

#### **TEAM DEVELOPMENT**

# Sharpen planning and management skills while improving team decision making



Unlock the secret of synergy while developing an understanding of project management from an HR perspective.

## WHAT IS THE PROJECT PLANNING SITUATION?

The *Project Planning Situation* is one of our most widely used and extensively researched business simulations. It is an interactive team exercise that teaches participants a process for planning and managing projects while building their consensus decision-making skills. Specifically, participants are challenged to identify the best sequence for carrying out 20 management activities.

## HOW DOES THE PROJECT PLANNING SITUATION WORK?

Solutions to the Project Planning Situation are developed first on an individual basis and then by groups. Participants then compare their individual and team solutions to the experts' solution based on the planning, human resource, and management literature. Comparisons between individual solutions and the experts' solution indicate how well participants are exercising their knowledge, experience, and skills with respect to planning, management, and complex problem solving. Comparisons between participants' individual scores and their team's score indicates whether they were able to achieve synergy by fully using and building on their collective knowledge and skills.

The exercise takes approximately 1½ to 2 hours to complete, including scoring and debriefing.

paper self-scored form

eal-time feedback

#### **APPLICATIONS**

The *Project Planning Situation* can be used as an icebreaker, central activity, pre-test/ post-test, or follow-up activity for programs focusing on:

- Planning or managing projects
- · Problem solving and decision making
- Team development

The exercise can also be used as a tool for:

- Developing supervisors and managers
- Evaluating current approaches to planning and human resource management
- Implementing more effective approaches to planning and management



## WHO SHOULD USE THE PROJECT PLANNING SITUATION?

The emphasis of the *Project Planning Situation* is on management and planning skills. Therefore, this simulation is applicable to a broader audience than our *Project Management Challenge*<sup>™</sup> (which emphasizes the use of techniques and tools that are specific to project management). The *Project Planning Situation* is particularly appropriate for supervisors, managers, project managers, and project leaders, as well as management trainees and students in management, project management, or human resource management programs.

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