### IDENTIFYING AND MEASURING YOUR BUSINESS COMPETENCIES

**Name:**

**Current or Targeted Role:**

**Date:**

Every job position is comprised of key business competencies that are required for success in the role. In the following chart are 50 business competencies. In this exercise you will identify the **top 8-15 competencies** that are required for your current or targeted role. It is beneficial to get input from your career coach, manager, peers, mentor, and professors. You may also conduct research for key business competencies by function and review relevant job leads.

Step 1: Read the following list of workplace competencies and definitions.

Step 2: In the column titled **Include** select 8-15 competencies required for success in your current or targeted role.

Step 3: In the column titled **Importance** indicate whether the competency is considered of High (H), Medium (M) of Low (L) importance to the role.

*From this point forward, only use the competencies you selected in the* ***Include*** *column.*

Step 4: In the column titled **Self-Evaluation** rank your perceived level of strength from 1-5 (1 being lowest, 5 being the highest).

Step 5: OPTIONAL: In the column titled **Evaluator** you may have a manager, peer, mentor, professor provide a rank your level of strength 1-5.

Once completed, you will be able to identify competencies weaknesses and gaps. Your coach will provide advice and strategies to begin building your strengths in these areas. It is important to understand that every individual is unique. You may identify competencies that are necessary for success that you do not have the ability to increase. In these circumstances, you will need to develop strategies for how you will compensate or gain support in your position to be able to meet the demands of the role.

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| **Competency** | **Theme** | **Definition** | **Include** | **Importance** | **Self-Evaluation** | **Evaluation** |
| **Action Orientation** | Self Management | Displays a sense of urgency; speedy and timely decision maker; is ambitious and driven |  |  |  |  |
| **Adherence to Policy** | Managing Processes | Follows established procedures and adheres to industry guidelines; tends to go "by the book." |  |  |  |  |
| **Ambiguity and Paradox, Comfort with** | Professional Growth | Is able to act even though the details are unresolved; comfortable leaving issues open and waiting for resolution or answers; at ease with theory and the unknown. |  |  |  |  |

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| **Competency** | **Theme** | **Definition** | **Include** | **Importance** | **Self-Evaluation** | **Evaluation** |
| **Ambition** | Leadership | Demonstrates a strong sense of career that is characterized by vision and purpose; wants to have influence and make a difference. |  |  |  |  |
| **Analytical Thinking** | Work Mechanics | Strong desire to understand and have insight; good at and enjoys solving problems and formulating strategy. |  |  |  |  |
| **Business Acumen** | Work Mechanics | Uses resources wisely and to advantage; naturally oriented toward cost containment and maximizing financial performance. |  |  |  |  |
| **Change, Comfort with** | Professional Growth | Lives and breathes continual improvement on either a large or a small scale; always seeking a better way. |  |  |  |  |
| **Competitiveness** | Sales | Is energized by competition and the need to win, and cannot rest until the contest is over; has the courage to take risks. |  |  |  |  |
| **Computer/Keyboarding Skills** | Work Mechanics | Easily focuses on the here and now and careful to avoid errors; patient paying close attention to detail and resisting distractions. |  |  |  |  |
| **Creativity** | Professional Growth | Can dream up new marketing, product, and other business strategies; innovative and resourceful; personally adds value to any task. |  |  |  |  |
| **Decision-Making Skills** | Managing Others | A reputation for high quality decisions that stick; does not put off decisions inappropriately; considers downstream consequences. |  |  |  |  |
| **Delegation** | Managing Others | Comfortable directing and controlling the work of others; has the patience to provide necessary information and support; can confront when necessary. |  |  |  |  |
| **Competency** | **Theme** | **Definition** | **Include** | **Importance** | **Self-Evaluation** | **Evaluation** |
| **Development of Personnel** | Leadership | Shares expertise with anyone interested; is sought after for coaching, training, orientation; helps others plan their careers. |  |  |  |  |
| **Diplomacy** | Leadership | Has the interpersonal savvy for maintaining relationships with a variety of people; is easy to work with |  |  |  |  |
| **Diversity, Comfort with** | Interpersonal Skills | Adapts appropriately to cultural differences; enjoys being around people of different religions, races, geography, values; reputation for fairness. |  |  |  |  |
| **Entrepreneurship** | Leadership | Is consumed by the desire to succeed in business; willing to risk it all; works well under pressure; continually considers new strategies. |  |  |  |  |
| **Facilitation** | Interpersonal Skills | Appropriately responsive to individual needs; keeps the conversation and other activity moving towards the goal; intervenes as appropriate; keeps personal needs and ego under control |  |  |  |  |
| **Flexibility** | Professional Growth | Is willing to shift priorities as needed; bends policy when appropriate; is comfortable wearing many hats. |  |  |  |  |
| **Follow Through** | Managing Others | Stays with a project until its conclusion; doesn't let the details fall between the cracks; focus remains on priorities; perseveres; delivers. |  |  |  |  |
| **Future orientation / Visionary outlook** | Professional Growth | Dreams about possibilities for future products, services, and markets; thinks more strategically; naturally considers the downstream consequences of present-day decisions. |  |  |  |  |

