Elevating Learning & Development (paperback)

So You Want a Seat at the Table is a practical, realistic guide to help HR business partners think and act strategically. Readers will observe and learn the steps Mary Alice, a new VP of HR takes to build her relationship with her leadership team and gain access to her many useful tools and strategies.

Building Engaged Team Performance: Align Your Processes and People to Achieve Game-Changing Business Results

The defining attributes of the 21st-century economy and fourth industrial revolution are innovation, technology, globalization, and a rapid pace of change. Therefore, an organization's capacity to enhance the capabilities of its workforce and create a culture of continuous learning are vital to remaining competitive. These trends make an effective learning-and-development (L&D) function more critical than ever. This compendium of articles, from L&D professionals at McKinsey & Company, discusses every facet of professional development and training—ensuring that L&D's efforts are closely aligned with business strategy to elements of advancing the L&D function, designing learning solutions, deploying digital learning, executing flawlessly, measuring impact, and ensuring good governance. For L&D professionals seeking to hone their organization's efforts, Elevating Learning & Development: Insights and Practical Guidance from the Field is the ideal resource.

10 Steps to Successful Business Alignment

Originally published in 2015 as: Repurposing HR: from a cost center to a business accelerator.

HR: The Business Partner

The traditional training process confuses training activity with performance improvement by focusing on employees' learning needs, rather than on their performance needs. Traditional programs focus on developing excellent learning experiences, while failing to ensure that the newly acquired skills are transferred to the job. Thus, to be effective, training professionals must become "performance consultants," shifting their focus from training delivery to the performance of the company and its individual contributors. Dana & Jim Robinson describe an approach suitable for use in any organizational setting or industry and with any content area. Dozens of useful tools, illustrative exercises, and a case study that threads through the book show how the techniques described are applied in an organizational setting.

Human Resources in the Family Business
Access Free Strategic Business Partner Aligning People Strategies With Business Goals

Performance Consulting

Named as BusinessWeek's #1 Management Educator, expert Dave Ulrich and his team of authors bring human resources a whole new way of thinking and practicing moving the focus from internal issues to actively helping to set business strategies. Businesses of the future need all hands on deck when implementing new ways to stimulate growth and cost efficiency, and this includes human resources. This team presents a four-phase model of transformation that shows you step-by-step how to make meaningful progress in contributing to the performance of your company by redesigning HR to work as a strategic partnership.

Leading an HR Transformation

You'll note our reference to Human Resources and the term HR. We are viewing this area in its broadest sense, inclusive of the HR, Learning, and OD disciplines practiced today. Essentially, this book is written for people who work in the people side of any organization - for-profit, not-for-profit, and public. This book is written from the perspective of someone who works within an organization, whether that organization is small or large. However, most of the techniques and practices are relevant to those individuals who work externally in a consultative role.

The HR Scorecard

Performance Consulting

What difference can the aspiring HR strategist really make to business value? In the new edition of her ground-breaking book, Linda Holbeche answers this question and provides the tools and insights to help HR managers and directors add value to the organization by implementing effective HR initiatives that are aligned to core business strategies. Featuring updated profiles and case studies from top HR strategists who have used their skills to deliver a variety of key business objectives, Aligning Human Resources and Business Strategy, 2nd edition provides inspiration and guidance on how to apply the theory to challenges in your organization. Learn how you can strengthen and prove the relationship between people strategy and business success through your approach to performance and development and impress at the highest levels with this new edition of an HR classic. Linda Holbeche is Director of Research and Policy at the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD). Linda chairs and speaks at meetings and conferences worldwide and appeared at number six in Human Resources magazine's HR most influential 2008 roll call of top industry thinkers.

