

13 Dec 2017

Dream: Plan: Experience



Symptoms

Every business operates using a plan of some sort, yet most plans seem to fail. These failures have an 'effect' on every stakeholder and it requires a diagnostician to try to locate the cause of the problem.

The question that the diagnostician must ask is: is the object that they have found a symptom or a cause? This is the subject of Book 1 Chapter 5.

What is a symptom?

Definitions:

- 1) An indication of the existence of something, especially of an undesirable situation
- 2) Something that indicates the existence of something else

What are the major stumbling blocks to experiencing the 'benefits' of planning your dream?

Here are a few symptoms:

- 1) Having a plan simply for the sake of having one
- 2) Unrealistic goals or lack of focus and resources
- 3) Plans are overly complex
- 4) Unforeseen external circumstances
- 5) Project scope inflexible to changes
- 6) Wrong people in the wrong job
- 7) Financial estimates are significantly inaccurate
- 8) No accountability
- 9) Lack of focus

Sources: Forbes; Tempo Blog; OnStrategy; Leap Leadership

Why are these symptoms?

If you examine each of the preceding examples you will find that they are far too implicit. They require further analysis which should uncover the underlying cause which has to be an explicit statement.

For example:

a) A plan fails because it is overly complex.

This 'cause' is implicit as the word 'complex' has far too many explanations.

b) Wrong people in the wrong job.

This cause is implicit as you will need to examine every capability and how they impact on every job.

[Video](#)

[Previous topic](#)

[Next topic](#)

Charles Meyer Richter
Principal information architect and Diagnostician
Ripose Pty Limited