#### **Instructor Notes:**



Schedule:

- 15 min. lecture
- 5 min. discussion
- 5 min. note taking
- 5 min. selfassessment

Present to participants using PowerPoint #1

(Yoda of Star Wars)

Jay Goltz revealed his secret to having happy employees: "I fired the unhappy people." Discuss his approach compared to the necessity of retaining talent and reducing turnover.

Participant
exercise: (5 minutes)
give an example, then
ask the class to provide
their own examples of
praise that meets the 3
requirements

"Very nice, George! I like how you rememberd to give that client your direct extension for recourse on that phone call you just had."

# **Motivation**

## **Objectives**

After completing this topic, you will be able to:

- Praise your staff effectively
- Explain what employees really want at work

### Overview

According to SuccessFactors Inc., by the year 2020, sixtyfour million people, or 40% of the U.S. workforce will be poised for retirement. Given this reality it has never been more important to develop and retain talent at every level of the company. Effective managers know how to work with people in order to develop individual employee's talent, interests, and career goals. This keeps your



employees happy, motivated, and productive while ensuring the right people stay.

## It's Contagious!

Attitudes are contagious. You want to model a positive attitude at all times for your employees. You also want to address bad attitudes before they spread (see Module 2, *Conflict Resolution*).

### **Praise**

You're probably good at following the maxim, "Praise in public, reprimand in private." But is an "attaboy" at your monthly department meeting truly motivating? Praising your employees should be an everyday occurrence. It does not need to be a part of a formal recognition program. It just needs to be:

- 1. Timely
- 2. Specific
- 3. Sincere

Example: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Casual praise is an easy way to give employees what they need: appreciation, acknowledgement, and credit for a job well done.

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#### **Instructor Notes:**

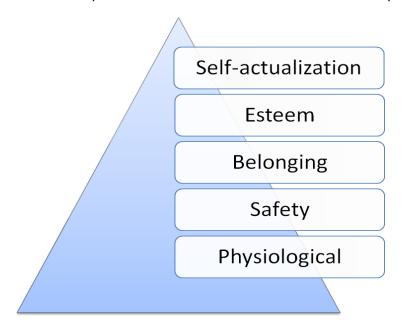
Explain each level of the triangle is built upon the previous level. Prepare for this topic by reading up on Maslow's hierarchy of needs on Wikipedia.

Participant
exercise: have
learners take notes for
the parts the
employees really want:

- Breaks, lunch times
- 2. Peaceful relations
- 3. Part of the team
- Control and autonomy, meaningful activities, contribute
- 5. Problem-solving, fun

## What We Really Want

Abraham Maslow, a famous psychologist, wrote *A Theory of Human Motivation* (1943) which outlines a hierarchy of needs we all have, from which we can extrapolate the true needs and desires of our employees.



Before you or your employees can concentrate on a higher level of needs, the lower levels have to be met first.

- Physiological: We assume needs like food, water, and sleep are met.
   At work, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ are basic needs.
- Safety: We also assume needs like shelter and security of body and property are also met at home because the person is employed. At work, the need is for \_\_\_\_\_\_ with managers and coworkers.
- 4. Esteem: Your employees desire confidence and respect from others which is gained from a sense of achievement. At work, you can meet this need by giving them \_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_, and tasks that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the success of the team.

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#### **Instructor Notes:**

### **Best Practices**

The best way to give your employees what they really want is to know them.

- 1. Greet employees individually each morning. This contributes to their sense of belonging and give them an opportunity to start a dialogue, if needed.
- 2. Know what is important to them so you can recognize and praise them in meaningful ways.
- 3. Know what scares them so you can address their fears.
- 4. Be aware of what they love to do so you can assign work that is rewarding.

## **Self-Assessment**

How many of the following statements can your employees check off as true? Try giving the list to your staff (they can give you feedback anonymously) as a tool to measure the morale of your department and how well you are doing as a manager.

My supervisor/manager keeps me well informed.
 I am encouraged to think independently.
 I have authority to make necessary decisions.
 My supervisor provides training and development to help me do my job.
 My manager asks for my ideas and problem solutions and considers my input when making decisions.
 My manager holds me accountable for the quality of my work.
 My supervisor gives me feedback that helps me improve my performance.
 My supervisor coaches me on specific necessary improvements if my work is not meeting the standard.

Instructor information: If time allows, have the participants go throught the check list twice: once for themselves and their relationship with their boss, and once from the perspective of their staff.

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