



*The Abdus Salam  
International Centre for Theoretical Physics*



**1962-2**

**Joint ICTP-IAEA School of Nuclear Knowledge Management**

*1 - 5 September 2008*

**Human Resource Challenges to Knowledge Management**

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Tennessee 37419, U.S.A.*

# Human Resource Challenges to Knowledge Management

School of Nuclear Knowledge Management  
Trieste, Italy  
September 2008

Presentation by Ed Boyles



**IAEA**

International Atomic Energy Agency

# Content

## ❖ HR Challenges to KM

- Strategic Work Force Planning
- Recruiting the next generation
- Training & Development new employees to full competency (Filling the gap)
- Selecting the right people for leadership positions
- Retaining top talent

## ❖ HR Solutions

- Same as above

# Management of human resources

- ❖ Key Issues from counterparts:
  - Role and mission of personnel management services
  - Approach to integrated management of human resources; - aspects and techniques of recruitment, training, assessment, qualification, authorization, motivation and development of NPP personnel
  - Methods of defining future staffing requirements
  - Methods and stages of staff recruitment
  - Creation of positive employer image – Branding
  - Attracting young personnel to the organization
  - Assessment of recruitment effectiveness
  - Ownership and responsibilities of managers for competence and training of the personnel
  - Management competence (How to evaluate and develop competent managers)
  - **Knowledge Management (KM) - overall concept of KM - ageing of personnel - KM practices including capture, preservation and transfer of knowledge**

# Strategic Work Force Planning

- ❖ Through out the 1990's for most utilities - a tactical effort to balance the labor budget and headcount
- ❖ Little strategic planning occurred
- ❖ HR Organization (Personnel Services) was not involved attrition management or work force planning strategies
- ❖ Only recently have more utilities have begun to develop strategic and integrated work force strategies - driven by the loss of experienced staff – primarily through retirements

# Development of the WFP System

- ❖ TVA developed the Integrated Staffing Plan in 1998
- ❖ Formed a Work Force Planning Group (1999) to implement the strategic planning process - Goals were to:
  - Develop long term plans that addressed future staffing demands
  - Integrate Work Force Planning with other related processes (Training, Recruiting, etc.)
  - Include Staffing Plans in Annual Business Plan
- ❖ IT tools and reports were developed to support the WFP
- ❖ *The Knowledge Retention Process was a key element of the WFP System*

# Integrated Staffing Plan Model

Work Force Planning is the Key  
to an integrated Work Force  
Strategy



**WFP was Key**

- Employee Demographics
- Attrition Data (Management & Employee Input)
- Staffing resource demands
- Emerging work
- New build plans
- Labor Cost
- Staffing Benchmarks
- Process Improvements

# WFP Considerations

- ❖ Collection and analysis of accurate *attrition* information
- ❖ Current and emerging skills/competency needs
  - Improvements in processes
  - Improvements in equipment and technology
- ❖ Current and future work activities
  - Major modifications upcoming
  - New build planned
  - Decommissioning



# WFP Considerations

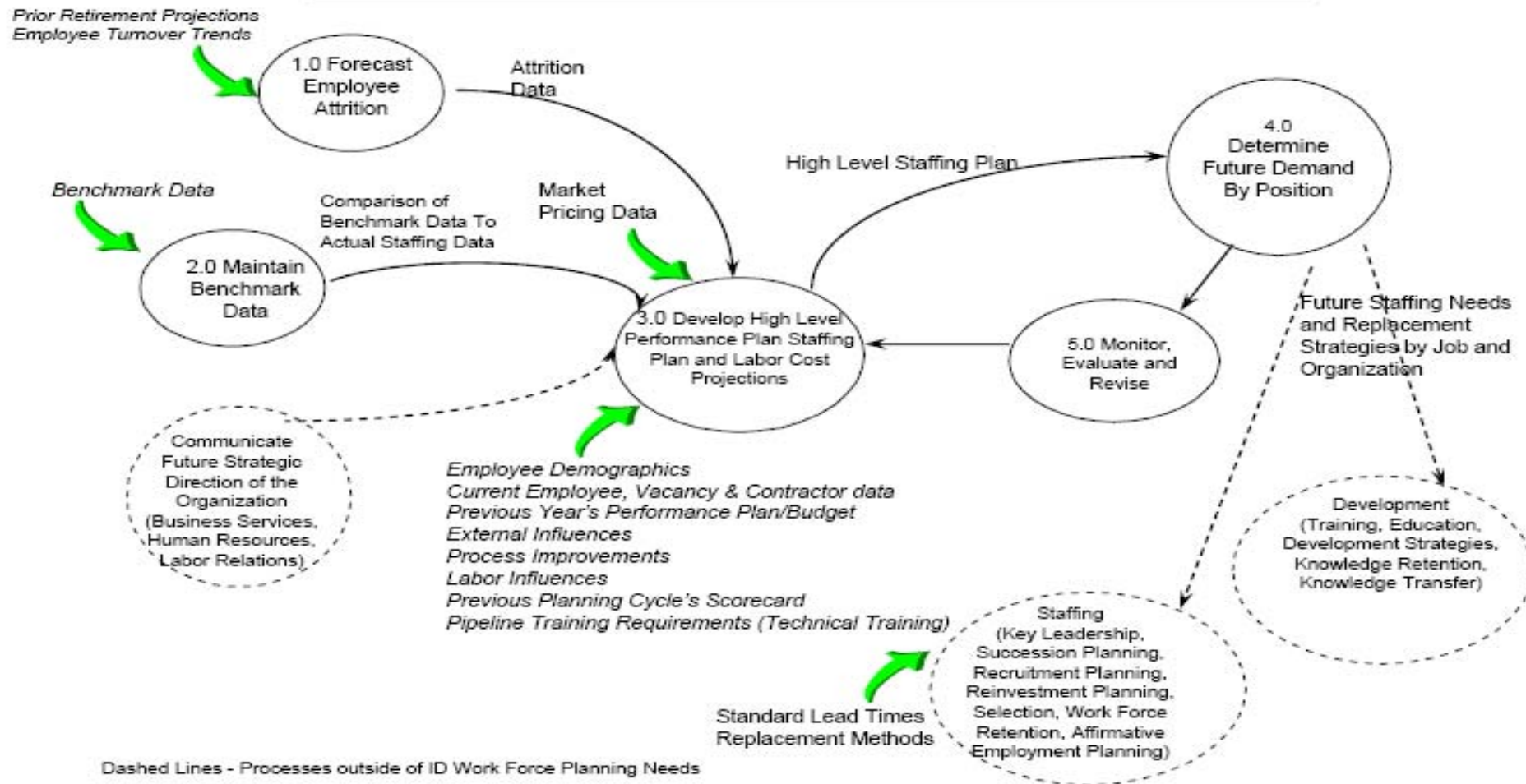
- ❖ Long term staffing plans - 3 to 5 years
  - Operations and Maintenance pipeline
  - University Recruitment
  - Experienced hires
  - Retention actions for current employees
  
