

NEWSLETTER

Volume 08

Office Talks Communication pillars to language barriers

Even if you're not crossing oceans, time zones, or into new cultures, communication can be tough. Just think about how hard it is to communicate with your most intimate contacts: your significant other, your kids, your friends. In international business, when we add the pressure of work and deadlines, as well as language and cultural differences, communication gets even more complicated.

With all that in the mix, it's not hard for communication to break down. To help ease those stresses, here are the top tips for more successful communication with anyone in the world. After all, good communication is key for good business.

1. Be respectful, be interested, and be humble.

Ask people about their cultures, admit that you are learning, and don't force or project your cultural ways on them. Remember, we all have a lot to learn and teach each other. No matter what, you are always a guest in a foreign land.

2. Pay attention to the nonverbal.

If you have the luxury of being face-to-face, tune into nonverbal behaviors. Facial expressions, proximity, physicality, and hand gestures all carry a lot of meaning. Be sure to remember that body movement or nonverbal behavior may have a completely different meaning in another culture.

3. Start out formally.

In most cultures, people expect a degree of formality at the beginning of communication. Each culture has its own culture-specific way of indicating this formality.

4. Talk to more than one person.

People often "imply" meaning, so the words in your business email or conversation may not represent all, or even the most important information you need. Whenever possible, try to cultivate multiple sources of information to get the complete picture.

5. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

If the person you're speaking with uses a word you don't understand, let them know. While "global English" may be the world's form of communication, it changes from country to country.

6. Keep it simple.

Keep it simple. Don't use big words. Two-syllable words are better than three-syllable words, and one-syllable words are better than two-syllable words. Don't say, "Do this in an efficacious way." Just say, "Do this quickly."

7. Ask the other speaker to slow down too.

If the person you're speaking to is talking too fast or their accent is getting in the way, ask them to slow down. Making it about yourself is always a good trick and a way to avoid offense.

8. Take your time.

Slow down. Pause. Give space. And don't talk too fast. Especially when you're communicating via telephone, remember to use conscious speech, slow down, and break your sentences into short, definable sections. Also be sure to give your listener time to translate and digest your words as you go.



Nehansa Weerasinghe

HR Manager

Team of the month

Winners Congratulations!

With your unwavering enthusiasm and hard work, our projects are always done to perfection. Thank you, team, for the efforts you always put in each time there is work to be accomplished.

Project - NavMD



Amith Weerasinghe



Anushka Hewage

Team of the month Dinner Outing Waters Edge - Ballaramulla

February 17th



Importance of Team work in IT



We all know teamwork is great. But why?

1. Teamwork Helps Improve Developer Skill

Every teammate has their own education, experience, and skills. When working together, it's only natural for knowledge to be shared. Knowledge sharing is reinforced when pairing developers, during code reviews and walkthroughs, retrospectives, mentoring and continued education programs. Tally up and pro-rate each of these activities for their educational value and compare it to a typical college semester. Unlike college or trade school, developers are learning modern, team, and project-specific coding applications, tools, and techniques.

2. Teamwork Increases Code Quality

Not only is knowledge shared, but coding quality is improved when you maintain a coding standard and enforce it. The key is to define "good enough code" and consistently enforcing the use of style guides with linters and code reviews. Even from a standing start, it should only take a few weeks for everyone on the team to begin conscientiously applying to the standard. Code will be easier to read, it will be easier to find bugs for the life of the project – which can span a decade or more.

3. And So It Also Boosts Productivity

Teamwork has a cascading effect – provided the team's composition isn't disrupted too much over time. The better a team is able to work together, the easier it becomes for the team to work even better together. Teammates get a feel for each other's strengths and weaknesses, know who to turn to for assistance with specific problems, and how best to approach them.

Teamwork boosts productivity

4. Teamwork Inspires Creativity and Innovation

When there's an issue consistently plaguing the team, they'll be thinking about it. If they can find an effective solution for it, they get rid of a headache and score a point with their colleagues. This can lead to their researching products and techniques or induce a flash of brilliance bringing them to discover some hidden root cause.

5. Retrospectives Continuously Elevate Efficiency

Retrospectives give developers the opportunity to safely communicate issues that could make their work easier or enable it to flow smoother. All members of your team get to hear about work processes that may be upstream or downstream from what they do. Retrospectives help teammates learn to do something to make their colleague's work more efficient. These are improvements that might otherwise never be discussed – as a developer might choose to accept the status quo than risk offending someone.

6. Teamwork Facilitates Transparency and Instills

Accountability

Problems like the blame game arise when there is a lack of transparency. Between code reviews and retrospectives, there's not much room to hide. There's a fairly clear view on just about every line of code. Everything each team member does is available for show. It encourages developers to do their best. With the addition of an AI-Assistant,

developers and managers can readily see if any of their teammates are encountering challenges so they can reach out with helpful tips.

7. Teamwork Increases Business Potential

Improved developer skills inherently translate to improved coding quality, efficiency, productivity, breadth and depth of development capabilities. These, in turn, translate to the team's or company's capacity to do more work and efficiently handle a greater variety of software projects. Components that used to be outsourced can be done in-house. Improvements to coding quality and cycle time lead to happier, more successful customers. A profitable development team has more advancement opportunities than one that isn't.

Benefits of Teamwork in Software Development

8. Morale and Cohesion Keep Teams Together Longer

A team that works well together tends to have much more confidence in their work than those who don't. Happy customers and successful software projects (on time, on budget, and people using it giving it good reviews) provide positive feedback. A team that consistently produces successful projects can develop a sense of pride and loyalty.

Additionally, when developers feel they are respected by their managers and they fit in well with the team – they'll stick around longer. For every company with a 25% turnover, there's one with just 5% turnover.

You're Invited To



Women's Day Celebration 2023

8 March From 11.30am Onwards

Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo

 **ChampSoft**
The Software Visionaries

NewsLetter Published By

 **+9477 96 555 03**

 isuru@champ360marketing.com


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