and R&D services, ITES/BPO (IT enabled services and Business Process Outsourcing) and Hardware. The Indian IT industry has shown rapid evolution in terms geographical markets, new customer segments, evolving into strategic business partners and the wide spectrum of services it offers. According to NASSCOM India has attained a premier position in the global sourcing landscape with 50 percent of market in 2011 to 52 percent in 2012. The IT services segment aggregated export revenues of USD 43.9 billion accounting for nearly 58 percent of total exports and a growth of 9.9 percent over FY2012. Indian IT services emerged as strong player in the global market evolving from application management to full service players including testing to system integration.

In order to understand the competition in the industry and the profitability, we need to look beyond the positions of competitors. Michael Porter developed a model which describes the five basic forces to be considered

by the organization to enhance their strategic position in the industry. The five forces are: Bargaining power of suppliers, bargaining power of buyers, Threat of new entrants, Threat of substitutes and Rivalry. These five forces help in understanding the profitability and attractiveness of the industry. Later, the strengths and weakness of the organization can be identified and an action plan can be devised to enhance the position in the industry by defending against the competitive forces.



Fig 9: Porter's five forces model

Bargaining Power of Buyers: The buyers in the industry are the large companies or typically the Fortune 100, also known as the clients'. These companies have huge budgets, the switching costs are minimal and a lot of IT sales are from these buyers. These companies are willing to spend, provided the products they seek should be high in performance. Considering the above factors, these buyers tend to be powerful.

Bargaining Power of Suppliers: The supply across segments is abundant specially the lower end such as application development and management and seems lower in business consulting. However the competition is high. With rapid changes in the technology, the buying companies may have to adapt to the changes and if they do not adapt, the competitors may move ahead.

Threat of new Entrants: The industry would be attractive to new entrants due to the rapid growth. The Indian IT/ITES industry earned revenue of USD 89 billion during FY2012. As per NASSCOM; the industry is expected to grow 11-14 percent in FY2013. However it may pose challenging due to various other factors. The new entrants would require technical expertise and excellent infrastructure in order to gain the market and would also have to compete with incumbents. They can probably look at innovation as an easy access to the market.

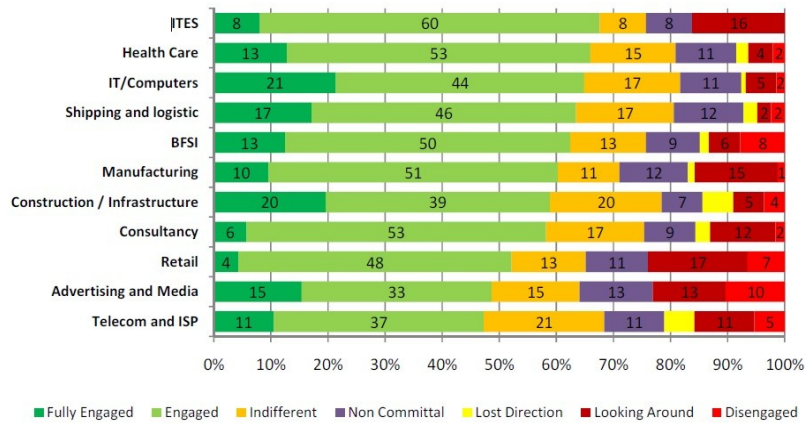
Threat of Substitutes: A technology can become obsolete. However it can only be replaced by a newer technology offered by the existing players or new ones. The major players have presence in almost all verticals and since switching costs are minimal, clients can easily switch to other substitutes.

Rivalry: The industry is known for intense competition and large companies benefit from economies of scale. It is likely to intensify due to the offshoring models adopted by the MNC majors and setting up bases in the country. Companies are now venturing into high value services such as IT consulting and Product development. Indian IT companies are setting up development centers at Latin America, South East Asia and Eastern European countries and constantly upgrading with customer needs, thus intensifying the competition further.

Overview Of Employee Engagement In IT Industry

“Best companies to Work for in India” is an annual survey conducted by Indicus Analytics and Business Today. Employees from various companies participate in the survey and Business Today then constructs the ranking of the various companies and an analysis of the aspects that make a company a great place to work in. A recent survey of Business Today (11th Edition) conducted across India with 35000 respondents on board and took views of 6000 employees across India. For the Question, what makes a company attractive for an employee, 65 percent of employees felt that it was career growth and higher roles and responsibilities followed by compensation, where 58 percent of the employees felt that it is pay and benefits that makes a company great place to work for. 48 percent of employees feel work environment is really important for them to work in a company. Work environment implies the work culture that the companies can provide to the employee. It makes them stay and it makes them talk good about the company. Interestingly, 70 percent of employees are more satisfied about the companies they work in as compared to 59 percent last year is the level of satisfaction Business Today highlights about.