- ❖ Include in the organizations annual Business Plans (budgeted)
  
- ❖ Monitor, Measure and Update

# Elements of Effective WFP Process

1. Compile Staffing Demographics
  - Forecast Pending Attrition
2. Develop Staffing Benchmarks
  - Compare against best performing plants
  - Understand plant specific demands
3. Develop high level staffing plans
  - Budget based
  - Confirmed by senior management
4. Develop detailed staffing plans
  - Department level plans
  - Identify need by position
5. Monitor, update and adjust

# TVA's 5 Step WFP Process

## HUMAN RESOURCES - PROGRAM FLOW DIAGRAM Manage the Asset - Identify Work Force Planning Needs & Competencies

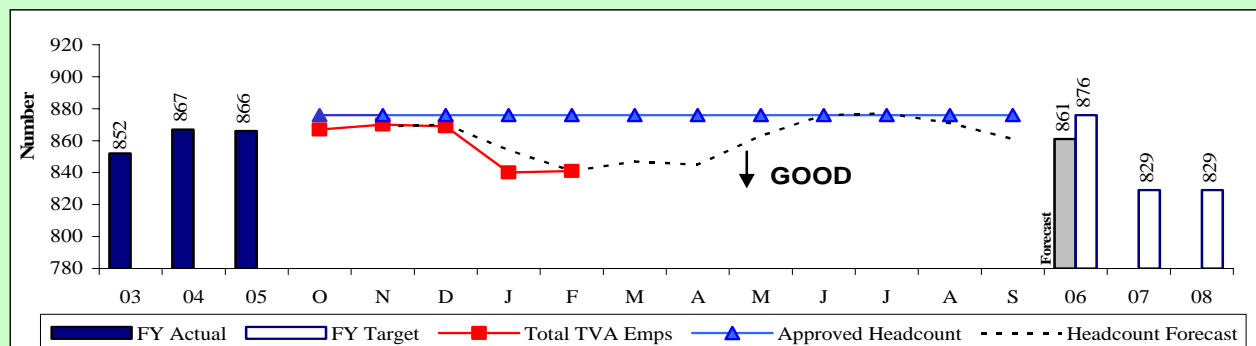


Updated: 02/06/2002

# Work Force Planning Metrics

**Fiscal Year 2006  
TVAN**

**Indicator: TVA Employees - Sequoyah  
February 2006**



Headcount	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	07	08
Actual Permanent Emps	867	870	869	840	841	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Actual Temp/Tenure Emps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total TVA Emps	867	870	869	840	841	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Approved Headcount	876	876	876	876	876	876	876	876	876	876	876	876	829	829
Variance to Approved FC	9	6	7	36	35	876	876	876	876	876	876	876		

Numbers left of the bold line are actual. Numbers right of the bold line are projected.

Attrition/Replacement	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Retirements	4	0	1	23	2	2	2	3	4	2	6	10	59
Other Attrition	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers to Other Orgs	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
<b>Total Attrition</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>65</b>
New Hires/Rehires	5	2	0	2	4	8	0	21	17	3	0	0	62
Transfers from Other Orgs	0	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
<b>Total Replacements</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>68</b>
Headcount Forecast	n/a	869	870	854	841	847	845	863	876	877	871	861	
Variance to Approved FC	n/a	7	6	22	35	29	31	13	0	-1	5	15	
FYTD Replacement %	125%	200%	157%	44%	53%	71%	68%	112%	138%	139%	124%	105%	

## DEFINITION:

Total TVA employees includes part time employees.

Attrition and replacement counts are for permanent employees only.

Replacement % is the total permanent replacement YTD divided by the total attrition of permanent employees YTD.

Printed: 4/21/2008

SPONSOR: H. K. Fogleman

CONTACT: A. K. Hamala, 2682-C

## PROBLEM AREA

\* AFI - Succession Planning

## IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLANS

## DUE DATE

### Strategic Talent Mgmt

Update STM ratings

5/26/2006

### FY06 Upcoming Classes

I&C Tech (14)

SGPO (20)

Feb-06

May-06

### On-going Classes

Mech Tech (13)

Elect Tech (12)

I&C Tech (9)

SGPO (16)

Jul-06

Jul-06

Jul-07

Sep-06

Knowledge Retention High Priority (20-25)

3

Knowledge Retention Position Risk (5)

