SALES MANAGEMENT

Performance Evaluation and Motivation

- Every sales manager is engaged in the task of appraising and evaluating his salesmen continuously, in an informal way.
- Informal evaluation however is not enough
 - to arrive at realistic and
 - smart assessment of the worth of a salesman
 - in absolute or relative terms.
- The ultimate goal of any evaluation program is to make a salesman more valuable to the company

- Evaluating salesmen's performance is a complex task
 - not only because salesmen are required to perform a variety of activities,
 - but also because different types of selling situations require different kind of selling skills,
 - which may not lend themselves to equitable comparisons.

- Performance evaluation consists of setting performance standards,
 - both quantitative and qualitative and
 - then periodically comparing them with actual sales performance
 - to judge salesmen in terms of their contribution to the sales objective.

- A salesman is considered to be productive only
 - when the results achieved by him
 - offset not only the costs incurred by the company on his account,
 - but also show some contribution towards the corporate profit.

- One of the most important responsibilities of sales managers is to evaluate the performance of their salespeople.
- However, performance evaluation process is time consuming.
- It is also a difficult process,
 - particularly for the sales manager
 - who has to tell poor-performing salespersons how and
 - why their performance is not up to the expectations

Purposes of Sales Force Performance Evaluation and Control

- The basic objective of the performance evaluation of salespersons is
 - to determine how these salespersons have performed.

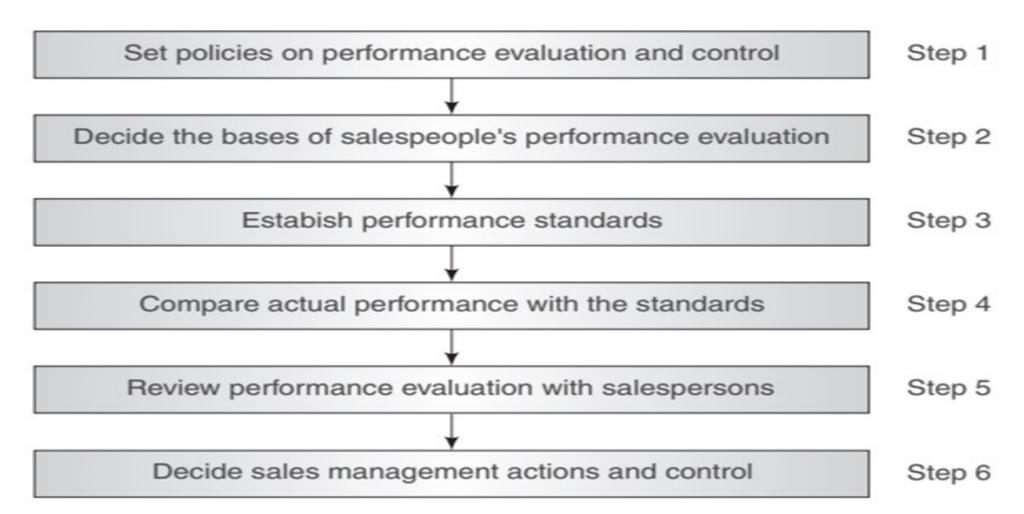
Purposes of Sales Force Performance Evaluation and Control

- The outcome of sales force performance review
 - can be used for other sales force management purposes.....
- Improve the salesperson's performance.
- Decide the appropriate increment in pay and incentive payment based on the actual performance of the salesperson.
- Identify the salespeople who may be promoted.
- Determine the training needs of the individual salesperson and the entire sales force.

Purposes of Sales Force Performance Evaluation and Control

- The outcome of sales force performance review
 - can be used for other sales force management purposes.....
- Identify the salespersons whose services may be terminated, after giving adequate chances for improvement.
- Motivate salespeople through adequate recognition and reward for good performance.
- Find out their strengths and weaknesses.