According to People Metric (2011), a survey was conducted to measure the engagement levels across industries and it was found that the level of engagement was found to be high in IT/ITES, Health care when compared to other industries as per the statistics below. About



66-68 percent of employees are either fully engaged or engaged in the IT/ITES industry while the BFSI is around 63 percent.

Data Quest (2005) depicted growth opportunities, work life balance and organization culture as the important factors that contribute to employee engagement in an organization. The analysis indicated the median scores to perform the overall assessment of the industry and each parameter.

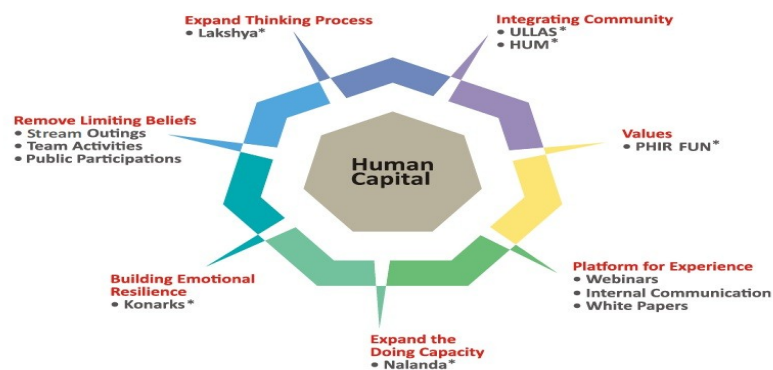
The above results indicate that companies are struggling with engagement issues to some extent. The changing demographics, globalization and the socio-economic and political factors also play a key role in engaging the employees apart from the regular employee concerns internal to an organization. The key challenge for Indian companies is to keep the employees productive and at the same time keep them satisfied and committed. The companies need to look at providing favorable conditions so that employees can explore opportunities to grow within the organization. An integrated talent management strategy is required to integrate and involve people eternally with the objectives of the organization.

About Technology Outsourcing Firm

The Technology outsourcing firm was incorporated in 1993 is head quartered at Chennai and has its main focus on the BFSI vertical. The company has a global presence in around 30 geographies across the world with talent strength of about 13000. It has become a global financial technology corporation under the leadership of its founder.

The company’s corporate governance philosophy aims at transparency, establishing professional management practices and enhancing the shareholder value. The company has been engaging in the financial technology business for almost two decades now and it’s been the world’s first CMMi Level-5 Company. It offers solution for Core banking, corporate banking, Wealth and Asset management and Insurance, with its products, legacy modernization and consulting.

According to the Annual Report of the organization (2009-2010), the organization had 9000+ associates. The human capital framework shown below aims at integrating the people, remove limiting beliefs, building emotional resilience and expand the thinking process. The Values depict their efforts in creating a holistic learning experience for their associates. The acronym PHIR FUN is all about Passion, Humility, Integrity, Respect, combined with fun. As per the report, Lakshya is the annual, visioning exercise involving every single associate. Nalanda is the corporate university of the organization. Ullas is a society connect initiative is recognized as one of India’s best CSR initiative. The Family connect programs are run through the Hum Trust. Konark is a unique community of high value, high performing individuals selected from across length and breadth of the organization.



The organization claims this program to be a reiteration of the trust symbolizing energy and excellence. Also the framework shows that the organization with these initiatives is adding rich flavor to the culture and thus enhancing the associate’s experience.

Research Scope

Engaged employee is said to be aware of the business context and is intellectually and emotionally bound to organization’s values. The employee is committed to attain his or her goals and as well the organization’s goals and goes beyond the job responsibility to nurture the relationship with the customers. The research aims to identify the engagement drivers that contribute to employee engagement. The scope of the study is limited to a single IT firm.

