Development of Effective Construction Project Teams in Design-Build Projects

Introduction

The concept of team and teamwork has become a concern of management in all types of industries, including construction. It is sufficient to say that teamwork is dominant in construction's cultural tradition and at the foundation of successful construction projects. Therefore, it is imperative to understand how the construction project team is being set-up and the factors that may contribute to a successful and effective construction project teams.

Purpose of Study

The goal of this study was to examine how the construction project team is being set-up and the factors that may contribute to a successful and effective project teams in design-build projects.

Population and Sample

Population: Design-build construction companies in the Midwest region in the United States.

Sample: Sample of convenience was chosen as the sampling method. The sampling frame was a list of contacts ranging from owners, contractors, and architects. The respondents chosen were based on their active involvement in the design-build process.

Methodology

Literature Review

- The concept of teams in construction projects
- Team performance in organizations

Survey

- Online survey
- Administered to 16 people
- 33 questions related to team assessment based on nine categories believed to create effective teams on a design-build project.

Factors contributing to effective project teams

Factors contributing to effective project teams:

- Team Leadership
- Team Goals and Objectives
- Communication
- Team Relationship
- Team/Task Processes
- Creativity and Innovation
- Roles and Responsibility
- Organization/Management Support
- Audit and Monitoring

Results

Factors affecting team effectiveness:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank (1 - least important</th>
<th>9 - most important)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUBCON</td>
<td>ENGINEER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team leadership</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team goals and objectives</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization/management support</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit and monitoring</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roles and responsibility</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creativity and innovation</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team/Task processes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team relationship</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions

- The top 3 important factors that contributes to effective construction project teams are:
  1. Team Leadership
  2. Team Goals and Objectives
  3. Communication

The factors ranked above will be used for development of questionnaires for further research on team effectiveness on various project teams.

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References


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