4

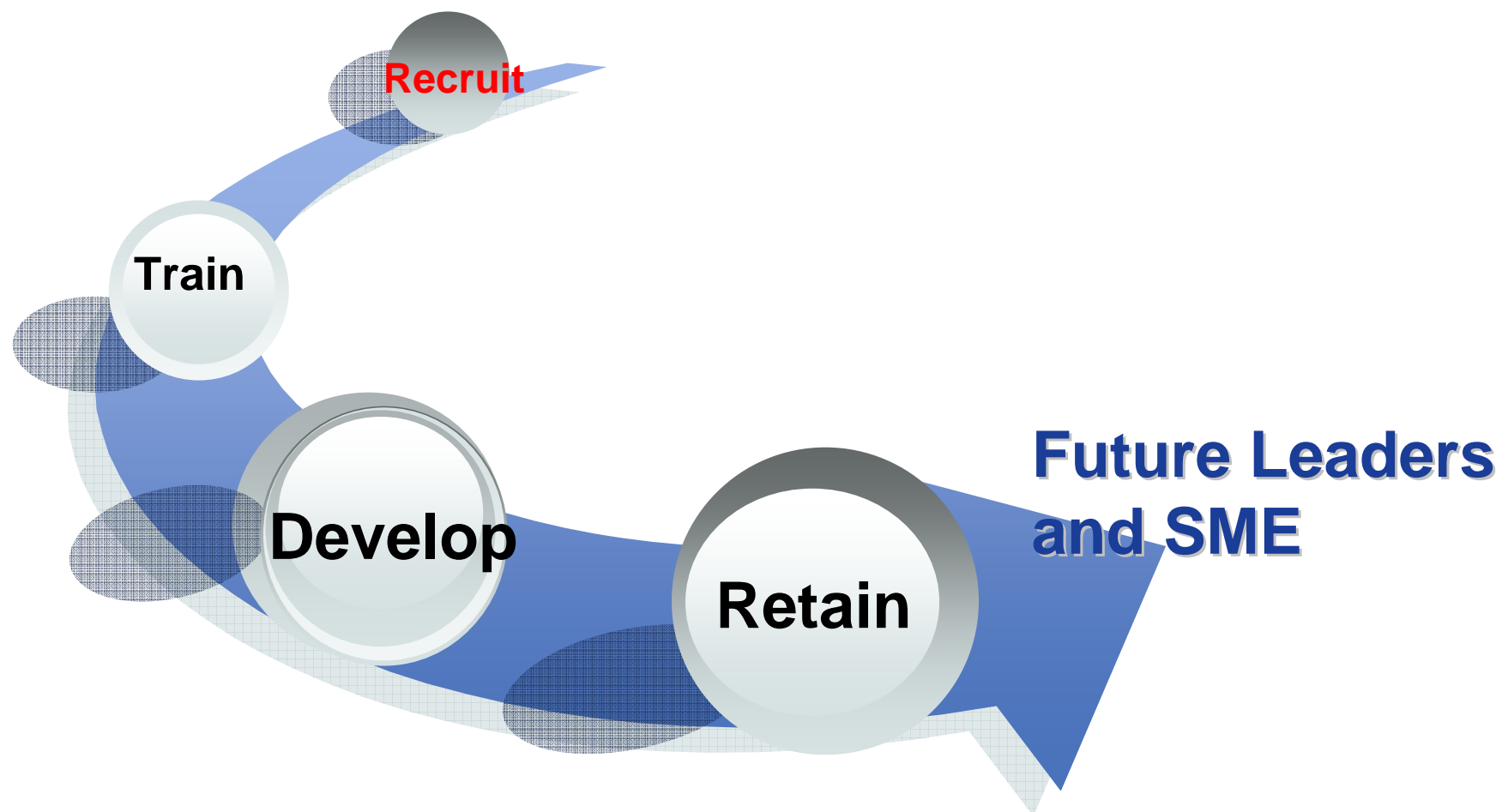
Diversity Hires

22%

## BASIS

TVAN FY 2006 Performance Plan Staffing Plan

# Recruiting the next generation



# Recruiting Challenge



## Recruiting the next generation



## Recruiting Challenges

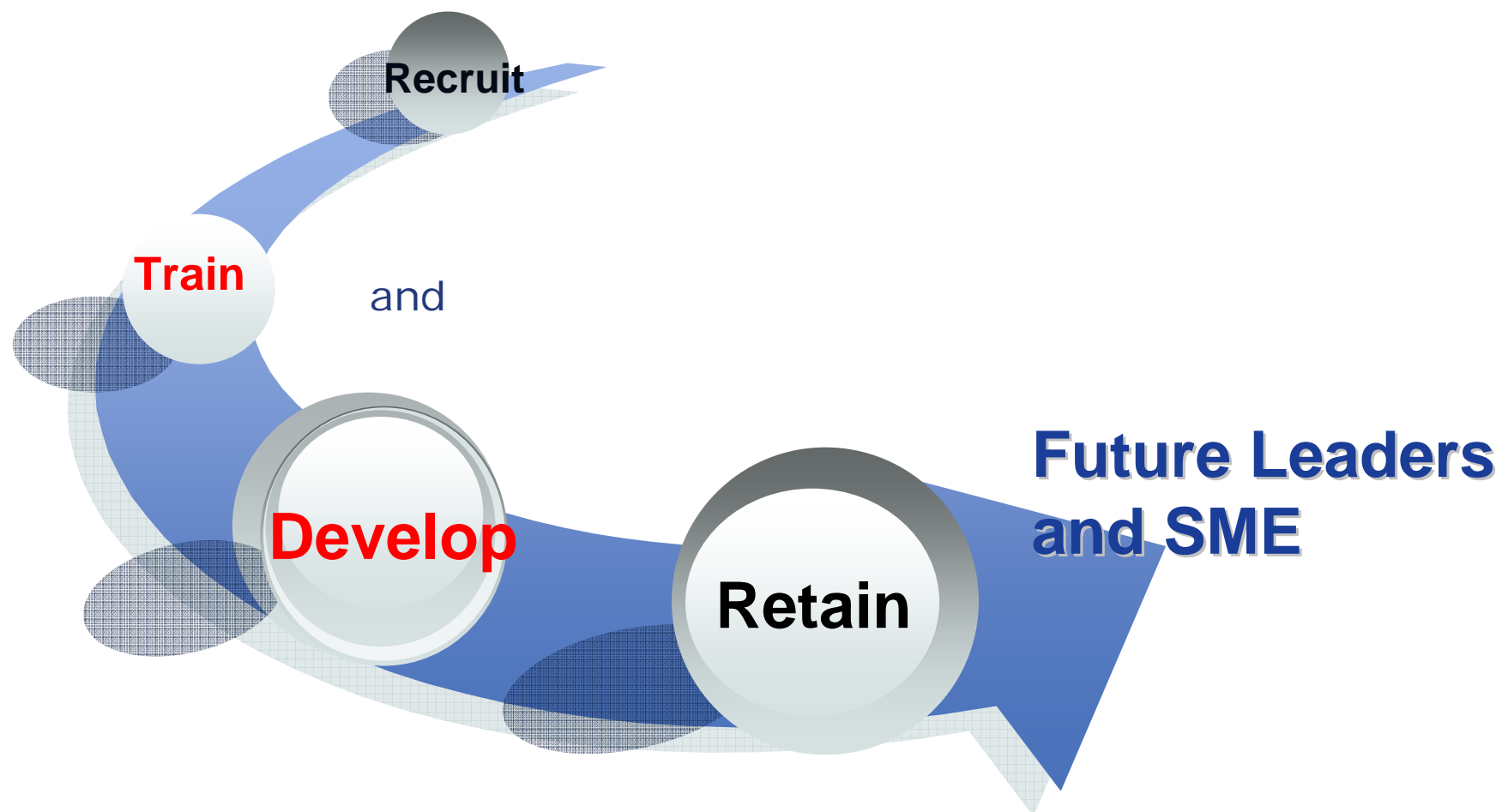
- ❖ Competition for talent (both entry level and experienced)
- ❖ Some students see nuclear as an “old technology” – They want to be IT specialist
- ❖ Our industry has high degree of qualifications needed - Multiple hurdle selection processes are lengthy
- ❖ Identifying enough qualified candidates who can successfully pass each hurdle

