

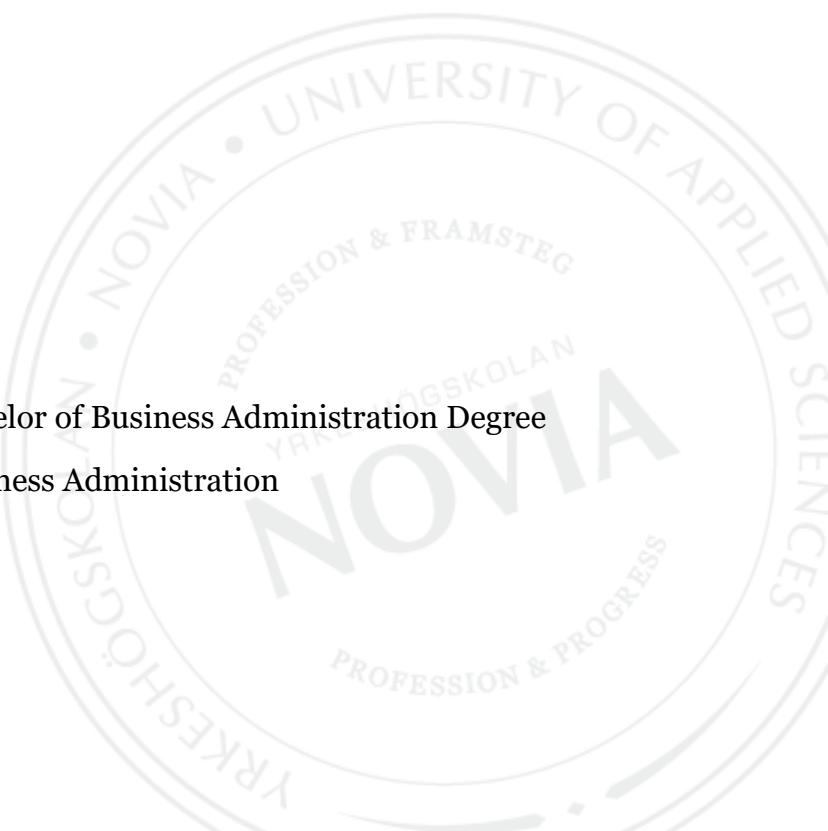
Robotic telepresence

- Aid for long-distance leadership**

Case: Cumulus City & Resort

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Bachelor's Thesis for Bachelor of Business Administration Degree
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BACHELOR'S THESIS

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Abstract

This Bachelor's thesis is written as an assignment for regional manager Jani Juntunen of Finnish hotel chain: Cumulus City & Resort. The theme of the thesis is to take advantage of the current opportunities from technological advancements, which are changing industries in every field, namely opportunities from robotic telepresence.

The aim of this thesis is to present a solution model, which allows the thesis commissioner to have a greater level of connectedness with the hotels he is responsible over. The proposed solution will strive to prove that robotic telepresence is a superior method, compared to other communication methods. The empirical part of this thesis will be structured by the action research model. The solution has been additionally formed by semi-structured interviews with the commissioner and surveys sent to hotel managers. The theoretical framework consists of three main subjects: activity-based costing, leadership, and change management.

The empirical part of this thesis will analyze the current situation, develop a vision for change, gain commitment to the vision, and develop an action plan. The solution model shows great promise to solve the problem presented by the thesis commissioner.

Language: English Key words: Robotic telepresence, Leadership, Activity-Based Costing, Activity-Based Management, Change management, Action research model

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Tiivistelmä

Tämän opinnäytetyön toimeksiantaja on suomalaisen hotellketju Cumulus City & Resortin aluejohtaja, Jani Juntunen. Opinnäytetyön aiheena on nykypäivän kehittyvä teknologia ja niiden tuomat mahdollisuudet. Tarkemmin sanottuna, etäläsäälorobotiikan kehitys.

Tavoitteena on esitellä ratkaisumalli, jonka avulla opinnäytetyön toimeksiantaja pystyy olemaan paremmin yhteydessä hotelleihin, jotka ovat hänen vastuullaan. Esitetty ratkaisu pyrkii osoittamaan, kuinka etäläsäälorobotiikka on ylivoimainen ratkaisu kuvailtuun ongelmaan, muihin viestintämenetelmiin verrattuna.

Ratkaisu on analysoitu toimintatutkimus mallia käyttäen. Empiirinen työ perustuu toimeksiantajan haastatteluun ja kyselytutkimukseen joka on suunnattu hotellien johtajille. Teoreettinen viitekehys koostuu kolmesta aiheesta: toimintolaskenta, johtajuus ja muutoksen hallinta.

Opinnäytetyön empiirinen osa koostuu nykytilanteen analysoimisesta, vision kehittämisestä, visioon sitoutumisesta ja toimintasuunnitelman kehittämisestä. Esitetyn ratkaisumallin avulla tulee voida ratkaista esitetty ongelma.

Kieli: Englanti

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Abstrakt

Detta examensarbete är skrivet på uppdrag av Jani Juntunen regionansvarig för finländska hotellkedjan Cumulus City & Resort. Temat i examensarbetet är att utnyttja aktuella möjligheter från teknologiska framsteg som förändrar industrier progressivt, snart sagt inom alla arbetsområden och närmare bestämt, framsteg inom telenärvarorobotik.