Research Objectives

The objectives of the Research are:

- To identify the key factors that contribute to Employee engagement in the organization
- To analyze the level of engagement in the organization

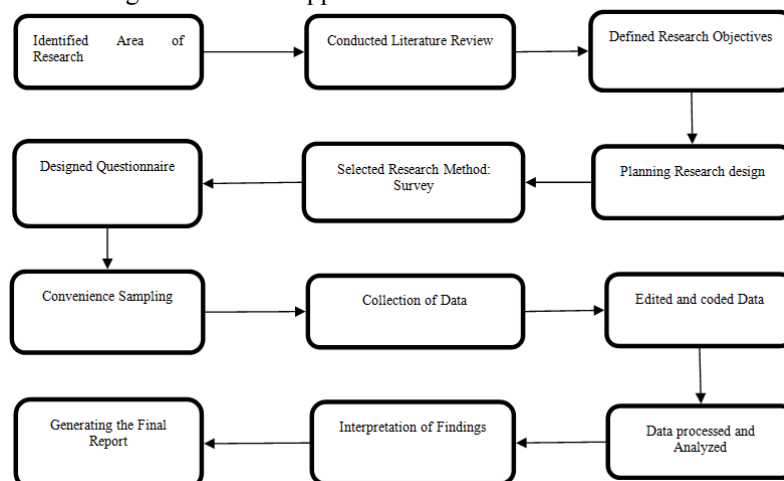
The null hypothesis states that the factors identified in revised models are the factors that contribute to employee engagement in the organization.

Limitations

- There is no clear solution for high employee engagement and it can be observed only over a period of time. However the research is conducted only in one point in time.
- The study is confined to a single IT firm with the sample comprising of only two accounts in the firm
- There could be biases in the responses as the option 3 in questionnaire indicates a neutral view at the statements. Hence, it has not been factored into the descriptive analysis

IV. Research Methodology

The study aims to determine the level of employee engagement and to identify the key factors contributing to the Employee Engagement among the employees of the organization. The study is confined to the employees of the organization. The area of Research was identified with prior HR indicators. The Research Methodology is essentially devised into two components: Secondary Research and Primary Research. The Secondary Research was conducted with study of several research papers. This included the literature review of various employee engagement models. The significant models that were studied are included as part of the report in the Literature review section. After the literature review, the Research objectives were defined and the research proposal was discussed with the concerned guides and was approved.



The Plan for Research Design included the method of Research, Sample design, proposed research techniques and proposed outcomes. The Research Method was Survey method and the questionnaire was designed based on the revised model of drivers of employee engagement. A 5-point Likert scale was used to design the Questionnaire. The Questionnaire comprised of 25 Questions . The respondents are asked to rate the most appropriate answer with regard to employee engagement. The sample size had employees from two accounts within the organization. The responses were later coded and factor analysis was executed as part of Data Analysis. The findings were interpreted and few suggestions were noted down.

Data Collection

The Target Population considered for the research are the employees of a software firm. Convenience sampling technique was adopted as the sampling method. Convenience Sampling is a non-probability sampling

technique adopted because of the accessibility and proximity of the respondents to the researcher. It is fast, inexpensive and easier method of sampling. This technique is adopted in pilot studies where the basic study and trends can be observed. The sample selected is assumed to represent the population of the organization. A pilot study was conducted on Two Accounts in the firm. These accounts were identified and selected as part of the study, on considering the prior HR indicators. 70 Questionnaire forms were distributed amongst the employees of few projects. The Questionnaire was answered at an individual level. 59 responses of the 70 were received over duration of 1 week.

Data Analysis

Data Analysis comprised of factor analysis of the responses to identify the factors that contribute to employee engagement and also the descriptive statistics showing the project wise findings .A total agreement to the question was indexed with 5 points while a total disagreement was indexed as 1.

Following are steps executed as part of Data Analysis in SAS Enterprise guide 4.3.

Cronbach’s Alpha coefficient

Cronbach's alpha is a measure of internal consistency. A reliability coefficient of .70 or higher is considered "acceptable". Cronbach's Alpha was calculated in SAS as part of the PROC_CORR.

Factor Analysis

In order to define the underlying structure among the variables, the study aims at factor analysis of the responses. This research proposes factor analysis as exploratory technique or data reduction method as it is useful in searching a structure among a set of variables.

Stage 1: Objectives of Factor Analysis

Specifying the unit of analysis:

Since the objective of the analysis is to summarize the characteristics rather than the individual respondents, factor analysis was applied to the correlation matrix of the variables. R -factor analysis was the proposed type of factor analysis.