 Procedure for Evaluating and Controlling Sales force Performance



Step 1 Set policies on Performance Evaluation and Control

- ➤ Before evaluating the performance, the company management should establish the basic policies.
- Several studies have generated information on general policies followed by most sales organizations.
- >Frequency of Evaluation
- **➤ Who Conducts Evaluation?**
- >Assessment Techniques
- ➤ Management by Objectives (MBO)
- > Sources of Information

Step 2 – Decide Bases of Salespeople's Performance Evaluation

- ➤ Before deciding on bases or criteria for performance evaluation of salespeople,
- while evaluating salespeople's performance a sales organization should decide whether it will give importance to:
- ➤(i) outcome (or results) based viewpoint,
- ➤(ii) behavior (or activity/effort) based viewpoint, or
- ➤(iii) both outcome and behavior-based measures,

Procedure for Evaluating and Controlling Sales Force Performance Step 2 – Decide Bases of Salespeople's Performance Evaluation

Criteria/Bases for Salespeople's Performance Evaluation

Quantitative Result/Output Criteria/Bases	Quantitative Behavioural/Activity Criteria/Bases	Qualitative Behavioural/Effort/ Activity Criteria/Bases
Sales volume (a) In value (Rupees/Dollars) (b) In units (numbers, tonnes) (c) To previous year's sales (d) As a percentage of quota and market potential (market share) (e) By products and customer groups Accounts (Customers) (a) Number of new accounts (b) Number of lost accounts Orders (a) Orders are divided by calls (b) Sales are divided by orders Profit margin by products, Customer groups	Customer calls (a) Number of customer calls (b) Number of calls per day (c) Number of calls per customer Nonselling Activities (a) Number of reports sent (b) Number of days worked (c) Selling and nonselling time (d) Number of customer complaints (e) E-mails/letters to prospects (f) Dealer meetings held (g) Service calls made (h) Overdue payments collected Direct selling expense (a) as a percentage of sales (b) as a percentage of quota	 Personal efforts/skills (a) Communication skills (b) Selling skills (c) Team player (d) Time management (e) Planning ability Knowledge (a) Product (b) Competition and customers (c) Pricing (d) Company policies Customer relation/goodwill generation Personality and attitudes (a) Cooperation (b) Enthusiasm, Resourcefulness (c) Initiative and aggressiveness (d) Punctuality
		Appearance and health

Procedure 19 Evaluating and Controlling Sales Force Performance Step 3 – Establish Performance Standards

- Performance standards are generally called sales quotas
- ➤ Some companies call them as
 - ➤ sales objectives,
 - >sales goals or
 - ➤ sales targets.
- ➤ Setting performance standards is a difficult, but an important task.
- ➤ Salespeople's actual performance is measured against the performance standards

Procedure 19 Evaluating and Controlling Sales Force Performance Step 3 – Establish Performance Standards

- Performance standards for quantitative output or results
 - ➤ have a close relationship with the company's sales forecast or
 - >sales budget and quotas for
 - >territories, regions, branches, products, and salespeople.
- ➤ This is because the sales quotas are derived from
 - >the company's sales budget,
 - >which depends on the company's sales forecast
- ➤ Sales managers must ensure that performance standards are fair and reasonable

<u>Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards</u>

- ➤In this step, the individual salesperson's actual performance is measured and
 - >then compared with the predetermined performance standards.
- ➤ Sales managers can use different methods for measuring the performance of salespeople.
- ➤ Periodically, sales managers are required to evaluate the performance of each salesperson in a permanent record

Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards

Performance Evaluation Methods

- ➤ Companies use different forms or methods for evaluating salespeople.
- ➤ Some of the commonly used forms are:
 - ➤ (i) graphic rating, (ii) ranking, (iii) behaviorally anchored rating scale (BARS), (iv) management by objectives (MBO), and (v) descriptive statements.
- ➤ Sales managers are supplied with these evaluation or appraisal forms for evaluating each salesperson.
- ➤ No one method or form provides a perfect evaluation.

Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards

Performance Evaluation Methods

Graphic Rating:

- >This method is most commonly used in sales organizations.
- ➤ It is particularly useful in evaluating salespeople's qualitative behavioral or efforts related criteria.
- ➤ A semantic differential type of graphic rating scale uses opposite adjectives on a five or seven point scale.
- ➤ Numerical values are assigned to each level and the manager can check any one of them

Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards

Performance Evaluation Methods

Graphic Rating:

- ➤ Graphic rating scale has many positive characteristics, such as
- **comparability** (it is possible to compare results of individual salespeople),
- ▶job relatedness (it can be designed to meet the needs of each sales organization),
- >practicality (it is easy to understand and implement in a short time), and
- >standardization (measurement instrument and evaluation process are similar throughout the sales organization).

Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards

Performance Evaluation Methods

Graphic Rating: Example of Graphic Rating Scale

Selling skills	Excellent	7	6	5	4	3	2	_1 •	Poor
Team player	Superior	7	6	5	4	3	2	_1	Inferior
Product Knowledge	Excellent	7	6	5	4	3	2	_1	Poor
Attitude	Positive	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Negative
Customer relations	Excellent	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Poor
Time management	Superior	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Inferior

<u>Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards</u>

Performance Evaluation Methods

Behaviorally Anchored Rating Scales (BARS)

- > Also referred as behavioral expectation scales,
 - ➤ this method links salesperson's behavior with specific results,
- >This method is a repetitive process and
 - ➤allows different sales managers to arrive at more consistent and objective evaluations,
 - rating scales have similar interpretations.

<u>Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards</u>

Performance Evaluation Methods

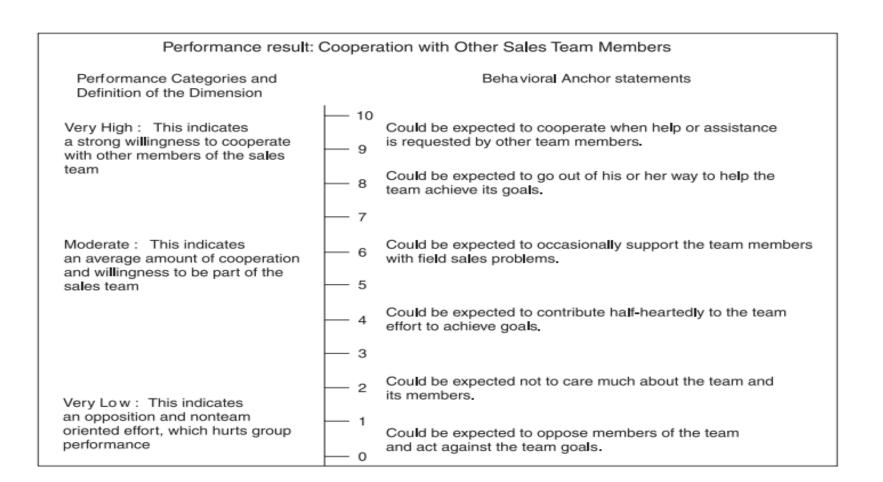
Behaviorally Anchored Rating Scales (BARS)

- ➤ Constructing a sales-oriented BARS include four steps:
- > Identify Decisive Events
- >Improve Decisive Events into Behavior Anchor Statements
- > Rate the Effectiveness of the Behavioral Statements
- >Select the Behavioral Anchor Statements for the Performance Dimension

Procedure 19 Evaluating and Controlling Sales Force Performance Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards

Performance Evaluation Methods

Behaviorally Anchored Rating Scales (BARS)



<u>Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards</u>

Performance Evaluation Methods

Management by objectives (MBO)

- >Steps followed in a typical MBO method are as follows:
- → (i) the sales manager and the salesperson discuss and set specific objectives or sales quotas for the salesperson for a specific time period,
- ➤(ii) they also prepare an action plan for the achievement of the objectives,
- ➤ (iii) they review actual performance periodically against the stated objectives, sales quotas, or performance standards and take corrective actions.