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| **Hiring and Staffing** | Managing Others | Selection decisions result in good performers across all jobs; has a reputation for good judgment about people; keeps politics and personal bias out of people decisions. |  |  |  |  |
| **Humor** | Interpersonal Skills | Enjoys life; can laugh at self from time to time; shows sensitivity to others in exercising sense of humor; spontaneous and playful. |  |  |  |  |
| **Independently, Comfort Working** | Self Management | Comfortable working alone when necessary; does not need others to provide structure or close supervision. |  |  |  |  |
| **Informing others** | Interpersonal Skills | Avoids power games involving holding certain information privately; passes on information to co-workers and takes pride in them being well-informed. |  |  |  |  |
| **Integrity and Trust** | Self Management | Delivers on promises; stays focused on the task at hand; always prepared; adheres to agreed upon principles. |  |  |  |  |
| **Leadership** | Leadership | Calm in the face of crisis; communicates frequently with associates; sufficiently tough in holding out for high expectations; disciplined. |  |  |  |  |
| **Listening** | Interpersonal Skills | Makes an effort to understand the other person before reacting to them; can refrain from talking. |  |  |  |  |
| **Managing through Systems** | Managing Processes | Understands how complex systems and processes interrelate; effectively monitors them and intervenes as necessary; trusts the system, but revises as needed. |  |  |  |  |

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| **Meeting Management** | Managing Others | Facilitates discussion effectively; encourages diverse inputs, uses time wisely; neither belabors points nor allows superficial treatment, develops an agenda and follows through |  |  |  |  |
| **Motivation of Others** | Leadership | Genuinely cares about other people; brings out the best in them; gives recognition to others in a fair and consistent manner. |  |  |  |  |
| **Numerical Accuracy** | Work Mechanics | Has a reputation for accurate numerical memory; enjoys looking for patterns on pages of numbers; easily focuses on the task at hand. |  |  |  |  |
| **Objectivity** | Managing Others | Keeps personal needs, values, and interests out of judgments; evaluates impartially; shows no reluctance to speak the truth. |  |  |  |  |
| **Optimism** | Sales | Accepts failure as temporary and points to future success; accepts credit for successes; resists taking failure personally |  |  |  |  |
| Organization | Managing Processes | Naturally keeps personal area neat; puts things up when finished for the day; assembles all necessary materials and information before starting a task |  |  |  |  |
| **Overseas Work Success, Likelihood of** | Professional Growth | Acceptant of cultural differences, can subordinate personal discomfort for goal achievement; curious; attracted to the unknown |  |  |  |  |
| **Paperwork, Comfort with** | Work Mechanics | Maintains accurate and timely records, files, and reports; tends to avoid making errors, and enjoys catching them; comfort with repetitious attention to detail. |  |  |  |  |

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| **Performance Focus** | Managing Others | Manages time and priorities effectively; meets deadlines and other targets consistently; avoids procrastination; pushes for results. |  |  |  |  |
| **Planning** | Managing Processes | Is proactive in anticipating future needs; naturally thinks about being prepared for the future; has the habit of specifying steps for a project before implementing. |  |  |  |  |
| **Political Savvy** | Leadership | Is comfortable around persons at all levels, both inside and outside the organization; stays aware of all needs and issues throughout the organization; can be appropriately tough or soft as necessary. |  |  |  |  |
| **Presentation Skills** | Sales | Shows confidence when in front of groups; little or no evidence of self-consciousness or discomfort; enjoys being the spokesperson for the team and handling questions; takes pride in making an effective presentation. |  |  |  |  |
| **Quality Orientation** | Managing Processes | Maintains high standards with staff and facility; effectively inspects and monitors for performance; shows a bias for proper maintenance, housekeeping, and adherence to requirements in general |  |  |  |  |
| **Range of Perspective and Interests** | Professional Growth | Seeks broad business knowledge, not just one field; participates in activities outside the business (community, region, nation); active in professional or trade associations. |  |  |  |  |

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| **Responsibility Acceptance** | Self Management | Handles complaints without passing the buck; has internal locus of control; stands alone when called for. |  |  |  |  |
| **Risk Taking** | Professional Growth | Fearless in approaching the unknown; unquenchable curiosity; spontaneous in pursuit of the unusual. |  |  |  |  |
| **Safety Orientation** | Managing Processes | Tends to stay healthy; cautious in operating equipment; respects good ergonomic design and principles; avoids impulsive behaviors. |  |  |  |  |
| **Sales Orientation** | Sales | Has pride in ability to persuade others; is optimistic; does not like to take no for an answer; mixes easily with others and genuinely wants to meet the needs of customers. |  |  |  |  |
| **Self Confidence** | Sales | Typically feels that the situation is under control; is prepared; believes that self and material will succeed; accepts all reasonable challenges. |  |  |  |  |
| **Self Control** | Self Management | Maintains composure in the face of temptation; not known to be spontaneous or impulsive; tends to keep regular hours and follow regular patterns. |  |  |  |  |
| **Self Development** | Self Management | Uses available resources for personal improvement; seeks opportunities to learn; seeks and uses feedback; is open to criticism; non-defensively assesses own strengths and weaknesses. |  |  |  |  |
| **Service Orientation** | Managing Processes | Is driven by the desire to serve the customer; focused on customer needs; responds as promptly as possible to customer needs and requests; knows customers, alliances, and partners well and supports them in appropriate ways. |  |  |  |  |

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| **Teamwork and Cooperation** | Interpersonal Skills | Voluntarily relinquishes more personal activity when team needs help; cheerfully responds to calls for help from team members; seen as more cooperative than competitive by team members. |  |  |  |  |
| **Technical Learning** | Work Mechanics | Prefers mastering the details before moving on to the next level; shows mastery of knowledge about the job, whether about products, markets, or subject areas; eagerly seeks and assimilates new relevant technical information. |  |  |  |  |
| **Work/Life Balance** | Self Management | Has a personal life beyond job and career; avoids the temptation to work excessively long hours; neither a workaholic nor a freeloader. |  |  |  |  |
| **Written Communications** | Work Mechanics | Has the habit of taking the time and effort to put thoughts into writing; is concise and descriptive, keeping the reader in mind; keeps on top of regular written documentation. |  |  |  |  |