Strategic Business Partner

Leading organizations worldwide are evolving from the idea of employee engagement to that of organizational alignment. More important in today's virtual work environment, The Art of Alignment provides a roadmap to creating alignment to your mission and vision to distributed teams. Readers will discover the answers to: How bought in to the mission and vision are your employees? Are leaders across your organization aligned? How are your KPIs integrated into the organizational alignment? The Art of Alignment takes a data-driven approach to organizational alignment. When executives add PURPOSE to engagement, coupled with measurement, your organization will experience market-leading performance. By following the 9-Pillars approach to leadership, your organization can increase key metrics by as much as 28% with each percentage point improvement in alignment. The approach to organizational alignment is organized into four parts: how it can be measured, practiced and analyzed: Part 1 - Alignment is the Responsibility of Leadership Part 2 - The Nine Pillars of Alignment Part 3 - The Data-Driven Leadership Playbook Part 4 - The Scientific Leader - Where Data Science Meets Leadership Decisions By adopting a scientific approach to your leadership style, leaders are able to visualize how to improve employee engagement and performance.
NEW EDITION, REVISED AND UPDATED In America, organizations spend $175 billion in training initiatives and more than $500 billion in human resource solutions every year yet often have little to show for it. One reason is that people jump to solutions before they identify the causes of the problem. Performance consultants are effective because they partner with clients to clarify business goals and determine root causes for gaps between desired and current results. Only then are specific solutions agreed upon and implemented. This third edition of the classic book that introduced performance consulting adds a wealth of new material. There are new case examples throughout and four new chapters providing detailed steps for measuring results from performance consulting initiatives on five different levels, including ROI. The book includes a never-before-published Alignment and Measurement Model, allowing you to connect organizational needs and performance consulting initiatives designed to address those needs with the appropriate level of measurement. This remains a profoundly practical book, featuring tools, models, and checklists. It will enable you to make a difference in your organization that is valued, measurable, and sustainable.

So You Want a Seat at the Table

Named as BusinessWeek's #1 Management Educator, expert Dave Ulrich and his team of authors bring human resources a whole new way of thinking and practicing—moving the focus from internal issues to actively helping to set business strategies. Businesses of the future need "all hands on deck" when implementing new ways to stimulate grown and cost efficiency, and this includes human resources. In HR Transformation, the team presents a four-phase model of transformation that shows you step-by-step how to make meaningful progress in contributing to the performance of your company by redesigning HR to work as a strategic partnership. From the #1 Management Educator & Guru—BusinessWeek The authors have presented us with an accessible, readable, and practical illustration of a clear path for successful strategy execution in a complex environment. -Majed Al Romaithi, Executive Director, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority HR can only transform organizations if it transforms HR. This book shows us how. HR Transformation would have been important in the past—it is critical now! We are entering a new world. HR Transformation can help our organizations thrive in the midst of uncertainty. -Marshall Goldsmith, author of the Wall Street Journal bestsellers What Got You Here Won't Get You There and Succession: Are You Ready? Ulrich and his colleagues talk tough and provide a detailed blueprint for how those of us in the field can use our own tools to do a 720-degree evaluation of ourselves. We cannot contribute to the success of our organizations until we upgrade ourselves. -Linda A. Hill, Wallace Brett Donham Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School Based on groundbreaking research with hundreds of companies and thousands of executives, HR Transformation provides compelling theory and practical tools to create alignment between strategy, systems, and people. This important book should be read carefully by leadership teams everywhere. -Mark Huselid, Professor of HR Strategy, Rutgers University, Co-author of The HR Scorecard, The Workforce Scorecard, and The Differentiated Workforce Turn to the front matter for more than thirty rousing endorsements of HR Transformation. INCLUDES CASE STUDIES FROM Intel, Pfizer, Takeda, Flextronics

Information Processing and Management

Human resource management is experiencing profound change, new challenges, exciting accomplishments, and much uncertainty. The public service has moved away from the old days of "personnel management" concerned mostly with processing "personal action" paperwork, to a system where public employees are managed as human capital to get the work of the government done more effectively and efficiently. This volume brings together the latest thinking on human resource management in the public service, presented by distinguished thought leaders in the field. While it focuses primarily on federal government policies and practices, the principles, conclusions, and recommendations translate readily to state and local government, and to the private sector as well.

HR Competencies

Leaders as Learners, Learners as Leaders Drawing upon firsthand experiences and insights from senior practitioners, Leading the Learning Function: Tools and Techniques for Organizational Impact offers best practices, tools, techniques, and processes that successful business leaders use to develop, build, and implement their personal leadership skill sets. The ATD Forum—a consortium for senior talent and learning practitioners to connect, collaborate, and share knowledge, best practices, and company experiences—sought to extend those accruing benefits more broadly in the profession to current and aspiring learning leaders and talent practitioners. In this book, Forum managers and book editors MJ Hall and Laleh Patel
and Forum members set out to document the work learning leaders do to help themselves and others build organizational capabilities and successful results. In 26 chapters, Forum contributors—leaders in their respective organizations—offer insights and lessons about setting direction, managing processes, leading and developing people, making an impact, collaborating with stakeholders, using technology for learning, and innovating. Growing leadership skills is a lifelong journey; gaining a portfolio of techniques others have used successfully to solve similar business challenges can provide an edge in your role as a business advisor. Leading the Learning Function is just that portfolio.

