Course: MIS 361

Homework Assignment #1: Real World IT Project

Due Date: September 30, 2015 (by 11 AM)

Project Title: Replacement of Slimline Turrets by IQMX turrets

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1. Trade phones have become more and more critical in the trading world. They allow traders to communicate with several people at the same time and listen to real time information. We had Slimline turrets in our environment but they had major problems. They will lose connectivity every time the network flaps for several seconds, take about 20 minutes to reboot and made the move of equipment and users very tedious. It would take us roughly an hour to move one turret
2. The project was initiated when I was at a meeting with the desk leads of the trade floor. I showed them the advantages of switching to IQMX turrets and showed them the potential cost of the project. They agreed and I had a meeting with the CIO (Chef Information Officer), the head of Facilities and the CEO to discuss the project.
3. The project scope was to deploy new infrastructure to support IQMX turrets, deploy IQMX turrets, make the appropriate changes to ensure they work properly and provide training to the appropriate teams and users.
4. The project was scheduled to take 6 months. It involved the work and the collaboration of several teams so that much time was needed. Also we were to keep the old infrastructure while deploying the new old so we could deal with failures or problems
5. The project cost was estimated to be $5,000,000. However, after the meeting with the CIO and the CEO, it was decided that only 3,000,000 will be allocated for that project.
6. The biggest risk was to have the infrastructure deployed but not working. Even though we knew what was needed they was still a risk for it to not work or been delayed. We would have to justify all that money wasted
7. The collaboration with internal teams went very well. Some works were delayed because of other pressing matters the teams had to deal with but it wasn’t too bad. Also the traders were very patient and didn’t complain too much about the new equipment
8. The biggest challenges were working with IPC, getting the money for the project and have the old and new infrastructures running. IPC is almost the only option available when it comes to trading phones systems so we had to stick with them. They cancelled several times an onsite visit to deploy new cards without reasons. We didn’t get the money we expected for the project but it was still hard to get more that 50% of what we asked. Also the team has to train at a faster pace to support the new equipment.
9. We had a team meeting every week when the team reported the progress and the problems encountered. I will then report it to the stakeholders
10. The project was successful. We had to a few setbacks but it always happens. It took 7 months instead of 6 months and we got more money close to the end so we could replace all the turrets.

Questionnaire

1. Why the project?
2. How the project was initialized?
3. What was the project scope?
4. What was the project schedule?
5. What was the project cost?
6. What was the risk associated with the project?
7. What did go well?
8. What were the challenges?
9. How often did you communicate with the stakeholders?
10. Was the project successful?