Classic Challenges Guide



Classic Challenge You may be facing this Challenge if:

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| Core Values Unclear | Employees are uncertain on what basis decisions are to be made, there are wide variations in customer experiences, or there are unhealthy employee interactions. |
| Cost of Lost Expertise | The company scrambles when there's turnover, "Hit by the bus" syndrome runs rampant, or the lack of organizational knowledge is impacting operational quality. |
| Culture Resistant to Change | There is a lack of innovation and desire to improve, knowledge is hoarded and there is no cross-training, or employees cling to "how we've always done it". |
| Destabilized by Chaos | Employees are stressed out by chaos or disorganization, people don't know how to get work done, or processes are unclear or non-existent. |
| Difficulty Diagnosing Problems | There are recurring quality issues, operational challenges remain unsolved, or employee frustrations are not addressed. |
| Difficulty Forecasting Problems | The organization is blindsided by issues, problems arise when volume is added to existing processes, or the organization experiences self-inflicted chaos. |
| Employee Turnover | Key positions remain unfilled, good employees are leaving, or new hires do not stay long. |
| Hiring Quality People | Open positions remain unfilled, requirements for identifying good candidates are unclear, or new hires are not qualified to perform the work. |
| Inadequate Profits | Revenue increases aren't translating to additional profit, there is little money to invest back into the company, or there isn't enough money for marketing and sales activities. |
| Inadequate Sales | Revenue is flat or below projections, your sales team is ineffective, or you have a weak sales pipeline. |
| Ineffective New Staff Orientation | New employees are struggling to get up to speed, new employees complain that there is no training, or there are quality issues involving new staff. |
| Lack of Staff Buy-In | The staff isn't confident in leadership or the future vision, employees question management, or there is a low staff morale. |
| Leadership-Staff Gap | Management and employees aren't on the same page, employees are uncertain where the company is going, or employees focus energy on unimportant tasks. |
| Limited Capital to Grow | There is no money after paying bills to improve the business, you can't afford to replace old equipment, or you are unable to pay market compensation to attract quality candidates. |
| Marketplace Rapidly Changing | Historically strong offers aren't selling anymore, you have difficulty understanding the real needs of today's customers, or it seems that customer's needs have changed dramatically. |
| Not Getting Systems into Place | The company can't handle additional volume with existing processes and systems, work is inconsistently executed, or high labor costs are affecting your bottom line. |
| Organization Uninformed about Company Growth | The organization's focus is inconsistent with what's needed to grow, employees are confused and concerned about the company's future, or they are satisfied with the current size of the company. |
| Poor Staff Training | Quality issues persist, people are stagnant and not developing, or no cross-training occurs. |
| Products Not Differentiated | There are new competitors in the market that result in loss of market share, there is downward pressure or prices, there is a loss of customers. |
| Slow Getting Offerings to Market | You lack new offerings, you are consistently being beat to the market by competitors, or your customer base is stale with few new customers. |
| Staff Satisfaction Not Linked to Company Success | The staff is overworked and burnt out, employees want different things than what the organization needs for success, or the company's approach to profitability leads to unsatisfied employees. |
| Weak Business Model | It's unclear who the target customer is, there is low profitability, or operations are disorganized as a result of unclear direction. |
| Weak Cash Flow | You're unable to pay bills on time, you're having to borrow money to keep the company afloat, or the business owner is going without a salary. |
| Weak Project Management | The company is missing deadlines, resources are not being utilized well, or project statuses are not clear. |