# Recruiting Tools

- ❖ Websites
- ❖ Energy/specialized websites
- ❖ Print media (newspapers)
- ❖ Universities (career fairs)
  - Universities and community colleges
- ❖ Networking at conferences/meetings
- ❖ External recruiting firms
- ❖ Employee referrals
- ❖ Positive branding of company



# Training and Development



# Engineering Graduate Progression



Tennessee Valley Authority

## Engineering Graduate Progression Program

*Making the Best Better!*

Revision 2 - September 1, 2005

# EGPP

## Engineering Graduate Progression

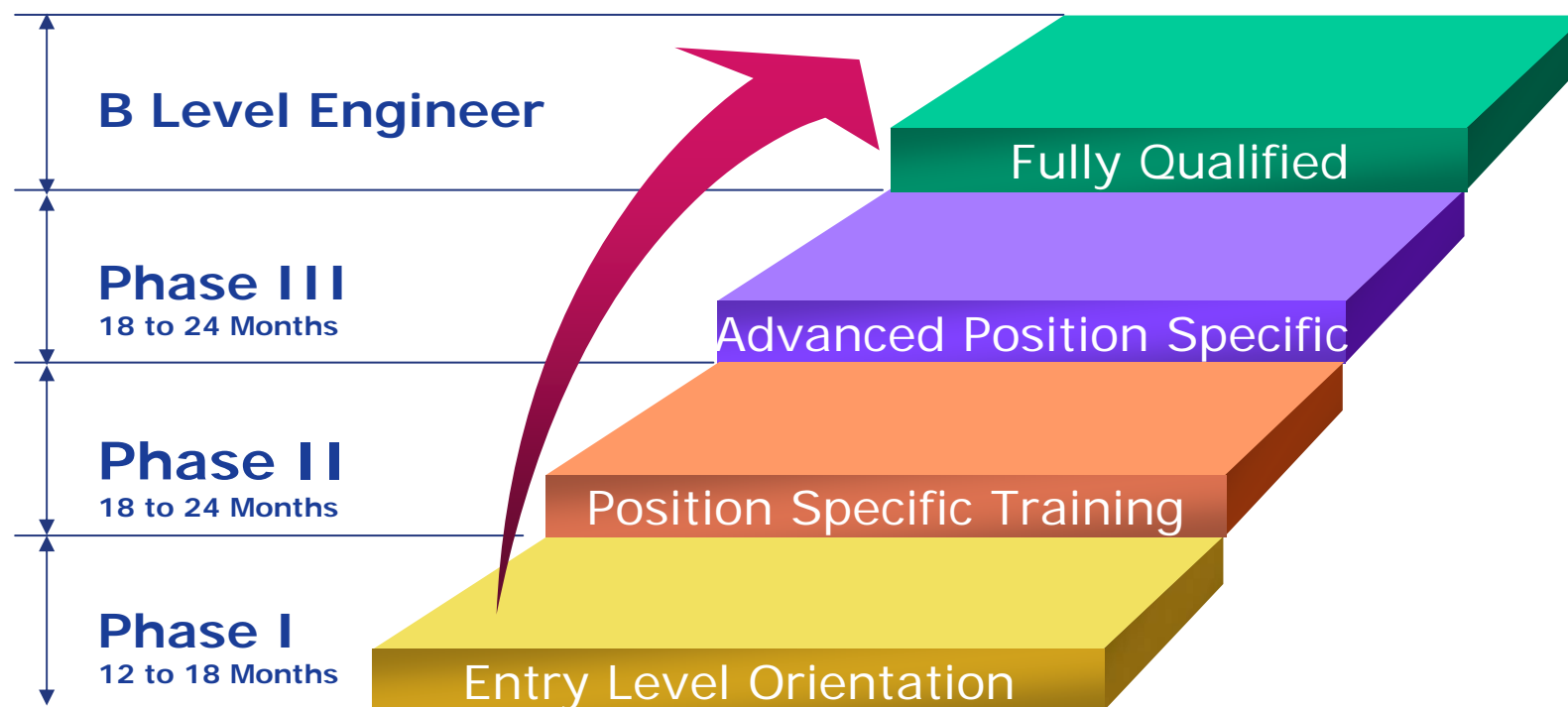
Engineering Levels at TVA  
(All are Represented by Union)

- ❖ Engineer Level – A (Entry to 4+ years)
- ❖ Engineer Level – B (Fully Qualified)
- ❖ Engineer Level – C (Team Lead)
- ❖ Engineer Level – D (Technical Specialist)

# Engineering Graduate Progression

- ❖ Designed to address the need to develop TVA graduate engineers to become fully qualified as soon as possible
- ❖ A combination of training and required work assignments
  - Formal Training (Class Room Setting)
  - On line (CBT)
  - Informal Mentoring
  - “On the job” training
  - Demonstrated competencies
- ❖ A clear road map that allows entry level engineers to progress in knowledge, skills, and experience in order to become fully qualified engineers

# Engineering Graduate Progression



# Engineering Graduate Progression

## EGPP - Key Elements

- ❖ **Mentors** - Assumes the role of sponsor, teacher, and counselor
- ❖ **Technical Experts** - Assist the graduate in performing specific technical assignments. These experts may change based on the specific assignments. They are intended to provide the detail direction on the technical, procedural and site requirements
- ❖ **Individual Development Plans** - Develop a detailed Individual Progression Plan (IPP - Specific to each Engineering organization)
- ❖ **Engineering Review Board** – Approves all reclassification to B level (fully competent)