Syftet med detta examensarbete är att呈现出 en lösningsmodell som möjliggör att uppdragsgivaren kan kommunicera effektivare mellan hotellen han är ansvarig för. Lösningsmodellen strävar efter att bevisa hur telenärvarorobotik är en överlägsen lösning på problemet i förhållande till andra kommunikationsmetoder. Det empiriska arbetet har strukturerats med aktionsforskning. Lösningsmodellen har därtill utformats med hjälp av semistrukturerade intervjuer med uppdragsgivaren samt med en enkätundersökning, bland hotelldirektörer. Den teoretiska referensramen består av tre huvudämnen: aktivitetsbaserad kostnadskalkyl, ledarskap och förändringsledarskap. Den empiriska delen kommer att analysera den nuvarande situationen, utveckla en vision för förändring, skapa engagemang med visionen, och skapa en handlingsplan. Den rekommenderade lösningsmodellen är en kapabel lösning på uppdragsgivarens problem.

Språk: Engelska Nyckelord: Telenärvarorobotik, Ledarskap, Aktivitetsbaserad kalkylmodell, Aktivitetsbaserad verksamhetsstyrning, Förändringsledning

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1 Introduction

The global marketplace is a rapidly changing environment with increasingly demanding customers. To meet the high demands of customers, and keeping up with competition, organizations are focusing ever more greatly on managing costs of all kinds. Organizations that understand the constant changes in their own field, and can adapt to these changes, have a better chance to stay competitive in the ever-changing marketplace. For organizations to stay competitive, and have the possibility to change, they need to have flexible organizational structures, agile management, and a knowledgeable, motivated, and empowered workforce. It is also required that teams and experts from different locations, and departments, can be put together to effectively share knowledge, and collaborate seamlessly. (Heller, 2010, p. 8). Resources and talents, in organizations, are usually spread widely. Therefore, working together from widespread locations is often required from team members. This means that members of the modern workforce need to be able to work across geographical boundaries and even time zones. It is becoming ever more common for colleagues to work virtually from remote locations around the world. (Heller, 2010, p. 9).

In an era where robots have landed in the workplace, and advancement in technology is evermore increasing, there might be worry about humans becoming redundant. However, similar feelings have been expressed since the industrial revolution towards technological advancements, but so far technology has always ended up creating more jobs than it destroys. Improving a process so it can be done more quickly, and cheaply, only increases the demand for human workers around the tasks that can't be improved. For example, in occupations such as graphic design, automation of routine tasks has allowed workers to complete remaining tasks with higher quality. (The Economist, 2016). A more relevant example for the topic of this thesis, is Disney's human-controlled telepresence robot nicknamed Jimmy that is being developed to generate a humanoid presence by mimicking the gestures of a human controller (Disney Research, 2016). Disney's telepresence robot is speculated to replace some of the theme park mascots, allowing proportionally-accurate recreations of Disney's fictional characters to greet visitors (Parker, 2016). This example shows again how technical advancements can improve processes without making human actions redundant.

To put it briefly, mass unemployment from technological advancement is unlikely. However, it will require workers to learn new skills more quickly than in the past. The future workforce will be expected to learn new skills, and adapt to change, to remain relevant.

1.1 Problem and background

The aim of this thesis is to solve a problem presented by a commissioner. The commissioner is Jani Juntunen, regional manager of Finnish hotel chain Cumulus City & Resort. Currently the commissioner travels monthly from Helsinki to hotels in Lappeenranta, Mikkeli, Kuopio, Joensuu, Jyväskylä, Seinäjoki, Oulu, and Kemi; to monitor conditions in the hotels, offer consultation, and perform other responsibilities belonging to a regional manager. There are limited travel opportunities, for in-person consultation, each month due to travel distances. Complex situations, and ad-hoc matters, can be difficult to solve, solely through phone and email. Therefore, the commissioner feels that there is room for improvement in the way consultation is offered to the hotels. Bringing us to the problem at hand, to find a solution that makes it possible for the commissioner to have a greater level of connectedness, with the hotels he is responsible over, than what current methods: travel, phone calls, video calls, and email allow.

The proposed solution states the use of robotic telepresence as a viable solution to the problem at hand. Telepresence is a set of technologies that allows users in two, or more, locations to engage in an interactive audio and video communication. Telepresence has been widely used to allow team members of different organizational locations to come together for a meeting or one-on-one discussion. Telepresence meetings are meant to create an immersive experience, where attendees are seemingly sitting across the same table. (Heller, 2010, p. 43). In figure 1 there is an example of such a meeting taking place using telepresence equipment made by Cisco (2016).



Figure 1. Example of a telepresence meeting taking place (Cisco, 2016)

Robotic telepresence is an advancement from telepresence. Robotic telepresence applies the benefits of telepresence, audio and video communication, with movement (Olson, 2013). Telepresence robots come in many different shapes and sizes, but are predominantly designed, simply, as a screen on wheels (TelepresenceRobots, 2017). Below in figure 2 is a great example of different telepresence robot designs currently in the market.



Figure 2. Example in how many different shapes and sizes telepresence robots can come in (TelepresenceRobots, 2017)

A telepresence robot is generally controlled through an internet connection and a remote client. The remote client can be a computer, tablet, or even a phone. A remote user operates the remote client to control a telepresence robot that can also be called a local client. Robotic telepresence enables work beyond meeting rooms, whereas ordinary telepresence only offers a stationary view of participants in a room. (Olson, 2013). Below in figure 3, the general concept of robotic telepresence is illustrated.