Procedure 12 Evaluating and Controlling Sales Force Performance Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards

Performance Evaluation Methods

Management by objectives (MBO)

Performance Criteria/Bases	Objective/ Quota	Weight	Actual Performance	Performance Index	Weighted Performance Index
Sales volume	₹72,00,000	4	₹80,00,000	111	444
Number of new accounts	24	3	20	83	249
Number of calls per day	6	2	7	116	232
Number of reports sent	24	1	24	100	100
	Total	10			1025
Overall performance					102.5

Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards

Performance Evaluation Methods

Descriptive Statements

- ➤In this method of performance evaluation,
 - > sales managers are required to write either a short or
 - >detailed description of each salesperson's performance on specific criteria.
- ➤ goal attainment,
- >selling ability,
- ➤ territorial management,
- >and customer relations.

Step 4 – Compare Actual Performance with Standards

Performance Evaluation Methods

Descriptive Statements

- ➤ Another method, used by some organizations,
- ➤ includes writing a profile about
- >the individual salesperson's specific
- >performance, abilities, and potential.

<u>Step 5 – Review Performance Evaluation with Salespeople</u>

- ➤Once the salesperson's performance has been evaluated,
 - >the sales manager should conduct performance review or
 - >appraisal session with the salesperson.
- ➤ This is a very challenging part of the sales manager's job,
 - ➤ because it can be a very sensitive occasion.
- ➤ It is difficult to point out the salesperson's weaknesses or failures to meet the standards.
- >The sales manager should contact the salesperson and
 - >set a time and place for the performance review meeting

<u>Step 5 – Review Performance Evaluation with Salespeople</u>

Guidelines useful while reviewing performance:

- First, performance criteria or bases should be discussed.
- ➤ The salesperson should be asked to review his own performance.
- The sales manager should present his view on the salesperson's performance, by first highlighting good qualities of the salesperson.
- ➤ Corrective actions on weak areas should also be discussed.
- ➤ Mutual agreement on the performance must be established.
- ➤ If disagreements or serious differences of opinion occur, the sales manager should carefully explain the reasons to the salesperson.

<u>Step 5 – Review Performance Evaluation with Salespeople</u>

Guidelines useful while reviewing performance:

- First, performance criteria or bases should be discussed.
- ➤ The salesperson should be asked to review his own performance.
- The sales manager should present his view on the salesperson's performance, by first highlighting good qualities of the salesperson.
- ➤ Corrective actions on weak areas should also be discussed.
- ➤ Mutual agreement on the performance must be established.
- If disagreements or serious differences of opinion occur, the sales manager should carefully explain the reasons to the salesperson.

Step 6 – Decide Sales Management Actions and Control

- ➤ The performance evaluation procedure followed so far gives
 - > a very important information about performance of salespeople.
- ➤ It is the responsibility of the sales management
 - ➤ to use this information for improving the performance of individual salespeople, sales teams, and
 - >the operations of the sales organization.

Step 6 – Decide Sales Management Actions and Control

- >Another use of the performance information is
 - ➤ to identify problem areas,
 - >find the causes of the problem, and
 - >decide sales management actions to solve the problems.
- >The sales manager, during the performance review meeting,
 - >should also highlight good performance areas,
 - >appreciate the salesperson for the good performance, and
 - ➤ reward him suitably.

SALES FORCE MANAGEMENT DURING DIFFERENT PHASES

MOTIVATION

MOTIVATION

What do you understand by Motivation?

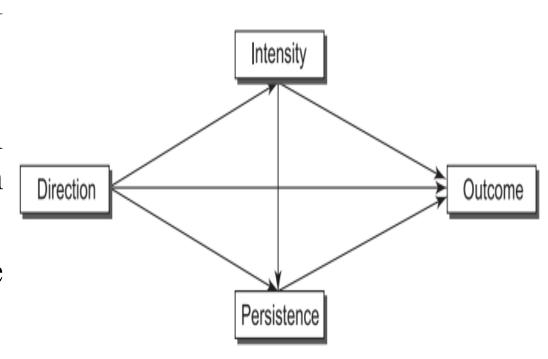
MOTIVATION

- Some salespeople are ambitious and self-starters.
- They put forth their efforts without any special training or incentives from the management.
- However, the majority of salespeople need encouragement, training, and motivation.
- The first level branch/district sales manager's performance depends upon the composite performance of the salespeople.
- That is why they are interested to know the factors influencing salespeople to achieve desired performance.