Strategic Business Partner

The Differentiated Workforce

The journey of HR -- The state of the HR profession -- Credible activist -- Culture & change steward -- Talent manager/organization designer -- Strategy architect -- Operational executor -- Business ally -- Building an HR department -- Summary and implications.

Hr Transformation

With HR professionals increasingly expected to be “business partners,” are you prepared with the skills and tools to make a positive difference to your organization? As the recognised definitive guide to the topic, HR: The Business Partner, second edition, offers practical insights to take you through the challenging process of business partnering, including: No-nonsense description of what business partnering entails, with case studies to illustrate real-life practice Detailed coverage of the common challenges and advice on how to overcome them Guidance on how to develop the skills and confidence required to work effectively Covering the transition from working operationally to working strategically and the tools, techniques and skill sets needed for partnering, this inexpensive guide will help to both add real value to your business and to develop your career in business partnering. If you are aspiring to or about to embark on a business partner role, this book will provide you with ideas and inspiration for the position.

HR Business Partnering

This practical book sets out how HR can become a true business partner. It will require a rethinking of HR’s contribution to the organization in the future. All the key topics are covered in this work from a specific HR strategic model, reshaping of HR to align itself better with the business, and a number of new tools and techniques to aid in creating real financial value to the organization. Many HR personnel have already jumped onto the title of calling themselves a business partner, but what this involves is a very different and complex skill set as well as a new process approach to creating added value. Being a business partner is a very different and exciting approach to creating measurable value, specifically from HR activities and interventions.

Creating a Learning and Development Strategy

Sixty-three stellar academics, consultants, and practitioners look at the future of human resources The follow-up to the bestselling Tomorrow’s HR Management (978-0-471-19714-0), this book presents an international panel of expert contributors who offer their views on the state of HR and what to expect in the future. Topics covered include HR as a decision science, understanding and managing people, creating and adapting organizational culture, the effects of globalization, collaborative ventures, and investing in the next generation. Like its bestselling predecessor before it, The Future of Human Resource Management offers the very best thinking on the future of HR from the most respected leaders in the field.

Strategic Business Partner
It is my pleasure to write the preface for Information Processing and Management. This book aims to bring together innovative results and new research trends in information processing, computer science and management engineering. If an information processing system is able to perform useful actions for an objective in a given domain, it is because the system knows something about that domain. The more knowledge it has, the more useful it can be to its users. Without that knowledge, the system itself is useless. In the information systems field, there is conceptual modeling for the activity that elicits and describes the general knowledge a particular information system needs to know. The main objective of conceptual modeling is to obtain that description, which is called a conceptual schema. Conceptual schemas are written in languages called conceptual modeling languages. Conceptual modeling is an important part of requirements engineering, the first and most important phase in the development of an information system.

Partner for Performance

Align your L&D strategy to the overall business strategy to benefit employees and the organization as a whole

Effective Talent Management

Do you think of your company's talent as an investment to be managed like a portfolio? You should, according to authors Becker, Huselid, and Beatty, if you're interested in strategy execution. Many companies fall into the trap of spending too much time and money on low performers, while high performers aren't getting the necessary resources, development opportunities, or rewards. In The Differentiated Workforce, the authors expand on their previous books, The HR Scorecard and The Workforce Scorecard, and recommend that you manage your workforce like a portfolio - with disproportionate investments in the jobs that create the most wealth. You'll learn to: Rise above talent management "best practice" and instead create a differentiated workforce that can't be easily copied by competitors Differentiate those capabilities in your company that are truly strategic Identify your wealth-creating "A" positions Create a new relationship between HR and line managers, and articulate the role each plays in a differentiated workforce strategy Develop the right measures for your organization Based on two decades of academic research and experience working with hundreds of executives, The Differentiated Workforce gives you the tools to translate your talent into strategic impact.