Achieving the Data Reduction:

The aim of data reduction is to identify the significant variables from a larger set and simplify the subsequent multivariate analysis

Stage 2: Designing a Factor Analysis

Correlations among Variables:

Proposed form of factor analysis: R-type factor analysis which utilizes a correlation matrix as the basic input. A traditional correlation matrix (correlation among variables) was taken as input.

Stage 3: Assumptions in Factor Analysis

Measures of Intercorrelation:

In order to ensure that the data matrix has sufficient correlations to justify the application of Factor Analysis, a measure of intercorrelation is required. The proposed measure to quantify this intercorrelation is Kaiser’s measure of sampling adequacy. This index ranges from 0 – 1 and anything below 0.50 is unacceptable. Kaiser’s normalization was selected as the method for normalizing rows of the factor pattern. It is a measure to quantify the degree of intercorrelations among the variables and the appropriateness of factor Analysis.

Stage 4: Deriving Factors and Overall Fit

Selecting the Factor Extraction method:

Proposed factor method for this study was Component Analysis also known as Principal component analysis which considers the total variance and the objective of this method is to summarize most of the original information in a minimum number of factors. It is used to convert a set of observations of possibly correlated variables into a set of values of linearly uncorrelated variables called principal components. This method would be appropriate as data reduction was the primary concern focusing on minimizing the number of factors.

Once the decision was made on the factor method, Latent root criterion where smallest Eigen value was chosen as 1 for which factors were retained .Eigen Values are the variances of Principal components. Also scree test was used as the criteria to extract the factors. Scree Plot is referred to identify the optimum number of factors that can be extracted

Stage 5: Interpreting the factors

The initial unrotated factor matrix was computed containing the factor loadings. As the interpretation was not adequate then the analysis proceeded with factor rotation to obtain a simplified factor structure. The Rotation methods used were orthogonal rotation methods. VARIMAX rotation was used as the Rotation method to reduce the cross loading of factors and a simplified factor structure was obtained. Factors were extracted and labeled accordingly. The final step would be interpreting the factor matrix obtained.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FINDINGS

The average work experience of the sample is 3.07 years. Five Iterations were run as part of Factor Analysis. The sample consists of 62 percent of employees as graduates and rest being post-graduates.

FACTOR ANALYSIS

ITERATION 1

Factor Analysis was run for all the 25 variables and the KMO values for variables X7 and X20 were below 0.5 which was unacceptable.

ITERATION 2

X7 was removed and factor analysis was executed again. X20 still had KMO less than 0.5.

ITERATION 3

X20 was removed and Factor analysis was executed again. KMO values were in acceptable range. However the communality value for X16 was below 0.5 which was unacceptable. The communality value, describes the proportion of each variable's variance that can be explained by the components.

ITERATION 4

X16 was removed and Factor analysis was executed again. KMO and Communality values were in place. However some of the variables were cross loading.

ITERATION 5

The variables which were cross loading (X2,X3,X4,X11) were removed and data was analyzed further. X6 and X8 were included as they were found to be important as part of research. The Factors with Eigen values - 1 and above were retained as factors, contributing a total variance of 69.13 %

Summary of Factors

The five factors are:

- F1: Opportunities at Work and Team Relations
- F2: Goal Clarity and Work Commitment
- F3: Freedom in Decision Making
- F4: Organization Policies and Work Life Balance
- F5: Supervisor- Employee Relations and Employee Welfare

The following shows factors in detail:

- F1: {X6, X8, X14, X21, X22, X23, X25}
- F2: {X12, X15, X17, X18}
- F3: {X1, X5, X13}
- F4: {X9, X10}
- F5: {X19, X24}

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS - OVERALL FINDINGS

FACTOR#	Variable	Variable Definition	5	4	3	2	1	TOTAL RESPONSES	Top four Elements
F3	X1	I have the opportunity to do the best everyday	17	39	2	1	0	59	0.949
F2	X12	I am part of my team's achievements	22	35	1	1	0	59	0.966
F3	X13	I have good amount of freedom to do my work	11	44	4	0	0	59	0.932
F2	X18	I am willing to "go the extra mile" to reach my target	21	35	3	0	0	59	0.949