Figure 3. The general concept of robotic telepresence (Double Robotics, 2017)

Robotic telepresence allows a remote user to perform different activities independently, there is no need for a local user to be present for a remote user to operate a telepresence robot (Double Robotics, 2017). Generally, communication methods require at least two individuals, a remote user and a local user. Methods such as video calls, and other methods that combine solely video and audio communication, do not allow a remote user to, for example, monitor situations and surroundings independently. To propose that a local user carries around, for example, a tablet computer while obeying a remote user's orders through a video call, as to where to direct the camera on the tablet computer, is an inefficient proposal if not right out demeaning for the local user. The unique possibility for independent action by the commissioner, if robotic telepresence is accepted as a solution to the problem, is the reason why the subject of this thesis has been limited to recommending robotic telepresence as a viable solution to the problem at hand. Other options, such as video calls and phone calls, will be used to evaluate the capabilities of robotic telepresence against set goals.

The telepresence robot chosen as a recommendation for the solution, is called Double 2 and is produced by a company called Double Robotics. The robot has already been put into use in several companies, such as KONE and LinkedIn (Double Robotics, 2017). The reason why Double 2 is recommended is due to its features, availability, and compatible price. The field of robotic telepresence is still developing with multiple companies; many have specialized in producing a telepresence robot for fields in education and healthcare, but they contain consequently superior features, which brings their prices up greatly. Double Robotics is presently the only company who sells, internationally, a telepresence robot, which only has features needed in a business environment and has therefore a reasonable price. (TelepresenceRobots, 2017). Next a detailed overview of the Double 2's features.

The Double 2 contains a lateral stability control mechanism, which keeps the robot levelled and absorbs shocks even when traversing obstacles, such as cords and thresholds. At the base of the robot there are dual kickstands to keep the robot stable when parked. A power drive allows the robot to go momentarily faster than normal speed, when a long distance must be travelled. The added camera kit allows a 150-degree wide-angle view and high resolution photos to be taken. The camera kit also enables a downward, always-on floor, view to avoid obstacles. However, the camera does not allow upward view. A screen is not included with the robot, so obtaining a recommended iPad is necessary. The robot is recharged through a cord, or an additional charging dock. The height of the robot can be controlled between a sitting and standing height. An additional audio kit enables greater communication. (Double Robotics, 2017). The Double 2 is visible in figure 4.



Figure 4. The telepresence robot, Double 2, made by Double Robotics (Double Robotics, 2017)

1.2 Research questions

This thesis seeks to answer seven research questions. The first is the main research question. The main research question is broken up into three sub-questions. The three sub-questions contain each a supplementary sub-sub-question.

The main research question is stated as: “Is robotic telepresence a viable recommendation to the presented problem?” The main question defines the whole theme of the thesis, which is to prove that robotic telepresence can be a practical solution to the problem presented by the commissioner. Sub-question 1 is stated as: “How is the current work process structured?” This sub-question’s sub-sub-question is stated as: “How is the proposed solution structured” The first sub-questions will outline the activities performed, and resources used, by the current work process and the proposed solution. Sub-question 2 is stated as: “What are the responsibilities of a manager?” This questions sub-sub-question is stated as: “Can responsibilities of a manager be fulfilled through robotic telepresence?” The second sub-questions outline the responsibilities of managerial work and capabilities, and limitations, of robotic telepresence. Sub-question 3 is stated as: “How is the solution implemented?” The last sub-sub-questions is stated as: “Are there any potential obstructions towards implementing the solution?” The third sub-questions outline the solution model and factors to be noted

while implementing the solution. The questions stated are illustrated in figure 5, in a hierarchical tree structure, the steps 1ab, 2, and 3 are described in the following subchapter.

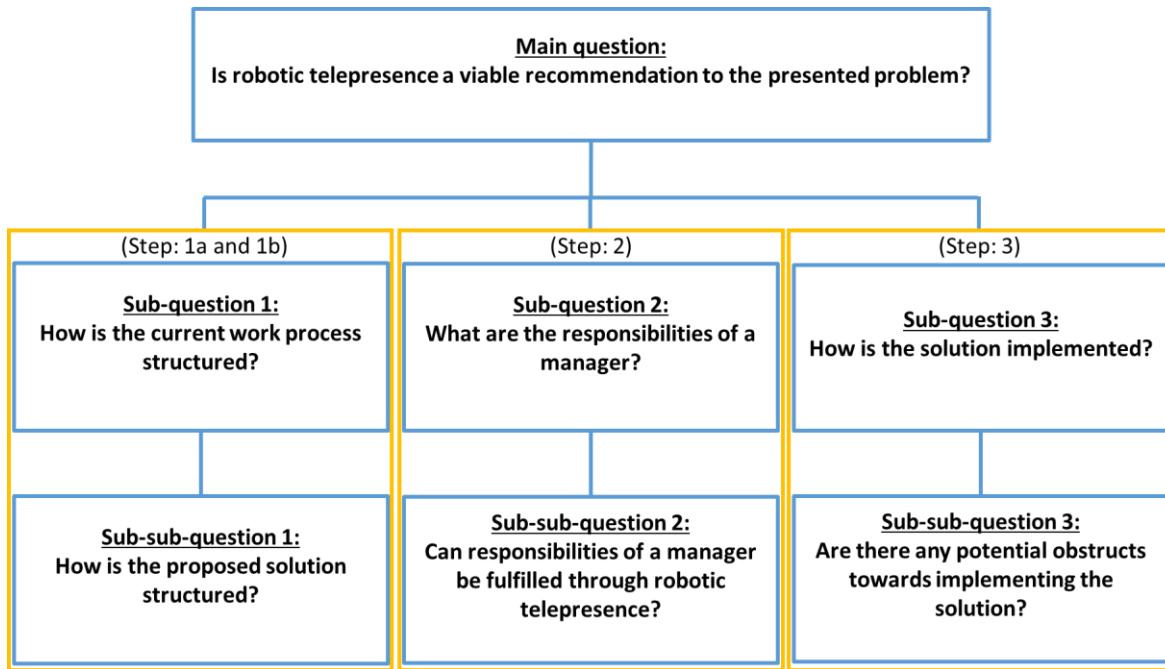


Figure 5. Thesis research questions in a hierarchical tree structure with the steps from the action research model highlighted in yellow.