HR Transformation: Building Human Resources From the Outside In

As a training and development or human resource professional, do you have the knowledge, skills, and experience you need to become an indispensable strategic partner within your organization? Building Business Acumen for Trainers provides step-by-step practical advice on business practices guaranteed to win the support, respect, and attention of your organization. Written for both new and seasoned professionals, this essential resource will show how to put into practice the three critical areas of business acumen: Finance Skills, Partnering Skills, and Communication Skills. Each section in the book highlights one of these three skills and can be used as a stand-alone reference. To help you succeed, the book is filled with case studies, thought-provoking interactive scenarios, templates, quizzes, questions for reflection, and self-paced exercises, all available on the accompanying CD. "Some of the jewels of this book are that it explains the language of finance, it provides practical advice on how to communicate the case for investing in development initiatives, and it is full of guidance on how to collaborate with the business to determine the payback of investing in development solutions. This is one of those books every HR, HRD, and training professional should have." —Judith A. Hale, author of Outsourcing Training and Development: Factors for Success "For training professionals who want to earn a seat at the strategic planning table, nothing can help build corporate relevance better than applying the skills outlined in this book, which will show you how to turn training into business results." —Marty Fisher, vice president, HR and Training, Abercrombie and Fitch

Leading the Learning Function

Praise for Never By Chance "Joe Calloway, Chuck Feltz, and Kris Young have joined forces to write the book that senior management at companies large and small have been waiting for. Highly readable, loaded with innovative ideas and filled with seminal insights from both a consulting and CEO perspective, Never by Chance lays out a plan for aligning people and strategy to dramatically improve market share and ROI. If you're going to read one business book this year, this is it!" —Kevin J. Clancy, PhD, Chairman, Copernicus Marketing Consulting
"Never by Chance is a real-world, pragmatic guide to authentic alignment, vision, and strategy. If you want to create enduring value for your customers that drives shareholder value, then read this book. A great read that lays out a foundational approach to aligning people, resources, and strategy." — Kevin Cashman, Senior Partner, Korn/Ferry Leadership & Talent Consulting; bestselling author of Leadership from the Inside Out "Calloway, Feltz, and Young offer a fresh perspective on what it takes to drive business strategy to its successful conclusion. This is a compelling contribution to the literature on the application of strategy and the importance of those things that really matter. It's a must-read for all those who labor in the vineyards of corporate America and those who aspire to it." — Benjamin Ola. Akande, PhD, Dean, School of Business and Technology, Webster University "Everyone ends up somewhere, but few end up somewhere on purpose. Doing things on purpose and for a purpose are critical to business success. Never by Chance makes a compelling case for intentional leadership in bringing all of a company's resources to bear on delivering the stakeholder value your organization exists to provide." — Steve Tourek, SVP and General Counsel, Marvin Windows and Doors

Building Business Acumen for Trainers

This book will help HR managers and founders/owners develop a formal process within the company and also provide insights from family firms on how to manage sensitive topics ranging from family member compensation; family member appraisal, etc., and serves as a guide to HR managers struggling to get a "seat at the table" in family firms.

People Strategy

Having the skills is not enough - applying them in the chaotic and frantic world of work while still delivering the transactional duties of HR is the real challenge. This toolkit helps you to first identify those skills gaps and develop your team's capability and then to apply those skills to become genuine business partners.

Strategic Business Partner

Three experts in Human Resources introduce a measurement system that convincingly showcases how HR impacts business performance. Drawing from the authors' ongoing study of nearly 3,000 firms, this book describes a seven-step process for embedding HR systems within the firm's overall strategy--what the authors describe as an HR Scorecard--and measuring its activities in terms that line managers and CEOs will find compelling. Analyzing how each element of the HR system can be designed to enhance firm performance and maximize the overall quality of human capital, this important book heralds the emergence of HR as a strategic powerhouse in today's organizations.

The Practical HR Business Partner

Never by Chance

You'll note our reference to Human Resources and the term HR. We are viewing this area in its broadest sense, inclusive of the HR, Learning, and OD disciplines practiced today. Essentially, this book is written for people who work in the people side of any organization - for profit, not-for-profit, and public. This book is written from the perspective of someone who works within an organization, whether that organization is small or large. However, most of the techniques and practices are relevant to those individuals who work externally in a consultative role.

Strategic Business Partner

As an L&D professional, you know not to take a client request at face value. But can you steer misguided initiatives in the right direction, arriving at a solution that works for your
customers and your company? Partner for Performance is the key to aligning your learning and development role with your organization’s greatest needs. Performance improvement specialists Ingrid Guerra-López and Karen Hicks offer a framework for fast-tracking your growth as an ally to managers and a consultant to business leaders. Their structured, yet versatile method is a fit for any organization, and you can use it throughout the learning-solution process. Form lasting partnerships with stakeholders. Generate, share, and use performance data that support decision making and action. And help your organization avoid failed training initiatives that waste effort, time, and money, while brewing employee disengagement. Change the L&D status quo and build credibility for your department --Partner for Performance will show you how.

