



## OFF TO A GOOD START FOR THE NEW YEAR: HOW TO RUN A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT

As the calendar turns to a new year, there is time to reflect on your business's progress over the past year and plan how you want your business to develop. "Taking inventory" includes taking stock of the people, projects and outcomes that comprised the past year. It lets you take stock of what worked and what didn't work, and helps you set new directions or adjust old goals.

### Why projects fail

There are many pitfalls that can sink a project: Lack of a solid project plan, lack of management commitment and organizational support, insufficient resources (funding and personnel), undefined objectives and goals, or team weaknesses. Even with the best of intentions or solid plans, project or business goals can go awry if they are not managed properly. This is when your management must recognize a warning sign and take action to achieve better results in 2014.

### Being successful 2014

What exactly is your strategy? Are your company and your employees doing the right things to succeed in the marketplace? Are you doing things right? How effectively are the strategies being implemented? New projects and opportunities occur regularly and priorities need to be revisited regularly. What was very important last year could be less important than a new opportunity today. Project funds get shifted around, projects get killed, resources get reallocated.

### The view from outside: Experts can help to draw up a successful program management

You may come to realize that there are certain areas where you lack the capacities, expertise, or objectivity. These are areas where an expert consultant may be able to help. Having an expert consultant come in from the outside can offer a fresh unbiased view of your own organization. Consultants can then take that new perspective and review your projects, analyze them, and help make the necessary changes to set you on the right

track. An expert's unbiased view of the company and its operations can help management correct ineffective tools and approaches, and set the right strategic objectives. To help ensure your success these experienced experts can devise a detailed implementation plan specifying timelines and goals.

### Customer benefits

Program management is all about providing a professional service to ensure effective project delivery while meeting your objectives and critical success factors. Here, working with a consultant can be of great value. Consultants have already worked to gain a great deal of knowledge in planning, developing, and implementing systems. As a result of their familiarity and relationships with numerous organizations, they are aware of industry best practices and can provide valuable know-how to your organization.

In some cases you will need to create new precondition configurations when starting a new project. The chances that the project management function will be performed effectively will be much increased if the managers have been provided with a favorable decision-making environment. Problems created by the inadequacy of system design can often be serious. Certain kinds of deficiency (e. g. absence of measuring structures) can be rectified relatively quickly but others (e. g. insufficient IT and control structures) may require substantial programs of rehabilitation. Bringing in an objective view from the outside can serve as the foundation for recommendations of more effective or efficient ways of performing.

The MFB experts will support and assist you in the planning and implementation of your project. Even if your business moves in a complex or dynamic environment, with MFB Resultants you can call on an expert to help you bridge the gap between your business goals and project delivery.

### MFB Resultants – We deliver results.