

A Leadership Coaching Program

For

Senior Executives & Mid-Level Managers

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### I. OVERVIEW

In order for a company to achieve its strategic objectives, key senior executives and mid-level managers often take on significant levels of accountability and responsibility. A company's future success is highly linked to effective senior executive and mid-level manager performance. Understanding individual leadership competencies and what action is required to improve personal leadership is essential for a company's future success. Strengthening management leadership effectiveness will enable a company to perpetuate and enhance its short and long-term performance.

## II. SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

- Benchmark, evaluate/assess, and understand senior executive and mid-level manager leadership skills and competencies.
- Using this information, design and implement a Personal Leadership Development and Coaching Plan for each executive and manager.
- Enable each executive and manager to strengthen/improve their leadership and decision-making effectiveness.

### III. EXPECTED BENEFITS

Tangible results are expected to include the following:

- A. Enable executives and managers to understand their interpersonal communication, leadership competencies, skill sets, and what action is required to make individual performance improvements.
- B. Improve execution, follow-through, and leadership at the senior executive and mid-manager level.
- C. Enable senior executives and mid-level managers to model and transition (to staff) leadership behaviors and competencies that contribute to high performance.

## IV. PROGRAM COMPONENTS

#### A. Assessment Tools

Successful executives and managers are competent in a number of core competency areas (e.g. planning and executing, solving problems, and decision-making). Today, third-party assessment instruments are widely used to assess individual leadership skills. Utilization of these proven instruments; use of my personal assessment tools; one-on-one interviews with each executive and mid-level manager; plus my experience in working with senior executives and mid-level managers for over three decades are viable vehicles for assessing leadership skills and effectiveness.

## B. Design Personal Leadership Development and Coaching Plan

The findings of the leadership assessments will be used to facilitate the creation and implementation of a personalized leadership development coaching plan for each senior executive and mid-level manager. They identify the leadership competencies selected for improvement and the actions to be taken for enabling them to improve their leadership effectiveness.

# C. Individual Coaching Provided by Harvey Meier (HAM)

HAM will provide each executive and mid-level manager with coaching specifically designed to meet the needs of their Personal Leadership Development and Coaching Plan (PLDP).

Here is an illustration of how an action plan for coaching a senior executive and/or mid-level manager could proceed. This plan would be customized to fit each person's PLDP plus it would be responsive to input received from each executive and mid-level manager on their expectations of the coaching program, work schedules, and amount of time they are able to commit to it.

- 1. HAM meets in person with the executive and/or manager at least once per month on site (twice monthly preferred). This can be adjusted to fit availability of the executive or manager.
- 2. HAM prepares for on-site meetings; reviews bi-weekly coaching status reports; reviews executive's or manager's homework assignments.
- 3. Phone conferences with the executive or manager as needed when HAM not on-site. There is no limit on the number of phone consultations or duration other than for them to be scheduled at mutually convenient times.
- 4. Show the executive or manager how to apply and practice Level V Leadership and the "One for All, All for One Way of Leadership (see HAM's book The D'Artagnan Way).
- 5. Reinforce "Doing the Right Things Right."
- 6. Executive and/or manager submits to HAM a bi-weekly coaching status report.
- 7. Confer with executive and manager on any topic and serve as confidential coach/advisor and confidant.
- 8. Encourage/motivate executive or manager to model, followthrough, and meet high performance leadership standards.
- 9. HAM to illustrate asking provocative questions and the impact this has on effective leadership.

- 10. Show executive and manager how to strengthen interpersonal skills and communication practices based on the findings and results of the assessment instruments and one-on-one coaching meetings with HAM. This includes showing how to effectively identify recipient personality styles and how to effectively receive, send, and process information.
- 11. Show executive or manager how to practice an Open Book/Open Door Leadership Style including how to be a teacher, trainer, and monitor as a leader.
- 12. Show how to move from the Parent-Child to the Adult-Adult Style of leadership and communication.
- 13. Introduce participant to self-improvement opportunities (i.e. reading and discussing with HAM prominent leadership books and articles).
- 14. Work with executive and manager on strengthening their creation of meeting agendas; making formal presentations (i.e. board, shareholder, staff), and on leading team meetings.
- 15. Assist executive or manager in designing and completing multiple Leadership Development Breakthrough Projects. (This could include one project that involves mentoring/coaching a subordinate)
- 16. Celebrate completion of the Coaching Program (special event to be determined).

#### D. Time Commitment

Our experience is that executives and managers need to make at least a six month commitment to a coaching program like that described above in order to optimize its expected benefits. A 12- month commitment would be ideal.

#### E. Board Experience

Our specific experience in working with boards of directors on corporate governance issues may also be of additional value for a company's senior executives and managers that have frequent contact with directors.