# Engineering Graduate Progression

## TVA Engineering Graduate Progression Plan (EGPP) Model

### Appendix A

Engineer - Level A			Engineer - Level B
Eligible for annual increases and EA Off-Cycle Pay Adjustments			Reclassification to Level B
<p><b><u>Phase I (12-18 Months)</u></b></p> <p><b>TVA ORIENTATION AND INITIAL ENGINEERING ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p>e.g. New Employee Experience STAR 7</p> <p>Technical Administrative Training: e.g. Health &amp; Safety Environmental Business Processes Work Management Systems</p> <p>Technical Fundamentals: e.g. Systems Training Developmental Work Assignments Mentor Assigned</p>	<p><b><u>Phase II (18-24 Months)</u></b></p> <p><b>POSITION SPECIFIC-DISCIPLINE ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p>e.g. Root Cause Analysis Regulatory Project Support System Analysis Qualification Cards On-the-Job Training Developmental Work Assignments</p>	<p><b><u>Phase III (18-24 Months)</u></b></p> <p><b>ADVANCED POSITION SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS AND DEMONSTRATED PROFICIENCY</b></p> <p>e.g. Advanced Regulatory Projects Systems Analysis Advanced Qualification Cards In-depth On-the-Job Training Developmental Work Assignments</p>	<p><b><u>Approval by Engineering Review Board</u></b></p> <p>Phase I, II &amp; III Training complete</p> <p>Qualification Requirements Met</p> <p>Fully competent engineer by demonstrated proficiency, (e.g. Achievement of PE license)</p> <p>Minimum 4 years of experience</p>
<p>PHASE 1</p> <p>A - LEVEL Entry</p> <p>Rate</p> <p>80 - 100%</p> <p>min - max</p>	<p>*PHASE 2</p> <p>A-LEVEL</p> <p>95 -110%</p> <p>min - max</p>	<p>*PHASE 3</p> <p>A-LEVEL</p> <p>100 -120%</p> <p>min - max</p>	<p>*Reclassify to Engineer</p> <p>B-LEVEL</p> <p>80-100%</p> <p>min - max</p>

# Selecting Leaders

## 9 Box

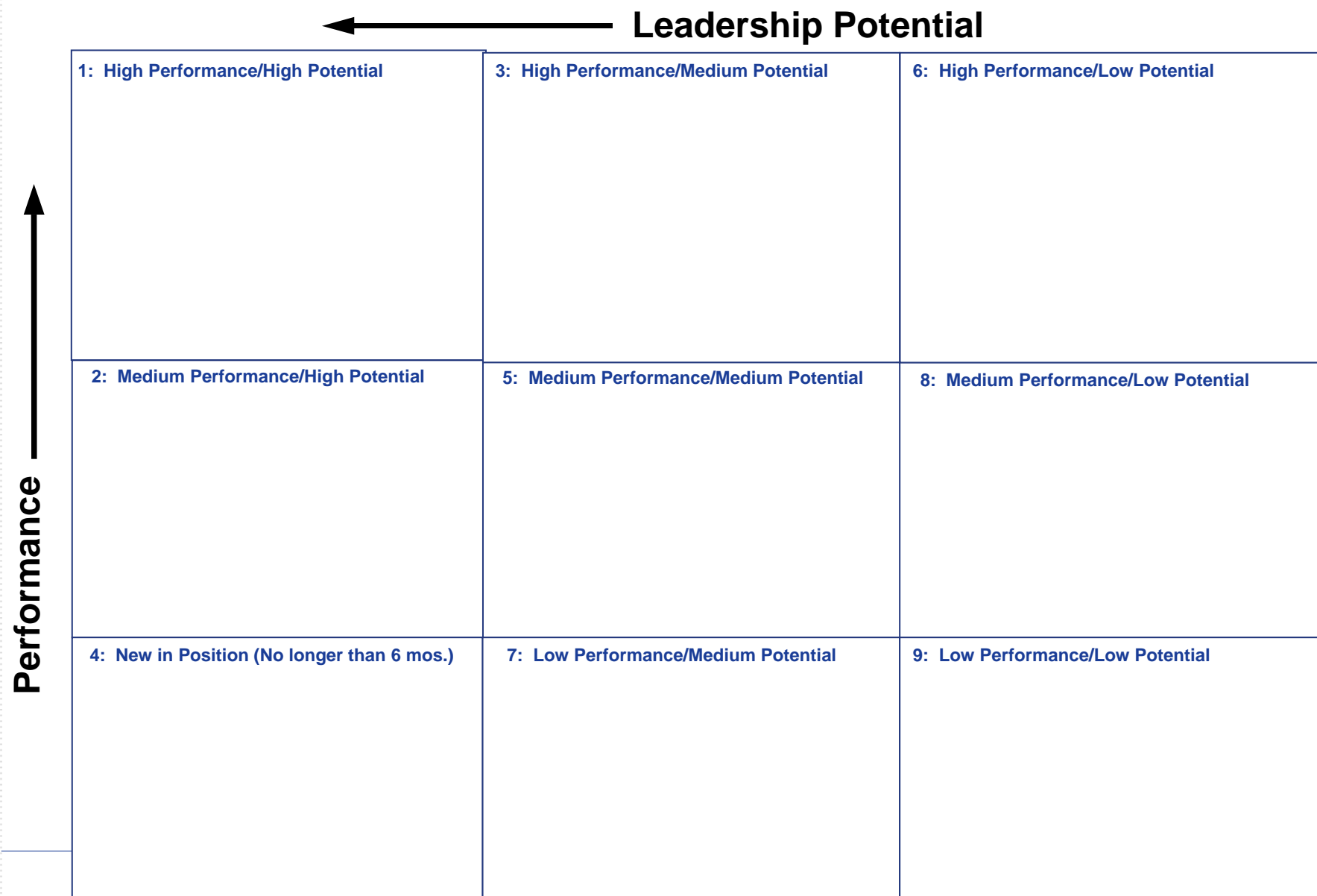
**TVA's program to assess and  
development top management talent**



## Key Components

- Managers are assessed on **Performance** and **Leadership** Potential using “Nine-Box” Model
- Regular reviews and discussions occur among executives and senior managers
- Strengths and development needs are openly discussed
- “Ready Now” and “Ready Long Term” succession candidates are identified for key positions
- Greatest investment in developing top talent

# 9-Box Template



# Expectations: 9-Box Model

- The 9-Box model involves rating the Performance and Leadership Potential
- Initial ratings should be made by the immediate - should be discussed and revised, as necessary, as they are rolled-up the organization.
- Individuals in Box 4 (New in Position) 3-6 months
- Focus is given to development of top third individuals and performance improvement planning with low performers.
- Managers should provide all employees with feedback on performance and potential.
- Development Plans and Performance Improvement Plans should be developed and tracked

# 9-Box Performance Definitions

## High Performance “Exceptional Performer”

- ☐ Exceeds most goals – especially those of high priority.
- ☐ Clearly delivers results to lead TVA in outperforming the competition.
- ☐ Consistently performs at the highest level.
- ☐ Is fully committed to and “lives” all of TVA’s competencies. Leads by example, and is consistently regarded by peers and supervisors as a role model in all areas of behaviors.
- ☐ Always seeks to incorporate ideas and views of others. Is sought out by others to provide advice, to lead teams, and to champion change. Sets an example for everyone in executing strategies.
- ☐ Always takes opportunity to be accountable. Highly adaptable to new skills, behaviors, and information. Clearly understands unit’s strategy and actively contributes to reshaping agenda.
- ☐ Develops and leads direct reports to achieve results. Creates and communicates a compelling vision and a strategy for meeting the vision.