1.3 Structure and methodology

The structure of this thesis is defined by the action research model. The steps of the action research model are illustrated in figure 6 with additional arrows of how work flow might progress and regress. The steps in the action research model are performed by an appointed change agent. The first step is divided into two parts. Firstly, to analyse the current situation, which includes examining the purpose, goals, and structure of a process. Secondly, to develop a vision for change, which consist of forming theories of what should be changed, and eventually developing a definition of how a future state should look like. The second step is to gain commitment to the vision, which includes gaining the support from individuals involved with the proposed change. The third stage is to develop an action plan, which consists of developing an implementation strategy to bring the current state of a process to the proposed future state. The fourth stage is to implement the change, which includes having open discussions about what is working and what is not and making improvements accordingly. The last step is to asses and reinforce change, which consists of using performance measures to determine the extent of achieved change and institutionalizing the change.

The change agent in this work is the thesis author. It must also be noted that the steps applied in this work are steps 1 to 3, because the decision to implement the change lies with the commissioner and his supervisors. This has been illustrated in figure 6 with green circles.

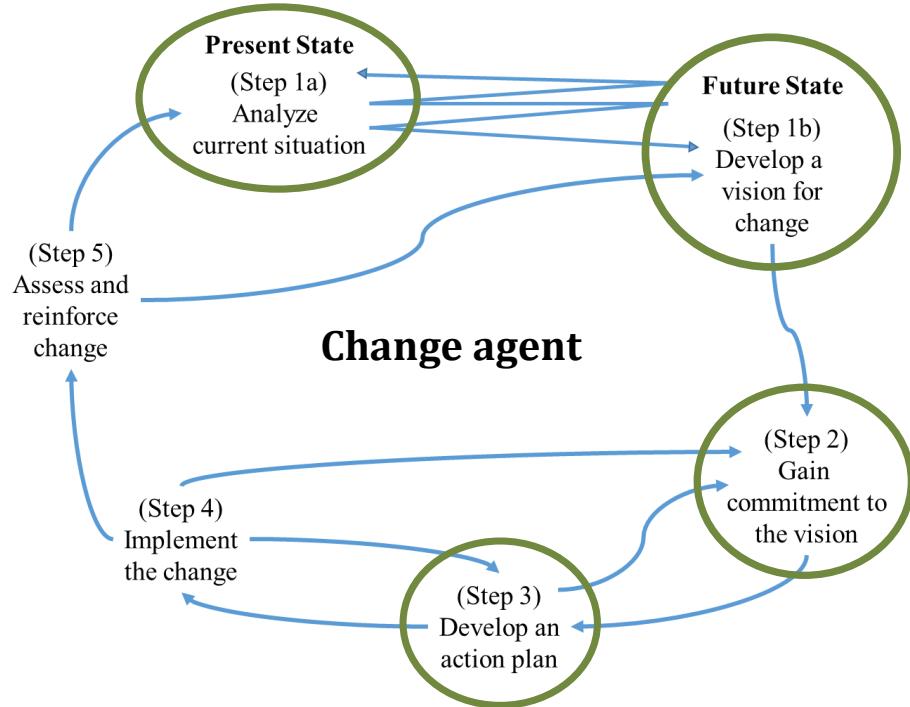


Figure 6. The action research model (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 328)

The empirical research for this thesis is carried out by a:

- Theoretical framework consisting of three subjects: activity-based costing, leadership, and change management.
- A survey, sent to hotel managers, which consisted of qualitative open ended questions requesting opinions about robotic telepresence, and quantitative closed questions about the workplace culture.
- Two interviews, with the commissioner, for gaining qualitative information about the commissioner's current work process, responsibilities, and opinions regarding robotic telepresence as a solution to the presented problem.

The theory, survey, and interviews contribute information that is used to answer the research questions and complete the tasks in the action research model.

Activity-based costing will be used to outline the structure of the current work process and the proposed solution. Theory about leadership and information from the interviews will be used to define the responsibilities of managerial work, and answer if the responsibilities can

be fulfilled through robotic telepresence. Change management and the survey will be used to develop an action plan to implement the solution and to define any potential obstrucnts. Together the empirical research will contribute to creating a solution model that answers the main research question. Below in figure 7 there is an illustration of the empirical research process and the intended use of each theory and research method.