The Future of Human Resource Management

This book is for you if You're new to the HRBP role, and want some ideas on how to go about creating a high-performing organization. You need a quick "HRBP 101" guide that focuses on the business partner aspects of the role. You are looking for ways to align HR solutions with the strategy and priorities of the business. You're looking for tools and templates to help you do stuff with your internal customers. A business group that you support is under-performing, and you want some ideas on how to change that. You want to talk to your internal customers (i.e., the 'business') in ways that make them feel that you are their true business partner. You've been asked to support a business group with creating innovative business ideas, but need some guidance on how to do that. And You just want to be a more successful and effective HRBP.

Strategic Business Partner

Defining business alignment as the process of ensuring that a new project, program, or process is connected directly to business impact measures, usually expressed in terms such as output, quality, cost, or time, 10 Steps to Successful Business Alignment offers concrete, detailed input, suggestions and how-how on how to plan for, implement, create, and maintain effective alignment for projects of nearly every size and scope. This book covers the full spectrum of issues related to alignment, including planning the alignment with clients; determining payoff, business, performance, and preference needs; addressing high-level objectives; measuring impact; reporting the results of the alignment; and more. Some of the topics on which this volume drills down into useful detail include: How and when to discuss alignment with clients? Which projects are (and which projects aren't) appropriate for applying alignment? A detailed, highly objective review of how to measure the impact of alignment? The most effective ways to report and communicate your results Truly a comprehensive resource on alignment, 10 Steps to Successful Business Alignment delivers practical insight on every step of the process


Learn to unlock the potential of your employees and colleagues with this definitive resource for people management People Strategy: How to Invest in People and Make Culture Your Competitive Advantage provides readers with a powerful framework in which to develop high-performing teams, increase employee motivation, and use data to build an inviting and effective company culture. Author Jack Altman, cofounder and CEO of Lattice, an award-winning HR and performance management platform, shows you how to: Establish the values that will form the bedrock of your organization Develop feedback processes that help employees feel heard, supported, and equipped to succeed Monitor the breadth and depth of employee engagement in your company Use the data and insights created by your People Strategy to drive business results Perfect for executives, managers, and human resource professionals, People Strategy also belongs on the bookshelves of anyone with even an interest in how to develop, nurture, and unlock the potential of their employees and colleagues.

The Art Of Alignment

Analyzes key critical HR variables and defines previously undiscovered issues in the HR field.

Encyclopedia of Human Resources Information Systems: Challenges in e-HRM
Strategic Business Partner

In 1995 the first edition of Performance Consulting introduced a concept which has since become a cornerstone of the human resource, learning and organizational development fields: training and HR solutions do not take place in a vacuum but must be tied to an organization's business goals. Performance consulting is a process in which a client and consultant partner to achieve business goals by optimizing workgroup performance. In this updated edition, Dana and Jim Robinson draw on what they've learned since the first edition was published twelve years ago, providing both a robust conceptual framework and improved tools and techniques to help the reader move from the traditional role to that of a Performance Consultant. They show readers how to form partnerships with management, help to identify performance required to ensure that business goals are achieved and assist management in taking actions needed for performance to change. They also illustrate the how-to's for assisting management to identify the performance required to achieve business goals; and determining the degree to which the work environment supports and encourages the performance required. Effective HR and learning consultants master both the science (the analytical and assessment techniques) and the art (the consultative and partnering practices) of performance consulting. For the science of performance consulting, dozens of analytic tools, templates and assessment techniques are provided in the book. Regarding the art, the Robinsons describe the concepts and practices of ACT—building Access, Credibility and Trust—with business managers. In addition, two brand new chapters are dedicated to the skills of reframing requests for solutions into discussion of business goals and performance requirements; and Initiating business goals discussions with business managers and identifying strategic opportunities to partner with those managers in a proactive manner. Performance Consulting Toolkit - The second edition of Performance Consulting references graphic and adaptable tools that can be downloaded to support the performance consulting work the Robinsons describe. These tools are available to purchase and download from this product page. See the Table of Contents link for the full listing of the tools. Some tools (in Adobe PDF) can be printed and shared; others (in Microsoft Word) can be adapted to your specific needs and application requirements.

