PowerBall™ Overview

Executing plans across several groups in an organization is often marred by loosely defined agreements and gaps in communication. We created PowerBall™ to help participants learn new strategies for implementing complex projects involving several teams. PowerBall™ surfaces the challenges faced when coordinating multiple teams in an overall project, and provides context to practice effective cross-functional communication and to develop skills for streamlining processes across teams.

Who Benefits

• Departments challenged with communication and understanding between levels
• Entire organizations that need to come together under a shared vision
• Cross departments that are having difficulties working together and are “siloed”
• Geographically dispersed teams that need to increase interdependencies

How PowerBall™ Works

PowerBall™ simulates an organization with multiple project teams focusing on customer expectations, processes, production and time-to-market goals, budgets, revenue and expected gross margins.

The objective is to build a system to deliver a large quantity of PowerBalls (marbles) using PVC pipes, connectors and other materials. Each team’s subsystem is independently built to customer specifications before linking them together to form an overall system.

Teams often forget that they must integrate their individual solutions into one overall system, which initially results in chaos. When teams are redirected to focus on working collaboratively in their planning and implementation processes, chaos quickly transforms into productivity.

Learning Outcomes

• Understand the value and process of collaborating across teams and geographies
• Build effective communication and decision making
• Develop the strategic benefits of interdependence
• Practice creative problem-solving skills in a team environment
• Enhance high-performance behaviors under pressure

Clients Say

“PowerBall really is a key part of our leadership program, and one that is consistently rated highly by our participants in terms of how helpful it is in learning about leadership and team dynamics.”

—Sr. L&D Specialist
Google