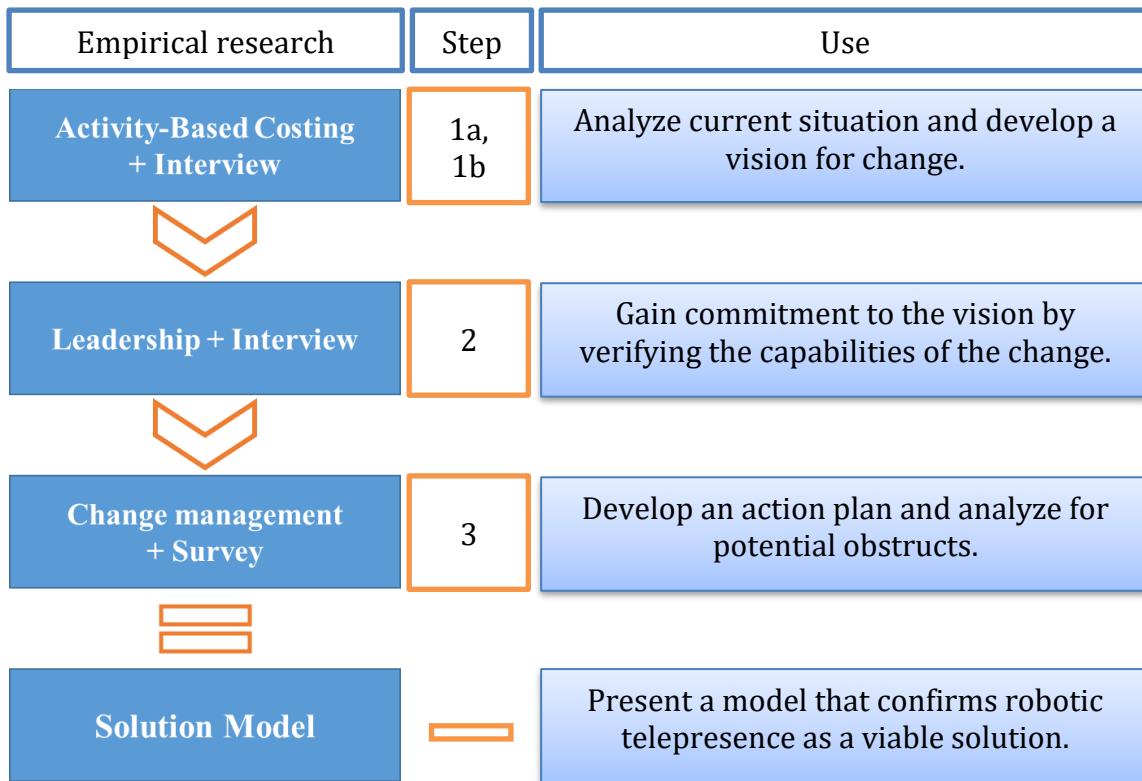


Figure 7. Structure of the empirical research the steps in the action research model, used to create a solution model.

2 Activity-Based Costing

In the previous chapter, it was stated that the first step in the empirical research was to determine how the current work process, and solution, is structured. In this chapter activity-based costing and activity-based management are presented, these theories are central in completing the stages in the first step.

It is important for companies to know what their products and processes cost, so that they can use the information to remain competitive in a modern globalized world. Activity-based costing (abbreviated to ABC) is a precise method for attaching costs based on the activities that caused the costs. The ABC method focuses on activities and divides a total product or process into activities and then allocates indirect costs to those activities. Each activity has a cost driver that determines the indirect cost of the activity. Identifying and analysing

activities helps management decide where improvements can be made and which activities could be removed all together. (Horngren, et al., 2012, pp. 881 - 882). Activities and cost drivers are illustrated in an example below in figure 8 where possible activities and cost drivers in a DVD manufacturing company are presented.

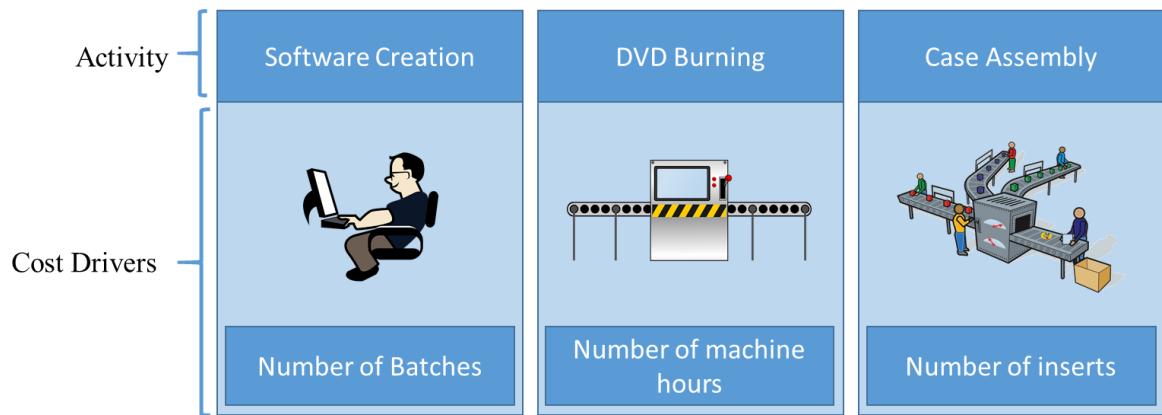


Figure 8. Examples of activities and cost drivers (Horngren, et al., 2012, pp. 882, 885)

In the example, in figure 8, an activity called case assembly can be noted. This activity's cost driver is stated as the number of inserts a worker must put in a DVD case, the more inserts a DVD requires the higher is the manufacturing cost. The traditional way of allocating costs from a manufacturing overhead to products is to focus on direct costs such as materials and labour and assigning a single cost allocation base to the production, but the traditional system will not show all the activities that compose the cost of production, without this data it is difficult to improve the production process. (Horngren, et al., 2012, pp. 881 - 882). The difference between the traditional and ABC system is illustrated in figure 9.