## Medium Performance “Significant Contributor”

- ☐ Achieves all goals, at a minimum, and may even exceed some.
- ☐ Delivers results to help TVA outperform the competition.
- ☐ Takes on extra projects and/or tasks without defaulting on basic objectives and responsibilities.
- ☐ Abides by the TVA competencies and is effective, but has room to improve behavior. Sets a uniformly good behavioral example for others. Understands other’s views and ideas.
- ☐ Provides sound advice. Leads team with collaborative and committed spirit. Constructively challenges teams.
- ☐ Comfortable and responsive in new situations and when faced with new information. Demonstrates clear understanding of, and can be relied on to execute, strategies. Is committed to TVA’s strategy and proactively seeks advice when needed.
- ☐ Proactively seeks feedback and acts upon it to improve capabilities and performance.
- ☐ Manages direct reports to achieve results. Is effective in communicating expectations to team members.

## Low Performance “Does Not Meet Expectations”

- ☐ Does not achieve expected results; does not achieve high-priority goals, or does not achieve over half of total goals.
- ☐ Consistently ignores or conflicts with one or more of the TVA competencies. Behaviors need focused attention.
- ☐ Does *not* consistently demonstrate understanding of other’s views and ideas, contribute to teams, work well in ambiguous situations, and/or understand TVA’s strategies.
- ☐ Usually needs significant guidance to achieve results.
- ☐ Does not focus on developing direct reports. Lacks ability to effectively communicate vision and strategy.

# 9-Box Leadership Potential Definitions

## High Leadership Potential

- ☐ Strong learning agility, i.e., curious, open to learning and able to learn quickly from experience.
- ☐ Thinks conceptually, strategically and maintains a broad perspective
- ☐ Exhibits a strong internal drive to have impact on the business and see results; shows a bias toward focused action
- ☐ Exerts positive, wide spread influence across the organization; communicates in an articulate manner, treats others with appreciation, respect and dignity
- ☐ Adapts easily to new, ambiguous or changing conditions; maintains realistic optimism and effectively leads change
- ☐ Holds self and others to high expectations; is a model for personal accountability, and is effective in driving accountability in others
- ☐ A role model for honesty and integrity, with a capacity for personal humility
- ☐ Interested in and capable of moving up one level immediately and another level in the near future. Could move within or across business units
- ☐ Limitations can be addressed by experience and/or targeted development

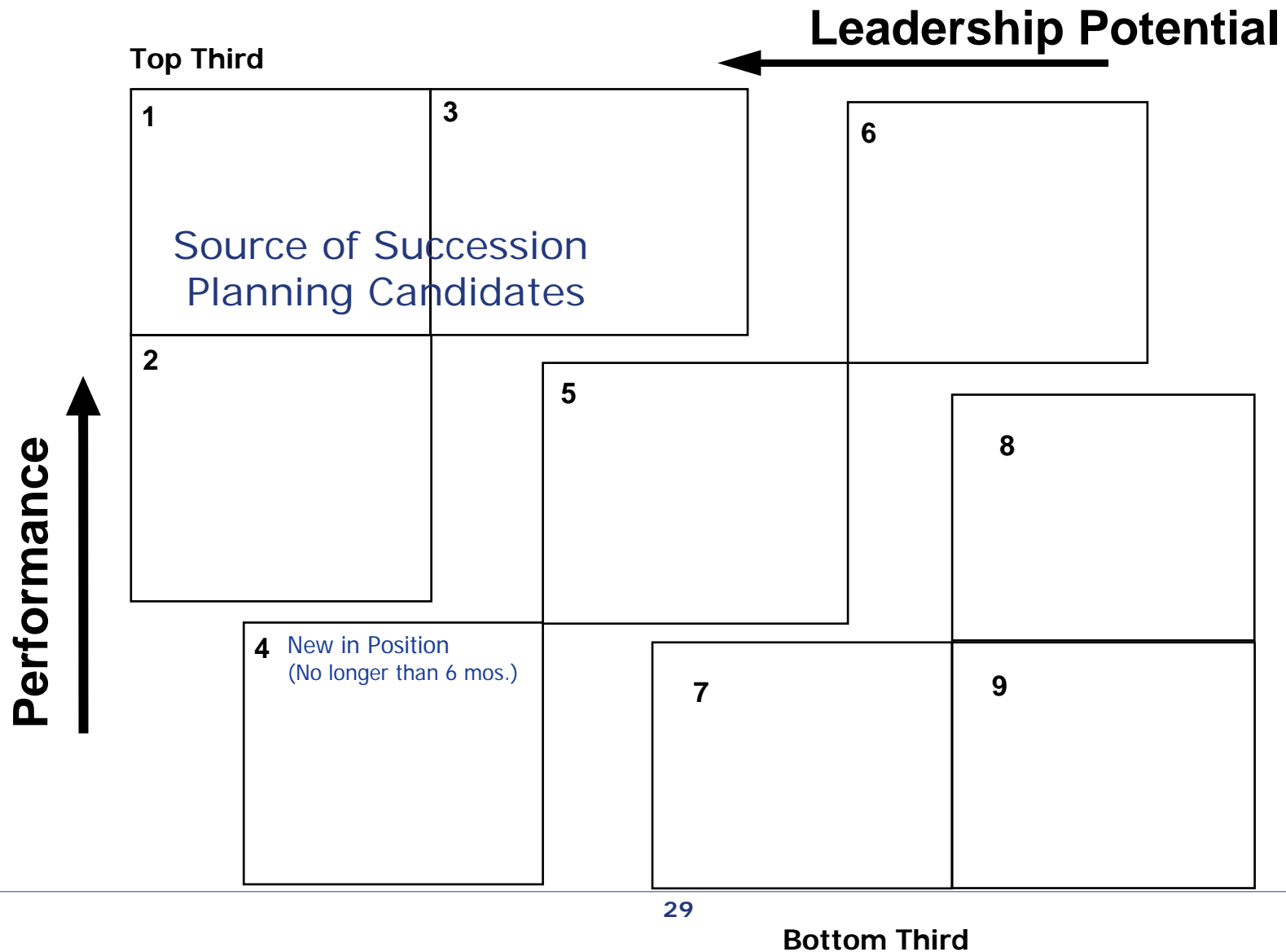
## Medium Leadership Potential

- ☐ Moderate learning agility and adaptability to new or changing conditions; able to make decisions in ambiguous situations
- ☐ Demonstrates some knowledge of the big picture, but may have difficulty in maintaining a broad perspective
- ☐ Demonstrates many of the leadership competencies beyond current role and responsibility, however, some limitations in leadership style and approach need to be addressed
- ☐ Has potential to take on greater roles within the company. Could move up one level within the business unit in the short-term future or assume significantly greater responsibilities within current level.

