

Relative Importance of Leadership Behaviors for Overall Effectiveness: A Study of the Manufacturing Industry



Behaviors are listed in order of importance and magnitude. Total variance in overall effectiveness explained by all LEA 360™ behaviors is 55%.

The Behaviors that Drive Effectiveness

Effective manufacturing industry leaders:

- Think before acting and analyze the impact of their decisions on the future of the organization (Strategic)
- Identify with their field of expertise and maintain indepth, specialized knowledge in their areas (*Technical*)
- Express ideas and expectations clearly, and keep others informed (Communication)
- Win people over, build commitment and sell ideas (Persuasive)
- Take nothing for granted, monitor the progress of activities and deliver on promises (Control)
- Are energetic and dynamic, and use their enthusiasm to get others involved (Excitement)
- Are comfortable being in charge, and seek out opportunities to be influential and accomplish results through others (Management Focus)
- Demonstrate an active concern for others and form supportive relationships (Empathy)

The Study

- Observer data for 1,189 participants
- Collected 2014-2018
- 20+ countries
- Management level: all
- Job function: all
- Gender: 62% male, 19% female (19% not reported)

Analyses

A leadership effectiveness score incorporating all 30 LEA 360TM competencies was calculated for each participant. This score was regressed on the 22 LEA behaviors. A relative weights analysis was then conducted to determine which leadership behaviors were most closely associated with high effectiveness ratings in the manufacturing industry.

Summary of Findings

Our current research on leadership effectiveness within the manufacturing industry highlights the importance of strategic, technical, and communicative behaviors. While a lot of our industry related research points to this need, within the manufacturing industry there is an additional element of staying close to delegated work. This suggests that manufacturing leaders have an intimate knowledge of business operations, understand how projects commonly get off track, and through close monitoring of work, are more disciplined in their approach to management. The full set of results indicates that successful manufacturing industry leaders are likely to exhibit the following behaviors:

- ✓ They have a **great deal of industry knowledge and expertise**, and they utilize this to think long term, evaluate issues and **consider the broad implications of their decisions**.
- ✓ They put a high priority on clearly defining their expectations and keeping others informed, while also tracking delegated work to ensure their expectations are met.
- ✓ They enjoy being in positions of authority and directing the efforts of others, while at the same time displaying a sincere interest in the well-being of others and prioritizing the development of strong personal connections
- ✓ Through high levels of energy and enthusiasm, they are able to make others feel good about themselves and their work, and through their persuasive capabilities, are able to get others aligned to their point of view.

Using the LEA 360[™] to Develop Manufacturing Industry Leaders

In order to develop leaders to encourage increasing or decreasing emphasis on specific behaviors, it is critical to employ a scientifically designed 360 assessment tool to accurately measure these behaviors.

By embracing individual leadership styles and placing them within the context of the organizational environment, the LEA 360™ stimulates individual and team growth through insights that are accurate, encouraging, and actionable.

The LEA 360™ can be used to support development, including efforts to:

- Use the research to inform the identification of specific leadership practices needed to achieve your organization's strategic goals
- Understand the leadership behaviors currently in practice and the gaps with desired state
- Provide relevant, insightful feedback to leaders from a variety of observers
- Reveal blind spots in the leaders' perceptions of their approach to leadership
- Build action and accountability into the leadership development process
- Provide constructive coaching suggestions for key areas of leadership development
- Provide an opportunity for regular, just-in-time feedback

About MRG

MRG is a global leader in designing assessments that foster a deep self-awareness and impact people in profound and meaningful ways.

The MRG suite of scientifically designed instruments, backed by more than three decades of research, includes solutions for Leadership and Personal Development, Sales and Service.

MRG believes that by recognizing the whole self, in all its complexity, you can support individuals as they increase their self-awareness, channel their motivational energy, discover new opportunities for growth, and actively engage in their own development.

The Instrument: the LEA 360™

The Leadership Effectiveness Analysis 360™ (LEA 360™) is an assessment and development tool that measures 22 leadership behaviors and 30 competencies. It is a powerful instrument for developing a nuanced understanding of an individual's unique approach to leadership both from their own perspective and in the eyes of their colleagues (bosses, peers and direct reports).

MRG assessments are administered exclusively by MRG or by MRG certified partners.

Contact MRG today to connect with, or become, a certified partner.