

Evolution of Organizational Structures

We'll look at...



- 1. Introduction
- 2. Traditional Organizational Structures
- 3 Technological Disruptions
- 4. Shifts in Management
- 5. Evolution of Communication
- 6. Cultural Shifts in Organizations
- 7. Future Trends
- 8. Challenges in Adapting to Technological Changes
- 9. Conclusion

1.0 Introduction



Organizations have undergone continuous change:

Driven by evolving technologies, globalization, and workforce dynamics.

Objective: To explore the impact of technological disruptions on three key areas:

- 1. Management Structures
- 2. Communication Processes
- 3. Organizational Culture

Why This Matters:

- ► Technology dictates how businesses operate, compete, and grow
- ▶ Understanding these changes is crucial for adapting to the future of work



2.0 Traditional Organizational Structures



Management:

- Hierarchical and centralized.
- Clear chain of command with authority concentrated at the top.

Communication:

- ► Linear and top-down
- ▶ Primarily face-to-face, with formal memos and written reports.

Culture:

- ► Stability and predictability were prioritized over innovation.
- ▶ Employee roles were rigid, with little room for autonomy or creativity.



3.0 Technological Disruptions



Technological advancements have disrupted traditional structures, leading to:

01 : The Digital Revolution:

Introduction of personal computers, the internet, and cloud computing

02 : Globalization:

Technology enabled businesses to operate globally.

03 : Automation & Artificial Intelligence (AI):

▶ Routine tasks automated, shifting focus to knowledge-based work and innovation.

1980 : Internet 2010: Cloud Computing 2020: Artificial Intelligence (AI)





4.0 Shifts in Management



4.1 From Hierarchical to Flat Structures:

- Decentralized decision-making.
- Empowered teams with greater autonomy and accountability.

4.2 Agile and Lean Management:

- ► Focus on iterative processes, rapid feedback, and continuous improvement.
- ► Tech companies adopting Agile methodologies.

4.3 Data-Driven Decision Making:

► Leveraging big data and analytics for strategic decisions.



4.1 From Hierarchical to Flat Structures



Traditional Hierarchical Structure :

A structure with multiple layers of authority and a top-down management approach

Characteristics:

- Clear authority lines.
- Centralized decision-making.
- ▶ Vertical Communication.

Benefits:

- Clear accountability.
- Effective for large organizations.

Drawbacks:

- ► Slow decision-making.
- ► Limited flexibility.



G7B, Dec. 2024

Preparatory Class 1, Human Engineering 6/18



4.1 From Hierarchical to Flat Structures



Flat Organizational Structure :

A structure with fewer management layers, promoting collaboration and autonomy

Characteristics:

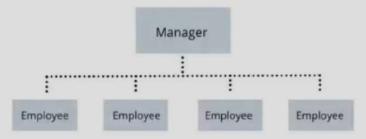
- ► Fewer layers of management.
- Decentralized decision-making.
- ► Open communication.

Benefits:

- Faster decision-making.
- ► Increased collaboration.

Drawbacks:

- ▶ Role confusion.
- ► Requires self-management.







Agile Management :

An iterative approach to project management that emphasizes flexibility and collaboration

Agile Project Management Phases







Characteristics:

- ▶ Iterative and incremental processes with short cycles.
- Strong focus on collaboration through cross-functional teams.
- Customer-centric approach that incorporates feedback during each cycle.

Benefits:

- Adaptability to changes, ensuring the product aligns with customer needs.
- ► Enhanced collaboration improves team morale and problem-solving.

Drawbacks:

- ▶ May lack predictability due to frequent changes in scope.
- Requires high commitment and active involvement from all stakeholders.

G7B, Dec. 2024

Preparatory Class 1, Human Engineering 9/18





Lean Management :

A systematic methodology focused on creating value for the costumer





G7B, Dec. 2024

Preparatory Class 1, Human Engineering 10/18





Characteristics:

- ▶ Emphasizes minimizing waste (e.g., overproduction, waiting times, defects...).
- Continuous improvement and focus on value-added activities.
- ► Employee empowerment, encouraging team involvement in problem-solving.

Benefits:

- ► Cost efficiency and streamlined workflows.
- Improved quality and consistency in processes and outputs.

Drawbacks:

G7B, Dec. 2024

- Implementation challenges due to resistance to change.
- Risk of focusing too much on efficiency, potentially neglecting innovation.

Preparatory Class 1, Human Engineering 11/18



4.3 Data-Driven Decision Making



Making organizational decisions based on verified and analyzed data





Preparatory Class 1, Human Engineering 12/18

G7B, Dec. 2024

5.0 Evolution of Communication



5.1 Traditional Communication:

- ▶ DFace-to-face meetings, memos, and emails
- ► Delayed feedback and limited collaboration

5.2 Modern Communication:

- ► Instant Messaging & Collaboration Tools: Slack, Microsoft Teams
- ▶ Remote Communication: Video conferencing tools like Zoom and Google Meet
- ► Asynchronous Work: Employees can collaborate across time zones.



5.1 Traditional Communication



Formal, hierarchical, and offline organizational communication methods

Characteristics:

- ► Information flows top-down or through fixed channels
- ▶ Heavy reliance on memos, letters, and structured meeting
- ▶ Delayed feedback due to slower communication methods
- ► Frequent reliance on physical presence for communication

Meetings Talk to me Back and forth Feedback Deep work

Limitations :

- Delayed information flow across departments
- ► Limited Reach: Constrained by geography and access to physical tools
- ▶ Inability to adapt to real-time changes or needs

-1, 10

5.2 Cultural Shifts in Organizations



Flexible, collaborative, and tech-driven organizational communication methods

Characteristics:

- ► Instant communication via messaging apps and video calls
- ► Encourages teamwork through shared platforms like Slack, Teams, or Trello
- ► Information flows freely across levels and departments
- ▶ Frequent reliance on physical presence for communication

Advantages:

- ▶ Instantaneous communication across the globe
- ► Easy to reach team members regardless of location
- ► Combines communication with data analytics and tracking G7B, Dec. 2024



Preparatory Class 1, Human Engineering 1/4



6.0 Cultural Shifts in Organizations



6.1 Traditional Culture:

- ► Emphasis on conformity, stability, and clear roles
- ► Innovation was often limited to specific departments

6.2 Modern Culture:

- ► Innovation-Driven: Encouraging experimentation and risk-taking
- ► Employee-Centric: Focus on well-being, diversity, and inclusion
- ► Collaborative: Cross-functional teams and open communication

6.1 Traditional Culture



A hierarchical, rule-driven, and stability-focused organizational culture

Characteristics:

- ► Emphasis on policies, procedures, and formalized processes
- ► Prioritizes predictability and minimizing risks
- ▶ Performance is evaluated at the individual level

Challenges:

- ▶ Difficulty adapting to new trends and market demands
- ► Inhibits creativity and innovation
- ► Can lead to dissatisfaction due to rigid hierarchies