## Low Leadership Potential

- ☐ Not an agile learner; does not always learn from mistakes and has tendency to make errors.
  - ☐ Clearly indicates significant limitations in leadership abilities
  - ☐ Has difficulty with new or changing conditions; unable to make quality decisions in ambiguous situations
  - ☐ Does not exert positive, widespread influence across the organization
  - ☐ Does not manage through others to drive accountability through the organization
  - ☐ Cannot maintain a broad perspective; operates from a more narrow, tactical or functional view versus broad and strategic
  - ☐ May not be capable of progressing to the next level or to take on greater roles within the company; retention contingent on performance and unique expertise/value
- 
- ☐ May be a blocker or inappropriately placed

# 9-Box Template



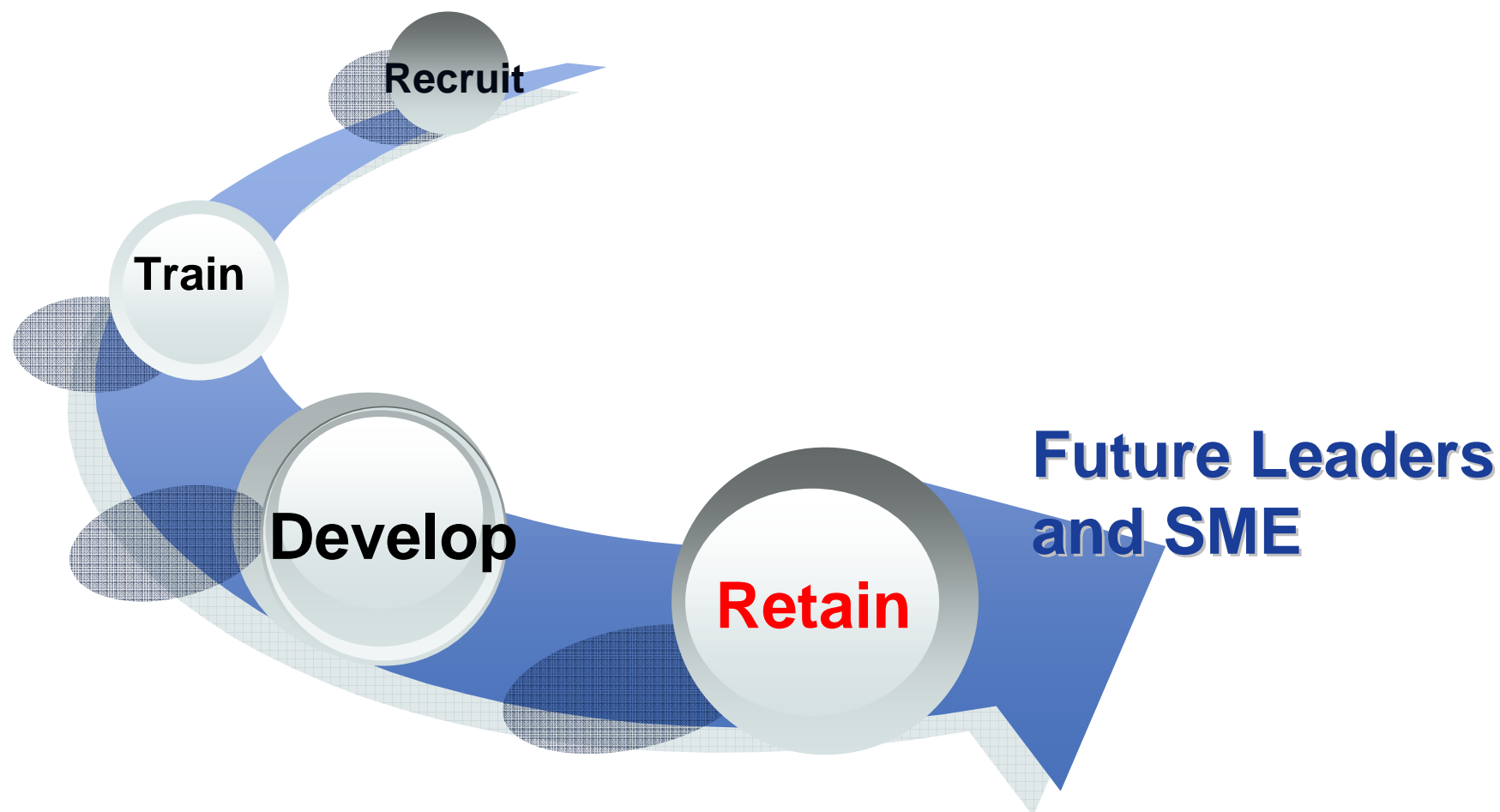


# Succession Planning

- Develops internal replacements for all key leadership and technical expert positions
- Values *leadership and management* capabilities as much as technical knowledge
- Actively promotes diversity, especially in leadership ranks
- Develops leaders through a variety of means (internal & external training, rotational assignments, special projects, mentoring, etc.)
- Develops managers that are effective at identifying & developing talent



# Recruiting and Development Initiatives



# Retaining Top Talent

- ❖ Culture and work environment (Company values...respect, integrity, accountability, teamwork, continuous improvement, honest communication, flexibility)
- ❖ Recognize and reward performance
- ❖ Motivate through challenging assignments and development opportunities (Rotational assignments, special projects, etc.)
- ❖ Fully engaged - Line of sight to company goals
- ❖ Positive Branding - Strive to be the employer of choice

Work Force Planning - [Main Menu]