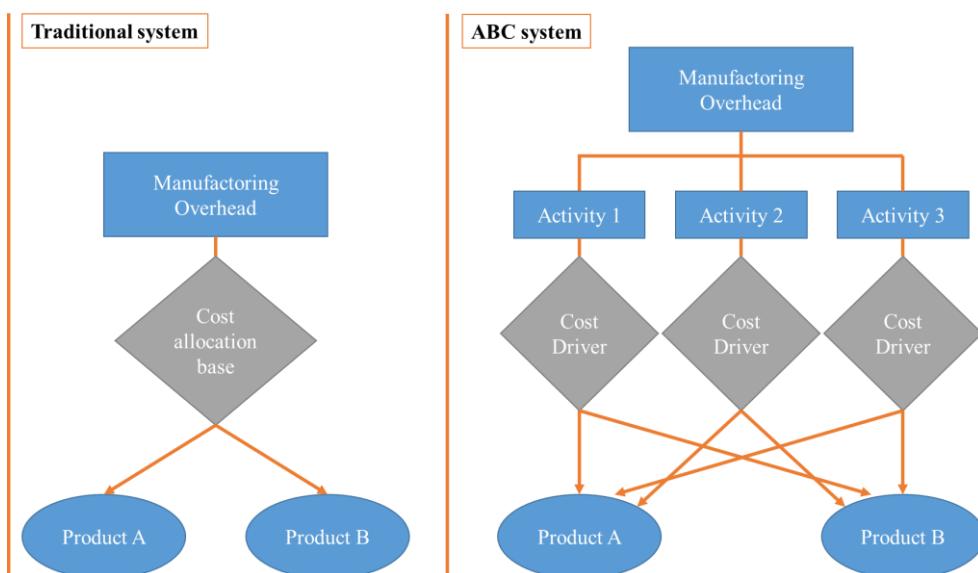


Figure 9. Comparison in allocating costs between traditional and ABC systems (Horngren, et al., 2012, p. 885)

In figure 9 it can be clearly seen how the traditional system only uses a single allocation rate while the ABC system uses a separate allocation rate for each activity to determine the cost of production. Developing a ABC system can be done in four easy steps (Horngren, et al., 2012, p. 883). The four steps are described in table 1 with the help of the case assembly example from figure 8.

Table 1. ABC in four easy steps

ABC Step	Example
1. Identify each activity and estimate its total indirect cost.	Activity: Case assembly Total indirect cost per year: 10,000€
2. Identify the cost driver for each activity and estimate the total quantity of each driver's allocation base.	Cost driver: Number of inserts Total number of inserts per year: 100,000
3. Compute the cost allocation rate for each activity.	Cost allocation = $\frac{10,000\text{€}}{100,000}$ = 0,10€ per insert rate
4. Allocate indirect costs to the cost object	Cost of DVD = 0,10€ X 8000 Inserts per month = <u>800€</u>

(Horngren, et al., 2012, p. 883)

As seen in table 1, the first step in developing a ABC system is to identify the activities. The power of ABC is not just the ability to clearly portray cost information, but also nonfinancial information and the relationship between the two. The four-step example in table 1 is helpful but a two-dimensional model will portray all the aspects in ABC more clearly. (Turney, 1996, p. 77). The two-dimensional ABC model is illustrated in figure 10 on the next page.

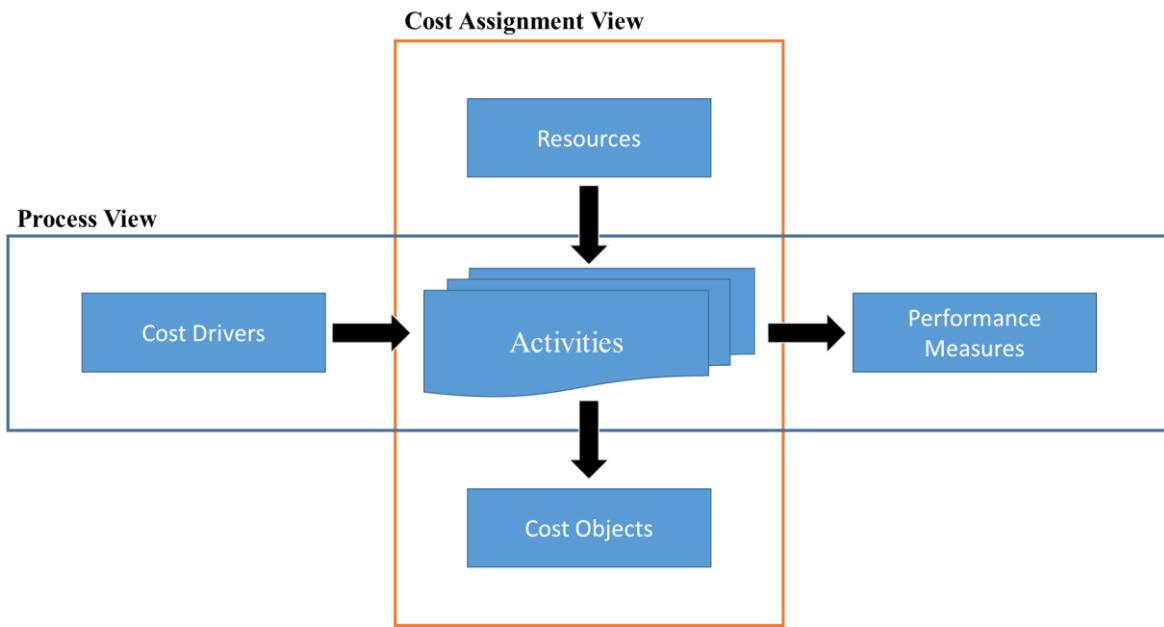


Figure 10. The two-dimensional ABC model (Turney, 1996, p. 81)

The two-dimensional model is designed to be a source of information for internal and external improvement purposes. It has two main views, as seen in figure 10. The first is the cost assignment view that comprises the vertical part of the model. It allocates costs to activities and cost objects to analyse decisions such as sourcing and priorities for improvement efforts. The second view is the horizontal part of the model and is called the process view. It allocates information about what causes work and how well is it done, this information can be used to improve performance. (Turney, 1996, p. 81). The two views will be explained in more detail in the next chapter.