Aligning Human Resources and Business Strategy

Innovations in Human Resource Management

Shortlisted for the 2020 Business Book Awards Why do some businesses thrive, while many more struggle and fail? A key reason—and the focus of this book—is strategic alignment. This is the careful arrangement of the various elements of an enterprise—from its business strategy to its organisation—to best support the fulfillment of its long-term purpose. The best-aligned enterprises are the best performing. Most executives recognise that their enterprises should be managed in this aligned way, but lack a robust system of thought to allow them to execute strategic alignment effectively and realise its full benefits. There are thousands of organisations globally that are operating below their potential simply because they are not aligned. This book aims to change that. In Align, Jonathan Trevor provides a blueprint for how strategic alignment can be effectively developed, implemented and sustained. Drawing upon active research at the University of Oxford's Saïd Business School (with contributions from the joint works of Dr Jonathan Trevor and Dr Barry Varcoe), Jonathan also provides practical case studies and evidence-based insights culminating in a thoughtful and compelling message to help leaders everywhere to improve their alignment and enterprise performance.

Performance Consulting

Harness the Power of Your Most Valuable Resource—Your Workforce! Process improvement approaches like Six Sigma and Lean Enterprise have worked wonders for countless organizations, but in the drive for true excellence, these approaches are only one important part of the formula. Building Engaged Team Performance explains the next wave of business improvement: driving breakthrough gains by integrating process improvement with the people side of performance. Breaking new ground in the world of organizational improvement, performance management expert Dodd Starbird teams up with Roland Cavanagh, coauthor of the bestselling The Six Sigma Way, to present a system for aligning and optimizing processes and the efforts of any organization’s most valuable asset: people. Combining the principles from Total Quality Management (TQM), Six Sigma, Lean, and Socio-Technical Systems, Engaged Team Performance helps you harness the massive potential of human performance that is not captured by process improvements alone. Illustrated through real-life stories, Building Engaged Team Performance offers a stepby-step program that shows you how you can more than double the productivity of your business. The authors’ client examples are a diverse group of transactional and manufacturing organizations that have used Engaged Team Performance to: Increase employee efficiency by 50% and save millions of dollars
Consistently deliver on critical customer requirements Provide visual data for instant decision making
Create realistic staffing models for sustainable capacity Establish standards for both team and individual performance
Develop leadership that facilitates team ownership of execution Building Engaged Team Performance provides the tools for building a superior system that optimizes effectiveness of outcomes for customers and efficiency of resource usage. Never before have human performance and process improvement been so closely linked in a single, sustainable method. Catch the next wave of business improvement with Engaged Team Performance.

Praise for Building Engaged Team Performance

“The Engaged Team Performance effort that we undertook has allowed us to reshape our process from start to finish and improve both productivity and the communication among multiple departments.” Art Bacci, President & CEO, Principal Bank

“This book provides practical insights on building competencies of change leaders throughout the organization.” Dr. William D. Trotter, Managing Director, Association of Internal Management Consultants (AIMC)

“By embedding these concepts into organizational culture, systems, and processes, a group of individuals may become a winning team.” Dan Bell, President, Canon Information Technology Services

“When I led a division at GE during the heyday of Six Sigma, process excellence and team performance were both critical; yet they were considered different disciplines, supported by separate infrastructure. Engaged Team Performance combines and aligns the best of both, and it delivers even better results.” C. Lewis Fain, President, Mortgage Payment Protection, Inc.

“If your strategic vision includes words like growth, customer loyalty, value creation, responsiveness, quality, expertise, partnership, accountability, efficiency, or best in class, then Building Engaged Team Performance has to be part of the foundation. Without it you’re just creating a house of cards.” Rick Larson, CEO, VFD Technologies

Effective talent management is about aligning the business's approach to talent with the strategic aims and purpose of the organisation. The core rationale of any talent strategy should be to have a direct positive impact on the organisation's goals but in many cases this is not so. The ideas, principles and approaches outlined here will enable the reader to understand the strategic nature of talent and design a response that meets the needs of their own organisation. Case studies are used to illustrate the concepts and proven methodologies guide the day-to-day practice of the reader. The content will link the strategic intent of HR with the practical actions it takes to make a positive impact on the business's results. The author begins by examining the disconnected nature of talent management in many organisations; how at times it has been a response to trends and seen by many as a bolt on to HR and he proposes a different model, one that links clearly the development of a talent strategy with the achievement of a business strategy. Mark Wilcox summarises succinctly the case for a more strategic approach to talent management, one directly linked to business performance. He concludes that the time is now right for talent management, and therefore many HR managers, to move from a functional support role to one with a direct strategic impact on the business.

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