

Introduction to ADKAR

The five building blocks of successful change.



Organizational change is successful when:

Awareness	Desire	Knowledge	Ability	Reinforcement		Change
	Desire	Knowledge	Ability	Reinforcement	=	Confusion
Awareness		Knowledge	Ability	Reinforcement	=	Resistance
Awareness	Desire		Ability	Reinforcement	=	Fear/Anxiety
Awareness	Desire	Knowledge		Reinforcement	=	Frustration
Awareness	Desire	Knowledge	Ability			Backsliding

Awareness of the need for change.

- What is the nature of the change?
- Why is the change happening?
- What is the risk of not changing?

The #1 reason for resistance in employees and in supervisors was not knowing why a change was taking place – lack of awareness.



Desire to support the change.

- Personal choice to support, engage and participate in the change
- Personal motivators and inhibitors
- What's in it for me (WIIFM)?

"Some people change when they see the light, others when they feel the heat."



Knowledge on how to change.

- Training and education on the skills and behaviors needed to change
- Detailed information on how to use new processes, systems and tools
- Understanding of the new roles and responsibilities associated with change.

Trap: Jumping straight to "K" without the necessary "A" and "D" in place



Ability to implement new skills.

- Demonstrated capability to implement the change
- Achievement of the desired change in performance or behavior

This is the point in the model where change is initially realized.



Reinforcement to sustain the change.

- An action or event that strengthens the change or increases the likelihood that the change will be continued
- Mechanisms to keep the change in place
- Recognition, rewards, incentives, successes

Without reinforcement, people may revert back to the old way of doing things and the project does not deliver intended results.



ADKAR Example Activities/Tactics



Awareness:

- 1. Repetitive face-to-face communication of the business reasons for the change and the risks of not changing
- Use a variety of communication channels, such as team meetings, town halls, emails, articles, etc.
- 3. Provide employees with ready access to business information, such as external drivers of change
- 4. Share customer feedback and develop effective responses
- 5. Surface and address rumors

Desire:

- Help employees identify the personal benefits of the change (WIIFM)
- 2. Acknowledge the losses and opportunities associated with the change
- 3. Address negative history with change discuss why previous mistakes occurred and how current and future changes can be implemented differently to ensure success
- 4. Engage employees in the change process at the earliest possible stages of the change
- 5. Align incentive and performance management systems to support the change

Knowledge:

- 1. Ensure employees have access to and time to attend training
- Use job aids to assist employees in the learning process
- 3. Provide open and ready access to information to support learning
- 4. Identify employees that others can go to for assistance
- 5. Provide one-on-one coaching
- 6. Share problems and lessons learned as a team

Ability:

- 1. Help employees apply what they have learned to real work situations
- 2. Ensure that employees have the time and opportunities to develop new skills
- 3. Provide solutions when the "real work" does not match what they learned in training
- 4. Be a role model for how to act in the new environment
- 5. Identify when "more time" is not the answer and external intervention is required

Reinforcement:

- Celebrate successes
- 2. Recognize employees for successfully implementing change
- 3. Gather feedback from employees
- 4. Identify root causes for low adoption and implement helpful action
- 5. Build accountability mechanisms into day-today business operations

Questions or support?

Please reach out to ESD's Organizational Change Management team:



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Find us on InsideESD:

http://insideesd.wa.gov/resources/ocm