Last Update from HRIS:  
02/09/2007

Work Force Plan  
HR Operations

WFP and  
Projected  
Attrition/Hires

Knowledge  
Retention/Attrition  
Survey

Projected Hires

Knowledge  
Retention Matrix

Job Title Search

Work Force  
Metric Reports

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Search Folders

Address \\Chappgs1\hr\_frontend

File and Folder Tasks

Other Places

Details

hr\_frontend

Name	Size	Type	Date Modified
EET INFO		File Folder	10/17/2005 4:15 PM
EGPP TVA GUIDELINES		File Folder	12/18/2006 8:54 AM
Fatalities Information		File Folder	02/09/2007 10:36 AM
FFD-Security Clearance Data...		File Folder	12/06/2006 1:46 PM
Fitness For Duty-Drug Screen...		File Folder	01/30/2007 8:32 AM
HR PEER TEAM		File Folder	12/14/2006 11:07 AM
HR Preparation for INPO		File Folder	11/27/2006 4:31 PM
IPM 2004		File Folder	06/17/2004 1:51 PM
Leave Transfer		File Folder	02/08/2007 4:57 PM
Leave Transfer-LWOP Inform...		File Folder	08/02/2003 5:51 PM
Major HR Projects		File Folder	03/31/2004 3:10 PM
Military Reservist Information		File Folder	01/16/2007 1:27 PM
NA Assessment (IHD)		File Folder	11/13/2006 3:25 PM
Organization Charts		File Folder	09/07/2006 9:57 AM
OVERTIME POLICIES		File Folder	01/19/2007 5:41 PM
Recognition Info		File Folder	08/03/2005 1:27 PM
Reinvestment Program		File Folder	01/24/2007 10:44 AM
ReportSmith		File Folder	12/13/2006 1:44 PM
Sample Forms Letters and Lab...		File Folder	01/26/2007 3:31 PM
Staffing Optimization		File Folder	01/09/2007 3:30 PM
TERMINATIONS		File Folder	01/26/2007 1:20 PM
Travel Information		File Folder	12/06/2006 2:09 PM
Organizational Cha...		File Folder	11/10/2006 7:47 AM
Employment Claims		File Folder	11/18/2006 1:27 PM
Workforce Comp(HRPT)		File Folder	11/07/2006 1:25 PM
chappgs1 (2)	1 KB	Shortcut	03/21/2005 2:10 PM
DMV Invest Tracking List.xls	105 KB	Microsoft Excel Wor...	02/12/2007 12:15 PM

52 objects

Start

Employee Technical Training and Organizational Effectiveness - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by TVA IE 6.0 SP2

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

InsideNet online resources for tva employees

Home Contents Organizations News Employee Self Service Manager Self Service Search & Help

Home

Online Learning

TVA Training

Leadership and Employee Development

Leadership Institute

External Training

Knowledge Retention

Professional Certification

Progression Programs

Tuition Reimbursement

360-Degree Feedback

Integrated Performance Management (IPM)

Training Schedules

STAR 7

OE Consulting

Course Descriptions

TVA Training Updates

Trainers' Resources

Community Programs

TVA Training & Development

KNOWLEDGE RETENTION

Conduct a Knowledge Loss Risk Assessment

The process that assesses the criticality of positions and incumbents, and anticipated attrition to assist management in focusing on the most significant knowledge-retention issues.

Activity	Tools	Responsibility
Prepare management team and appropriate managers and supervisors.	<a href="#">Overview of the Retaining Knowledge Process</a>	Line HR Senior Leadership Supervisors/Managers
Assess the Total Risk Factor for each position.	<a href="#">Knowledge Loss Risk Assessment - Guidelines for Defining and Assessing Criticality</a>	Supervisors/Managers
Prioritize Positions	<a href="#">Knowledge Loss Risk Assessment Spreadsheet</a>	Senior Leadership

**Inputs:**

- Workforce Plan, including attrition data
- Current and anticipated job replacements
- Employee skills and competencies
- Organization-specific critical skills inventories

**Output:**

- Identification of positions/incumbents to be included in the Knowledge Retention Plan

Form View

KNOWLEDGE RETENTION PLAN

Employee:	Position: Engr. Mech. General (NUC)	Position Risk Factor: Retirement Factor: 5	Total Position Factor: 20	
Summary and Situation Assessment: The incumbent has in depth knowledge of and expertise in piping analysis with emphasis on T-Pipe system. This system is unique to TVA and the duplication of knowledge exists. Though a replacement person with an engineering degree could become proficient in the use of this software in about six months, at least two years on-the-job training is needed to respond quickly to urgent questions related to piping analysis. In addition to the T Pipe system, there must be extensive knowledge of the Class II computer system, SDP - NED99, and SQN LDC 13.1 and 24.2. Though a person with a two year degree may be knowledgeable, it is preferable to have someone with a four year degree in either Civil or Mechanical Engineering. Currently <u>Employee A</u> is being cross-trained on the T Pipe system. <u>Employee B</u> also works with this system and has significant knowledge. <u>Employee C</u> and <u>Employee D</u> work in the Chattanooga TVAN Corporate office and also have knowledge of the system. Because the T Pipe system is unique to SQN there is no external training on its use. However ASME does provide training on piping analysis and code requirements.				
Knowledge or Skill	Criticality (1-5)	Actions (Required of Criticality 4-5) List steps which can and will be taken to retain this critical knowledge/skill and/or minimize the impact of its loss	Target Date(s) for Completion	Status and Issues
Rigorous and alternate piping analysis, component qualification of code components and pipe rupture analysis skills	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identify a replacement person for the critical skills</li><li>Replacement person complete ASME courses in piping analysis and code requirements</li><li>Replacement person develop a working knowledge of T-Pipe Code, ASME Code, procedures and criteria through reading and mentoring of _____ and _____</li></ul>	Dec 2004 Sept 2005	<u>Employee A</u> and <u>Employee B</u> are being cross trained in T-Pipe. Will send both to ASME Course when offered by TVA Training. Both being Mentored
Development Plans	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Supervisor assign replacement person "trial tasks" under the direction of _____ and/or _____</li><li>Replacement complete qualification card under mentor sponsorship</li><li>Include mentoring in _____ and _____ PR&amp;D and developmental goals in replacement individual</li><li>Recruit/hire person to replace replacement person</li></ul>	March 2005 Dec 2005 Sept 2004	On going replacements are
Documentation	5	Incumbent to develop a piping analysis, component qualification and pipe rupture reference library of handbooks, procedures, criteria and process in conjunction with replacement person.	Oct 2005 Sept 2004	On going will be completed by Sept.

Knowledge Retention Plan Prepared by: OE Consultant Date: November 6, 2003  
Last Update: 7/22/04, Manager

Thank You!

Questions?