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Class: Engineering Management Skills (EMGT 322)

Moving from Engineering to Management.

Paul Hawken says that "Good management is an art of making problems so interesting and their solutions so constructive that everyone wants to get to work and deal with them"[1]. According to me, moving into management will be a whole different world than engineering where a new skill set is required to get the tasks done in time, efficiently, ethically and happily. It is totally different than engineering which I have been doing so far in my career and it will be starting like I started engineering. Everything needs to be done step by step like I first did with engineering. To be honest, It feels a little scary to be in square one again.

There are a couple of reasons for that. In industry, the main job of an engineer is to make use of technology to build new things. But what if the engineer is not doing what is expected to be done? What if an engineer is taking too long to submit a deliverable? Who's going to communicate with the stakeholder? Who is responsible if anything goes wrong? The answer to all these questions is "Manager". All these questions are really important as far the real-time, on the ground development of the project is concerned. So a manager is responsible not only for their own job but the job of all the people who are working under him. His performance is the total of all performances of all the members of his team. What if they don't do well?. A good manager will have to make hard choices if the concerned member of the team is not performing well. On the other hand a manager will also have to manage situations in which the best performing member of the team is feeling undervalued or they want to change the roles that they are working in and as a manager it is a difficult decision to let him change roles because he is the best person in his current role and he may not be as good in the role that he desires.

Like *Arsene Wenger*, manager of Arsenal football club, says "A manager is a guide. He takes a group of people and says 'with you, I can make us a success; I can show the way' "[2]. If the individual members of the team are like alphabets with each one having different skills like each alphabet has a different use, a manager is a somebody who combines all these alphabets into words and words into sentences. Therefore the correctness of the projector here the correctness of the sentence all depends upon the

manager. Leadership is really important behind the success of any project. It should be duly noted that Wagner is a manager of the team and not a player. It is said that wars are won by strategies more than they are won by strength. Same is true for elections. So I realize that engineering is a small part of the company and there is a lot of strategies that go around building project and selling it. The manager is responsible for executing these strategies that are set by the leadership.

I think management is the efficiency in climbing the ladder of success and good leadership determines whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall. I like this role and want to work as a manager because during my work in summer, I have realized what you just mentioned in class when there are 2 people in a company they look like 3. When there are 6 they look like 50. When they are 12 it's an army. The numbers change as per the skill of the manager only. You can essentially work with 10000 people with only 50 real people if you are great at managing all of them. If you are an excellent engineer and working as an army all by yourself, it's still not in your worth to fight with an army whose management is rock solid. So it is a cool job. The other reasons are because I like communicating with people and leading them to develop projects that are more than the sum of all our hard work. I sometimes don't like awkward situations like the briefcase situation you mentioned in the class but I guess that comes with the package so I will take it. I may have to make decisions that my team member does not like but I cannot just yield to things that I am not supposed to and I fell the skill of saying NO to some things may hurt some people but I will develop the gut to say it whenever the time is right. As a manager, being the kind of person I am, I will only think about two things- Completing the goals in time and the happiness of my team members as far as the policy of the company allows me to

In my opinion, for any business to be a success it must have a strong leadership team that can guide the company for making profits. A good leadership team guides the vision of the company, craft its future, makes a strategy, sets the goals of the company and creates a company culture. I think that when someone has a dedication and passion to achieve something nothing is impossible for him. And as my idol, Steve Jobs says "The only way to do great work, is to love what you do"[3]. And therefore moving into management, for me, will be the best thing I could ever ask for.

REFERENCES:

- [1] Paul Hawken
- [2] Arsene Wenger
- [3] Steve Jobs