



**The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



1962-8

Joint ICTP-IAEA School of Nuclear Knowledge Management

1 - 5 September 2008

Capturing & Transferring Knowledge: Basic Concepts

PRYAKHIN Andrey
*International Atomic Energy Agency
Division of Nuclear Power, Nuclear Power Engineering Section
Wagramerstrasse 5, P.O. Box 100
Vienna A-1400
AUSTRIA*

Capturing and Transferring Knowledge - basic concepts

(D1.05 – presentations and practical session)

Andrey Pryakhin



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Issues addressed

- Knowledge
- Explicit knowledge vs. Implicit knowledge
- Knowledge capture and transfer
 - Practical exercise
- Knowledge gaps and targets

Data, Information and Knowledge

Definitions

Examples

Information with human interpretation and purpose of use

Knowledge

The flight should depart at 8 a.m., but it often delayed for up to an hour, so I should never schedule meetings in Milan before 11 a.m.

Data in the context

Information

The flight departs from Vienna at 8 a.m. and arrives in Milan at 9:30 a.m.

Facts without context

Data

Vienna, Milan
8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Explicit knowledge vs. Implicit knowledge vs. Tacit knowledge

- Explicit knowledge –
 - 20% (captured, recorded, codified)
- Implicit knowledge –
 - 30% (not been captured yet)
- Tacit knowledge
 - 50% (difficult to recall)

Explicit knowledge

- Organizational
 - Organization chart, who is who
- Environmental
 - Nuclear industry, member states
- Formal or procedural
 - Manuals, guides, procedures
- Theoretical or academic
 - Theorems, equations, math, physics

Implicit knowledge

- Intuitive organizational
 - Undocumented or informal rules
- Practices
 - How to format document

Tacit knowledge

- Skills
 - How to ride a bicycle,
 - How to organize a meeting
- Attitudes
 - How to persuade other people
 - Social network
- Automatism
 - Write software
 - Type a document

Implicit vs. Tacit

- Not a big difference
- In most cases – as synonyms
- In a person's mind
- Tacit -> Implicit -> Explicit

Basic aspects

- Knowledge capture
- Knowledge transfer
- Knowledge gaps
- Knowledge targets

Capturing tacit knowledge

- Why capture tacit knowledge?
- What kind of knowledge could be captured?
- From whom might you wish to capture?
- How could it be captured?

Transferring knowledge

- From whom to whom?
- How might it be transferred (explicit vs. implicit)?
- How might it be utilized in the future?
- What might be the benefits?

Exercise

- Split into 4 groups
- 2 groups are assigned with one of the 2 areas
 - Knowledge capture
 - Knowledge transfer
- Discuss 4 questions posed for the selected area
 - 15 mins
- The designated reporter reports the results
 - 3-5 mins for each group

Capturing

- Why capture implicit knowledge?
- What kind of knowledge could be captured?
- From whom might you wish to capture?
- How could it be captured?

Transferring

- From whom to whom?
- How might it be transferred (explicit vs. implicit)?
- How might it be utilized in the future?
- What might be the benefits?

Exercise

- Summary Reports from each group

IAEA test case on capturing and transferring knowledge

- Insight series session
- INIS and NKM Section
- Brainstorming – IAEA staff members
- Common responses from grouped participants

Knowledge gaps

- Are there age gaps in your organization?
- Is your organization losing experienced people?
- Does your organization have a graduate recruitment programme?
- Do you still have access to retired staff?

Knowledge targets

- Is there a need within your organization to preserve knowledge for further re-use?
- Which areas (with focus on nuclear knowledge) would you target?
- Which knowledge is important for your organization?
 - Now
 - In the future
- Are there projects or areas in which you feel sufficient knowledge has not been captured yet?

Summary

- Conclusions
- Question and answers
- Thank you!