FACTOR#	Variable	Variable Definition	5	4	3	2	1	TOTAL RESPONSES	Least four Elements
F1	X6	I receive appreciation for work that's well done	14	28	10	4	3	59	0.118
F4	X9	The balance between my work and personal commitments , is right	5	37	9	7	1	59	0.135

F4	X10	Organization policies are clearly communicated	5	28	13	13	0	59	0.220
F1	X23	My team celebrates my achievements	13	25	14	4	3	59	0.118

- 95% of Employees surveyed either agree or strongly agree that they have the opportunity to do best everyday
- 96% of Employees surveyed either agree or strongly agree that they are part of team’s achievements
- 93% of Employees surveyed either agree or strongly agree that they have good amount of freedom in doing their work
- 95% of Employees surveyed either agree or strongly agree that they are willing to go that extra mile to reach their targets.
- 22% of the employees surveyed either disagree or strongly disagree on the statement – “The organization polices are clearly communicated”
- 13.5 % of the employees surveyed either disagree or strongly disagree on the statement- “The balance between my work and personal commitments, is right.”
- 12% of the employees surveyed either disagree or strongly disagree on the statement- “I receive appreciation for work that’s well done.”
- 12% of the employees survey disagree or strongly disagree on the statement: “My team celebrates my achievements”

FACTOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Percentage contribution of each factor to the disagreed or neutral responses:

The disagreed responses were gathered factor wise and the contribution of each of these factors is identified.

- In the below table, we find that the factor F1 contributes maximum to the disagreed responses and projects P6 and P9 have the major share.
- F4 contributes to 18.8 percent with major contributions from the project P6 followed by P10.
- Third major contribution comes from the factor F5 i.e. 11 % with major contributions from the project P6 followed by P10
- Fourth major contribution comes from the factor F3 with 10.5 % contribution and major projects that contribute are P9 followed by P6
- Least contribution comes from the factor F2 with 5.5 % contribution with projects P6 and P8.

FACTOR #	% CONTRIBUTION	MAJOR PROJECTS	
F1	54.2	P6	P9
F4	18.8	P6	P10
F5	11	P6	P10
F3	10.5	P9	P6
F2	5.5	P6	P8

Percentage contribution of each factor on the agreed responses:

- In the table below, we find that the factor F1 contributes maximum to the agreed responses and projects P6 and P9 have the major share.
- It is followed by F2 with 26.6 percent and contributed by projects P6 and P9.

FACTOR #	% CONTRIBUTION	MAJOR PROJECTS	
F1	34.7	P6	P9
F2	26.6	P6	P9
F3	18.2	P6	P10
F5	11.2	P6,P9	
F4	9.07	P9	P6

PROJECT WISE FINDINGS

There are a total of 10 projects, of which the following are findings of Project P6:

- 36.8% of P6 employees either disagree or strongly disagree on the statement - “Organization policies are clearly communicated.”
- 26.3% of P6 employees either disagree or strongly disagree on the statement – “The balance between my work and personal commitments, is right.”
- 15.7 % of P6 employees either disagree or strongly disagree on the following statements:
 - My future career opportunities here, look good
 - My team celebrates my achievements
 - I am encouraged to take part in fun activities

The following are findings of Project P9:

- 27.2% of P9 employees either strongly disagree or disagree on the following statements:
 - I receive appreciation for work that’s well done
 - My supervisor cares about me
 - My future career opportunities look good
 - I have the opportunity to showcase my talent

The following are findings of Project P10:

- 22% of P10 employees either disagree or strongly disagree on the statement -“Organization policies are clearly communicated.”
- 11.11 % of P10 employees either disagree or strongly disagree on the statement- “The balance between my work and personal commitments is right.”

ROLE BASED FINDINGS

The following are findings for the roles D1:

- 26.47% of surveyed state that the organization policies are not clearly communicated
- 23.52% of surveyed state that there is no work life balance

The following are findings for SD1 –SP1-T1:

- 21.42% state that the organization policies are not clearly communicated
- 14.2% indicate that they do not take initiative to interact with the supervisor on their concerns

WORK EXPERIENCE BASED FINDINGS

The following are findings for surveyed employees who have **less than 2 years** of work experience:

- 17.647% convey that the organization policies are not clearly communicated

The following are findings for surveyed employee with **2-4 years** of work experience:

- 22.58% of employees feel:
 - The organization policies are not clearly communicated
 - There is no work life balance
- 16.29% convey that:
 - They do not receive appreciation for the work that’s well done
 - Their future career opportunities are not good
 - Their team doesn’t celebrate their achievements