2.1 Cost assignment view and Process view

Information about resources, activities, and cost objects are provided by the cost assignment view. The view assumes that cost objects create the need for activities and subsequently the activities the need for resources. The cost flows in the opposite direction, the arrows in figure 10 shows how the flow of cost is from the resources down to the cost objects. In order to understand why resources are used, the activities need to be identified. This information will make it possible to address questions such as:

- Which activities consume the most resources?
- What types of resources are needed?
- Where can cost reductions be made?

In summary, the cost assignment view assigns costs to objects by detailing the costs of activities and resources. The information provided allows management to understand what the high-cost objects are and if it is profitable to shift focus toward other products, services, or customers if improvements cannot be made. (Turney, 1996, pp. 82 - 85).

The process view in the ABC model provides information that is mostly nonfinancial, but will help to interpret and improve performance. In detail, the process view offers information about cost drivers and performance measures. (Turney, 1996, p. 86).

Cost drivers have been illustrated earlier in figure 8 and can be described as factors that determine the required work load to perform an activity. Activities are part of a process where each activity is a user of another activity, which together form an intertwined chain of activities, as illustrated in figure 11. (Turney, 1996, p. 86).



Figure 11. A linked chain of activities (Turney, 1996, p. 87)

The connection between activities affects cost drivers. For example, a defect from a prior activity can increase the effort required to complete the next activity. Cost drivers offer opportunities to improve activities by, for example, reducing defect rates and minimizing required work load. (Turney, 1996, p. 87). The interdependency of activities becomes more clear after the next section, where performance measures are described.

Performance measures describe the results in an activity by measuring the efficiency of an activity, the time used to complete an activity, and the quality of a completed activity. The efficiency is measured by determining an activity's output volume and then comparing it to the resources needed to sustain the volume. Another measurement is the time required to perform an activity. The longer it takes to complete an activity, the greater are the resources needed, which can include the salaries of staff and the cost of equipment used. The last performance measure is quality. The quality of an activity can be measured by the percentage of reworked and scrapped products or services. A high percentage means that the performance quality is low, and the lower the quality, the higher the overall cost. To summarize, performance measures allows management to answer the following questions:

- What aspects trigger the performance of an activity?
- What aspects negatively affect the performance of an activity?
- How efficiently, how fast, and with what quality is an activity completed?

The process view combines cost and nonfinancial information to provide a total view of the work done in a process. As mentioned before the performance of one activity will affect the work of the next activity in a process. Therefore, the performance measures of one activity become part of the next activities cost drivers. (Turney, 1996, pp. 88 - 89). This interdependency is illustrated in figure 12.

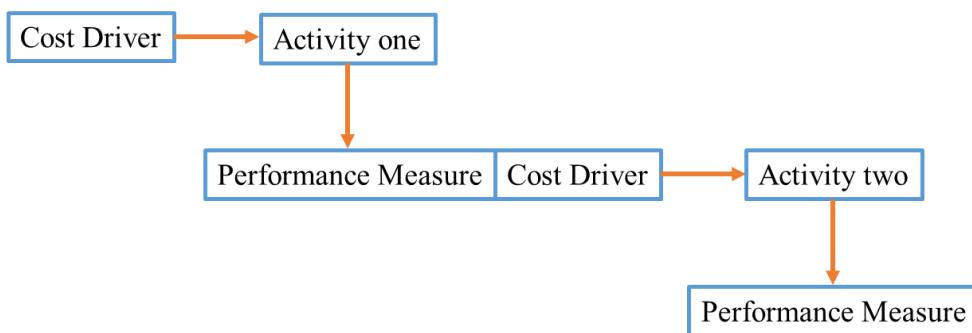


Figure 12. How interdependency affects activities in a process (Turney, 1996, p. 90)

To summarize the cost assignment view and the process view, it can be stated that the two dimensions offer management a chance to use both cost and nonfinancial information to understand: what work is done in a company, why the work is done, what effort is needed to perform it, and how well the work is done. All this information makes it possible to direct efforts to improvement opportunities. (Turney, 1996, p. 92). The next chapter will cover how ABC information can be used with activity-based management to create a vision for change.

2.2 Activity-Based Management

The method of using ABC information is called activity-based management, or abbreviated simply to ABM. ABM is used to improve business operations, by using information supplied by ABC to perform different analyses. In figure 13 there is an illustration of how the ABC supplies information to be used to improve businesses with ABM. There are three steps in improving business operations. The first step is to analyse activities to identify aspects to improve. The second step is to analyse factors that cause waste, in other words the cost drivers. The third step is to measure aspects that matter. (Turney, 1996, pp. 139 - 140, 145).

The three steps will be explained more clearly in the subsequent sections.