MOTIVATION

- Motivation is originally derived from the Latin word "movere", which means "to move".
- The desire to spend effort to fulfil a need is motivation.
- In a sales job,
 - motivation is the number of efforts the salesperson makes
 - to complete various activities of the sales job.
- Examples of these activities are:
 - meeting prospective customers,
 - identifying their needs,
 - making sales presentations,
 - overcoming their objections and
 - closing the sales.

- Further studies on motivation conclude that
 - the most commonly used definition of motivation includes three dimensions:
 - intensity, persistence, and direction,
- □Intensity refers to the amount of physical and mental efforts the salesperson spends on a given task.
- □ Persistence describes how long the salesperson continues to put forth effort.
- □ **Direction** suggests the salesperson's choice of actions among various job activities.



- Motivation can also be looked at as intrinsic or extrinsic.
- If salespeople consider their job as essentially rewarding
 - (or providing satisfaction), they are intrinsically motivated.
- However,
 - if salespersons are motivated by the rewards given by their organization,
 - such as financial incentives and recognition, they are **extrinsically** motivated.
- Although a salesperson's overall motivation can include both intrinsic and extrinsic motivation,

- some salesperson will seek
 - intrinsic rewards
 - (such as challenging work,
 - feelings of personal worth and
 - a sense of accomplishment),
- other salespeople will prefer
 - extrinsic rewards
 - (such as salary,
 - fringe benefits, and
 - promotion)

IMPORTANCE OF MOTIVATION

- ☐ The company management recognizes the importance of sales management and salespeople
 - □ because the financial performance of the company
 - depends upon the achievement of sales volume objective,
 - which is the primary responsibility of the sales management.
- □Sales managers find the task of motivating salespeople difficult and important due to the following factors:
- (i) changes in marketing environment,
- (ii) conflicting company objectives,
- (iii) unusual nature of the sales job, and
- (iv) separate motivational package.

RELEVANCE OF MOTIVATIONAL THEORIES TO SALESPEOPLE

- ☐ Motivation has been researched for many years.
- ☐ Motivational theories are relevant to the motivation of salespeople.
- □Some of these theories or behavioral concepts in motivation are:
- (i) Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory,
- (ii) Herzberg's dual-factor theory,
- (iii) Vroom's expectancy theory, and
- (iv) Churchill, Ford and Walker model of sales force motivation.

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Theory

- □ Abraham H. Maslow proposed five levels of needs that every individual seeks to satisfy.
- ☐ Maslow argued that the needs form a hierarchy.



Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Theory

- □ If the salesperson's physiological needs are not satisfied,
- □the sales manager should offer an acceptable income and benefits package
 - □ because money and financial rewards can buy the products and services to satisfy these needs.
- □ Another salesperson may look for **job security** and for satisfying that need,
 - □the sales manager should **remove the fear of failure**
 - □by guiding the salesperson to perform well to achieve the sales goals.

Self
Actualization
Self-fulfilment,
self-development

Esteem Needs
Fulfilled through
Status, Recognition,
Reputation, Prestige

Social Needs
Fulfilled through Acceptance,
Belonging, Love, Friendship

Safety Needs
Fulfilled through Safety, Job Security,
Income Security

Physiological Needs
Fulfilled through Food, Shelter, Clothing,
Water

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Theory

- □For fulfilling social needs,
 - a sales manager arranges sales meetings and social functions,
 - sets up selling teams for key customers and mentoring programs.
- □For satisfying **esteem needs**,
 - some of the actions the sales manager takes are
 - □promotions,
 - □public recognition of achievements, and
 - □appreciation letters.

Self
Actualization
Self-fulfilment,
self-development

Esteem Needs Fulfilled through Status, Recognition, Reputation, Prestige

Social Needs
Fulfilled through Acceptance,
Belonging, Love, Friendship

Safety Needs
Fulfilled through Safety, Job Security,
Income Security

Physiological Needs
Fulfilled through Food, Shelter, Clothing,
Water

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Theory

- □Self-actualization needs are rarely identified at the level of salespeople,
- □but if it is found,
- ☐ a sales manager may consider special assignments
- □with higher authority and responsibility like mentoring new salespersons.