RECOMMENDATIONS

INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES

The following table describes the best practices in the industry followed by recommendations to the firm:

Driver	Organization	Best Practices	Recommendations
Freedom in Decision Making	Google	Creates a culture that encourages employees to propose new ideas	To provide a culture that involves the employees where they can exchange ideas and work independently will make them feel valued
Relates to Work life balance	SAS Institute	No monitoring of sick days ; Can work on flexible schedules	To trust the employees and provide them flexible working schedules will enhance their productivity
Recognition and also work life balance	Hewitt Packard	Quarterly Star Performers awarded with packages like Dinner-with-Family, Stay-over-the-Weekend at Five Star Hotels by Hewitt Packard.	To recognize and reward the employees who deliver high performance and provide them with proper work life balance programs

“Identifying Key Engagement Drivers and level of Employee Engagement at Technology Outsourcing

Opportunities at work and career growth	Accenture	It offers courses in association with the likes of MIT to upgrade employee skills. Also allocates a career counselor to each employee	To provide e-platforms within the firm and give opportunities for the employees to achieve their career goals
Opportunities at work	Microsoft	DigiGirlz in 2000 to encourage women to pursue career in technology	Providing opportunities at work make the employees feel that the employer cares about them and hence , would reward back with their loyalty
Relates to Organization Policies and also to Goal clarity	NetApp	Employees are introduced to NetApp’s business objectives , cultures and values through TOAST monthly sessions	Awareness about the culture makes the employee’s stay comfortable and increases his engagement levels
Relates to work commitment	HCL	Innovate@HCL is one such e-forum that enables employee involvement and participation towards innovations in their work environment	An environment which involves employee in innovating new ideas provides ownership and this makes the employee responsible for the organization goals.
Employee-Supervisor Relations	Infosys	Employee-Management Interface	Such interfaces help in reducing the gap between the management and employee and enhance their relationship

- The Research highlights that employee look forward for work life balance. The firm may look at :
 - Providing Flexi work schedules will motivate and retain the employees.
 - Framing Family friendly policies: The policies that make it possible for the employees to more easily balance family and work. One such family friendly initiative could be providing child care facility.
 - Making Job – share arrangements where employees would share the responsibilities of a position. This would help in reducing burn outs , absenteeism and retain the valued employees
 - Communication about work life programs.
These initiatives might enable the employees to address both work and personal responsibilities.
- The Research shows that employees would want his or her team to celebrate the achievements. The project teams may look at initiatives such as :
 - Providing Employee of the month Awards
 - Creating a Celebration calendar
 - Planning surprise Achievement Celebrations
These initiatives help the employee perceive that he or she is valued and gives a sense of direction and fulfillment.
- The Research highlights that the communication of Organization policies needs attention. The firm may like to ensure that every employee is aware of the policies. The initiatives could be :
 - Interactive approach in communicating the policies
 - Providing opportunities to discuss the policies
 - Communicating the Policies through different distribution lists and team meetings
 - Periodic Measurement of the level of awareness about policies
- The Research shows that employees would like to receive appreciation for the work that’s well done. The projects could take up some initiatives like :
 - Providing with opportunities where a co-worker can nominate another team member for the appreciation awards or can appreciate through a thank you card or email for the high performance.
 - Feature the employee in the project newsletter for the high performance or an achievement
With these initiatives, the employee might feel elated and it would further increase their energy and commitment towards work.
- The Research shows that employees would like to see better career opportunities .The projects could take up some initiatives like :
 - Discussing the career goals and skills required for career progression
 - Creating a development plan for each employee and tracking the priorities with time.
 - Providing with the internal career management platforms.

SCOPE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

- A detailed research which would establish a causal relationship between work life balance (and) internal communication procedure and employee engagement can be taken up.
- A Comprehensive study on level of employee engagement in IT industry can be considered for future research and can benchmark the firm’s results against the industry practices.

