

# Harness the power of an employee suggestion program

Beyond the Suggestion Box

he pitfalls of an ill-conceived employee suggestion program are multiple, legendary and most frequently - avoidable. A carefully constructed employee suggestion program, that is launched with organizational commitment, clarity and ongoing communication can positively impact your bottom line and your employee motivation and enthusiasm. An ill-conceived, hastily launched, undefined employee suggestion program can turn people off and generate ill will, cynicism and misunderstanding. **Does Your Company Need an** 

### **Employee Suggestion Program?**

Before launching an employee suggestion program, consider your corporate culture. Are you currently receiving fresh and thoughtful ideas? Are employee suggestions already percolating to the surface at staff meetings and in casual conversation? If so, maybe more informal methods for cultivating new ideas are warranted rather then a full-blown employee suggestion program.

Perhaps you can schedule departmental brainstorming sessions or generate ideas about particular topics during portions of your weekly staff meeting. You can set a day a month for a luncheon at which every employee is asked to submit at least one idea. You can ask your managers to bring three employee ideas to each manager's meeting. Creativity serves you well in idea generation.

If not, I'd begin by asking what about your culture is currently stifling ideas? Will these issues continue to exist when you implement an employee suggestion program? If so, your successful employee suggestion program must eliminate or circumvent these road blocks. I am not traditionally a fan of employee suggestion programs



since they are unwieldy, difficult to keep up with, time consuming, can cause more hard feelings than positive outcomes and must be strictly managed

#### Elements in a Successful **Employee Suggestion Program**

I have seen few employee suggestion programs succeed, but the employee suggestion programs that did succeed shared common success elements. You may take a pause at the number of factors I consider significant to the success of an employee suggestion program, but these are factors common to any successful work process that takes employee time and offers the possibility for significant rewards and recognition. If you pursue an employee suggestion program, the following must happen for success.

#### **Appoint a Cross-functional Suggestion Review Team**

A cross-functional team must review the suggestions which must be acknowledged within 48 hours. If this team is all managers, or all directors, it can be perceived as out of touch or blocking change. It will, however, have the power to implement the suggestions it receives. If it involves other employees, the process can be time-consuming and perceived to serve self-inter-

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# There is no such thing as failure

There is no such thing as failure only feedback - we can learn from our failures. Do not let apparent failures beat you up, learn from them. As humans, we tend to be harder on our-

selves than others are. A small child learning to walk never fails to get up and try and try and try until success is achieved. It is the same in life; every failure is a step closer to success.

Emotions are notoriously fickle: to let your emotions be your rule of success or failure is asking for trouble. Do not listen to your heart this is dangerous; you need to have advisors who

are able to help direct you. No one suc-

ceeds alone always there is a strong

team behind any success. Your inner circle: Many successful men and women throughout history and up to the present day have a trusted an inner-circle of friends and advisors. Choose this inner-circle with great care and wisdom.

Choice: It is all down to choice. That is your attitude toward failure and success. Many of those who succeed have a track record littered with what we would call failures. They chose to learn from these and move toward their

goal. The last of the human freedoms is to choose your attitude in whatever circumstance you may find yourself. Ensue or pursuit? The more you aim for something the more likely you are to miss it. Put quite simply success must hap-

pen. This is why the

successful entrepre-

neur makes it look easy - they just let it happen. Do not care for success so much as following your principles, working toward the future and eventually success will be their with you - precisely because you forgot to aim for it.

Get rich quick schemes: is not a recipe for success. These schemes usually do not deliver what they promise; at best they are a lie. To get rich slowly slowly is a much more stable road to tread.

Meaning in life is important. So how do we find meaning? See the article on "So how do we find meaning?" free-articles-zone.com

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# SRI LANKA AIR FORCE



## **OFFICER CADET VACANCIES**

EQUIPMENT, ADMINISTRATIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE REGIMENT, OPERATIONS AIR AND AIR FIELD CONSTRUCTION BRANCHES

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Bsc (Aviation Studies) Degree Entrant Qualifications \* Attractive pay with fringe benefits covering food, accommodation, (Accredited by the University of Kelaniya)

**Equipment / Administrative / Administrative Regiment and Operations Air Branches** 

A minimum of six passes at the GCE O/L examination with four credits including credit passes in English language, Mathematics, Science and an ordinary pass in Sinhala / Tamil language in one sitting (additional and optional subjects not considered) and ordinary passes in three subjects at the GCE A/L examination in Physical / Bio Science / Commerce Streams (as applicable) in one sitting.

National Diploma (Technology / Engineering / Engineering \* Nearest Police Station to permanent address **Science) Entrant Qualifications** 

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**Other Entrant Qualifications** 

Equipment / Administrative / Administrative Regiment and **Operations Air Branches** 

A minimum of six passes at the GCE O/L examination with four credits including credit passes in English language, Mathematics, Science and an I hereby certify and declare that the details furnished above are true ordinary pass in Sinhala / Tamil language in one sitting (additional and and correct to the best of my knowledge. optional subjects not considered) and ordinary passes in two subjects at the GCE A/L examination in Physical / Bio Science / Commerce Streams (as applicable) in one sitting. Students of the Arts Stream with a minimum of Date: two ordinary passes at the GCE A/L examination are also eligible to apply for the Administrative Regiment Branch.

## **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

Age

: Must be a citizen of Sri Lanka **Nationality** : Candidates must be unmarried Civil Status

: Not less than 18 years and not more than 22 years

as at 15 April 2009 Height : 5' 6" and above

Weight :BMI Weight(Kg) Height (m)<sub>2</sub> : Minimum 32" Chest

: CP2 Vision Colour Standard

Visual Acuity: Left eye 6/6 and right eye 6/6 (Without spectacles)

#### **SPECIMEN APPLICATION**

transport, uniforms and medical.

- \* Full name (As per National Identity Card)
- Branch applied
- \* Permanent address
- \* Present postal address
- \* Date of birth
- \* Height
- Telephone number
- School attended
- Educational qualifications (Ordinary & Advanced Level)
- \* Achievements in sports / extra curricular activities
- Details of previous service in the Armed Forces if any
- \* Other achievements of note

Signature of Applicant

For further details see Government Gazette Number 1586 of 23 January 2009.

The envelop should be marked APPLICATION FOR **CADETSHIP IN THE** ......**BRANCH** on the top left corner. Applications should be forwarded under registered cover to reach CHIEF RECRUITING OFFICER, SRI LANKA AIR FORCE, EKALA, KOTUGODA on or before 1200 noon on 30 January 2009.

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