Self
Actualization
Self-fulfilment,
self-development

Esteem Needs Fulfilled through Status, Recognition, Reputation, Prestige

Social Needs
Fulfilled through Acceptance,
Belonging, Love, Friendship

Safety Needs
Fulfilled through Safety, Job Security,
Income Security

Physiological Needs
Fulfilled through Food, Shelter, Clothing,
Water



Herzberg's Two-Factor Theory

A	theory	of	motivation	developed	by	Frederick	Herzberg	is	called	dual-factor
_	eory,			•						

- □in which sources of dissatisfaction and satisfaction are grouped into two groups:
- □hygiene factors and motivation factors.
- □Examples of hygiene factors are
 - □working environment,
 - □security,
 - □type of supervision,
 - □interpersonal relationships,
 - □salary,
 - ☐fringe benefits, and
 - □company policies.



Herzberg's Two-Factor Theory

- □Fulfilling the hygiene factors would bring up motivation to a theoretical zero level, or a neutral point,
- □ If positive motivations were to be achieved,

Attention would have to be given to motivation factors. These include

- □recognition,
- □responsibility,
- □achievement,
- □challenge,
- □opportunities for growth, and
- □ the interest value of the work.



Herzberg's Two-Factor Theory

- □Dual-factor theory has two important conclusions that can be drawn:
- □(i) The sales management should provide good enough working environment, sensible supervision, job security, and reasonable compensation to salespeople to prevent job dissatisfaction.
- □(ii) The management should also provide **opportunities for growth, recognition, and responsibility to motivate salespersons**.

Vroom's Expectancy Theory

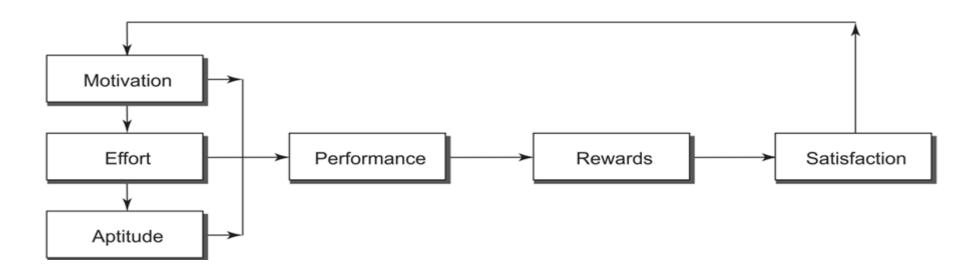
This theory assumes that a person's motivation to make efforts depends upon his expectations for success.



Vroom based his theory on three concepts: expectancy, instrumentality, and valence.

Churchill, Ford and Walker Model of Sales Force Motivation

The problem of motivating salespeople is studied by Churchill, Ford, and Walker. They have developed a model, as shown in Figure.



This model is derived from Vroom's expectancy theory.

SELECTING AN EFFECTIVE MIX OF MOTIVATIONAL TOOLS

For designing an effective motivational mix (or an optimal reward system) the sales manager should first know each salesperson and understand his specific needs

Financial Rewards/Tools	Non-Financial Rewards/Tools				
Financial compensation plan	 Promotional opportunity 				
–Salary	Sense of accomplishment				
-Commission	 Personal growth opportunities 				
-Performance bonus	Recognition				
-Fringe benefits	 Job security 				
-Combination	Sales meetings				
Sales contests	 Sales training programs 				
Team compensation	Job enrichment				
Global compensation issues	Effective supervision				
	Praise and encouragement				

GUIDELINES FOR MOTIVATING SALESPEOPLE

the sales manager should first know each salesperson and understand his specific needs Some guidelines for motivating salespeople, described as follows in brief,

- ➤ Difference Between Can't Do and Won't Do
- >Include Individual Needs into Motivational Programs
- >Plateaus Salespeople
- >Proactive Approach and Good Communications