References

- [1]. Accord Management Systems(2004).Employee Engagement Strategy: A Strategy of Analysis to move from Employee Satisfaction to Engagement.Retrieved on 5 April , 2013 from http://accordmanagementsystems.com/amsfiles/engagement_white_paper.pdf
- [2]. Blessing White Research(2013). Employee Engagement Report. Retrieved on 8 April , 2013 from http://www.blessingwhite.com/eee_report.asp
- [3]. D Robbinson , S PerryMan , S Hayday(2004). The Drivers of Employee Engagement. Retrieved on 5 April,2013 from <http://www.wellbeing4business.co.uk/docs/Article%20-%20Engagement%20research.pdf>
- [4]. Gallup (2011).Driving Engagement everyday: 2011 Engagement Survey. Retrieved on 8 April , 2013 from <http://home.ncifrcf.gov/SAICFTraining/gallupresources/SAIC-Best-Practices-Q12.pptx>
- [5]. Hair , Black , Babin , Anderson , Tatham(2011).Multivariate Data Analysis(6E); Pearson Publication
- [6]. J. Anitha .Antecedents of Employee Engagement and Their Impact on Employee Performance. Retrieved on 25 April, 2013 from <http://www.grgsms.com/wps/wp1.pdf>
- [7]. Saradha and Dr. Harold Andrew Patrick (2011).Employee engagement in relation to OCB in IT organizations. Retrieved on 17 April, 2013 from <http://web.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=17d68823-294d-40f4-8ace-4546c30aeeb8%40sessionmgr13&vid=2&hid=23>
- [8]. The Scottish Government(2007). Employee Engagement : A review of Literature.Retrieved on 1 May , 2013 from <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/05/09111348/3>
- [9]. Sharma Baladev and Raina Anupama (2010).Determinants of Employee Engagement in Private Sector Organization : An exploratory study Retrieved on 25 April , 2013 from <http://web.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=7470e372-e0ee-4ac5-9d50-1757dad02b5a%40sessionmgr4&vid=2&hid=23>
- [10]. Solomon Marks, Sandhya Sridevi (2010).Employee Engagement : The Key to improving performance. Retrieved on 6 May , 2013 from <http://www.cesenet.org/journal/index.php/ijbm/article/download/6745/6332>
- [11]. Sumi Jha(2013).Analysis of Factors affecting Employee Engagement and Job satisfaction : a case of Indian IT Organization. Retrieved on 6 May 2013 from <http://www.icmis.net/ictbm/ictbm13/proceedings/pdf/D3209-done.pdf>
- [12]. Tamara J. Erickson and Lynda Gratton(2007). What It Means to Work Here. Retrieved on April 20 ,2013 from <http://executivesource.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/What-it-Means-to-Work-Here.pdf>
- [13]. Towers Perrin HR services(2003).Working Today : Understanding what drives Employee Engagement. Retrieved on 8 April , 2013 from http://www.towersperrin.com/tp/getwebcachedoc?webc=hrs/usa/2003/200309/talent_2003.pdf
- [14]. Vijaya Mani(2011).Analysis of Employee Engagement and its Predictors. Retrieved on 5 May , 2013 from <http://www.macrothink.org/journal/index.php/ijhrs/article/download/955/791>
- [15]. Zikmund.Business Research Methods(8E).Retrieved on 20 May, 2013 from http://www.cengage.com/marketing/book_content/1439080674_zikmund/book/
- [16]. NASSCOM (2013). The IT-BPM Sector in India, Strategic Review 2013. Retrieved on 25 May , 2013 from http://www.nasscom.in/sites/default/files/uploads/temp/Strategic_Review_2013.pdf
- [17]. Govind Negi (2013). How to make an ideal Joining kit. Retrieved on 19 May , 2013 from <http://hrsuccesstalk.blogspot.in/2013/03/how-to-make-ideal-joining-kit.html>
- [18]. Talya N Bauer (2010). Onboarding New Employees: Maximizing Success. Retrieved on 24 May , 2013 from <http://www.shrm.org/about/foundation/products/documents/onboarding%20epg-%20final.pdf>
- [19]. Polaris Financial Technology Limited(2010). Annual Report (2009-2010). Retrieved on 1 June , 2013 from http://www.polarisft.com/media/investors/reports/annual_report_corporate_2010.pdf
- [20].
- [21]. People Metric(2011).Employee Engagement Report : Strategic tool for leaders . Retrieved on 1 June , 2013 from http://www.people-metrics.net/downloads/Employee_Engagement_Report_PEOPLE_METRICS.pdf
- [22]. Data Quest(2005).What makes a best employer .Retrieved on 3 June , 2013 from <http://www.dqindia.com/dataquest/news/144223/in-graphics-what-makes-best-employer>