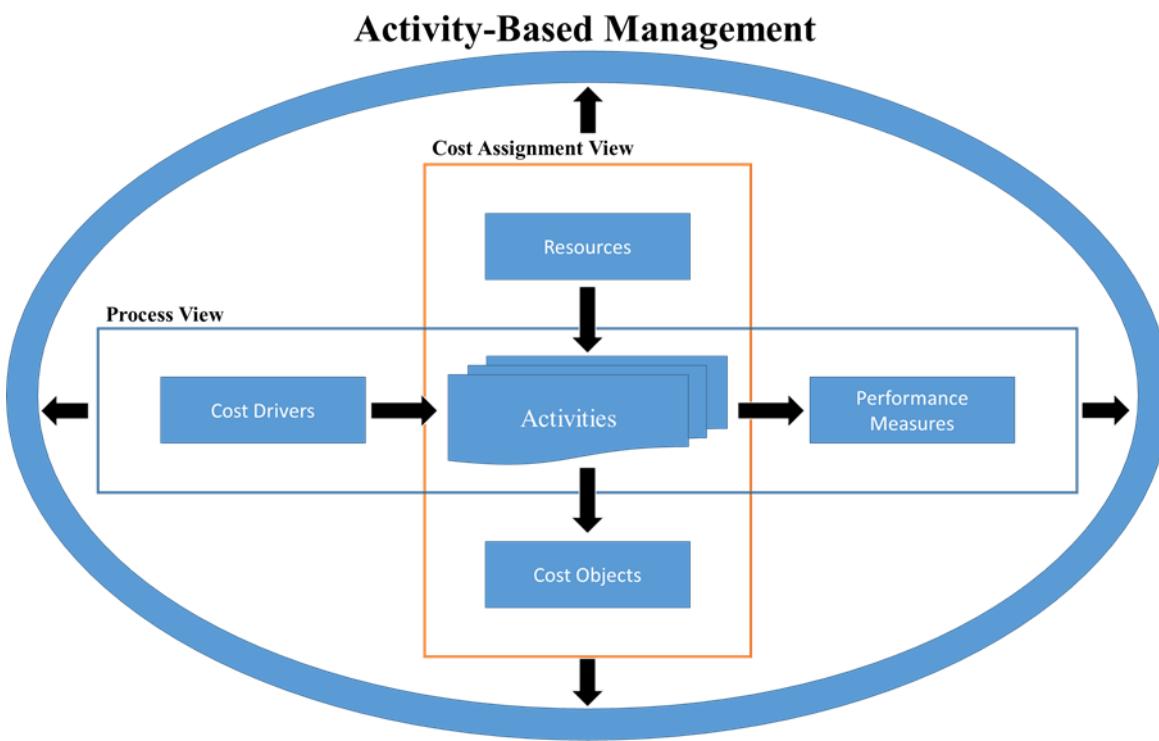


Figure 13. How ABC and ABM are closely interlinked, ABC supplies the information and ABM focuses on business improvement (Turney, 1996, p. 141)

The first step starts with identifying non-essential activities. Activities with value are ones that are essential to the customer and to the functioning of the organization. Activities that do not fall into these two categories are candidates for elimination. The process continues with identifying significant activities that are important for customers and to operating the company. The significant activities provide the greatest opportunities for improvement. Another good way to analyse activities is to compare them to similar activities in another company. Rating each activity against an identified best practice will help determine possibilities for improvement. The last method in this step is to examine the links between activities. As mentioned, activities work together in a chain to reach a common goal. It is important that the links in the chain are designed to minimize time and repetition of work. (Turney, 1996, pp. 145 - 147).

The second step is to analyse the cost drivers. The first step identified the nonessential activities, the second step is supposed to find the reasons why the nonessential activities are performed. A good example is an activity of moving a product between two processes, the activity is nonessential because it does not add any value. The reason the activity is performed is because of the distance between two processes, this distance is the cost driver of the activity. The activity can be eliminated by reorganizing the plant so that the two processes are next to each other. (Turney, 1996, p. 148).

The last and third step is to measure what matters. This step includes developing a performance measurement system that stimulates improvement in areas that matter for the organization. Firstly, the mission needs to be determined so that improvement efforts can be directed towards objectives. Secondly, the objectives need to be communicated to the people in the organization who are responsible for performing activities. Thirdly, performance measures for improvement efforts need to be developed and communicated to the people in the organization. (Turney, 1996, pp. 148 - 149).

The information handled in the chapter 2 will be used to analyse the current situation and to develop a vision for change. This will be done by defining the activities in the current work process with ABC, and defining the activities in a proposed solution with ABM. The next chapter will handle the fundamentals of leadership.

3 Taxonomy of leadership

In the previous chapter the theory needed for the first step in the empirical research was handled. In this chapter the second step is handled by defining the taxonomy of leadership. The chapter will consist of: determining the activities, behaviour, and philosophies of managerial work. Additionally, aspects of long-distance leadership will be defined. The information from this chapter will be used to gain commitment to the vision by determining if managerial tasks can be completed through robotic telepresence.

There is a controversy regarding whether leadership and management are different roles or aspects that are both needed in a person with a leading role. Differences have been noted and show that managers value: stability, order, and efficiency. They are impersonal, risk-averse, and focused on short-term results. Leaders value flexibility, innovation, and adaption. They care about people, while having a long-term perspective to objectives and strategies. (Yukl, 2013, p. 22). Differences between management and leadership have been summarized in table 2.

Table 2. The differences between management and leadership

Management versus Leadership	
Management	Leadership
Planning and budgeting: Allocating resources and establishing steps and timetables for achieving results.	Establishing direction: Developing a vision of the distant future, creating strategies to achieve that vision.
Organizing and staffing: Delegating responsibility and authority for staff, providing policies and procedures to follow and implementing systems to allow observation.	Aligning people: Communicating the vision and strategy to create teams and coalitions that accept and understand the vision and strategies.
Controlling and problem solving: Finding problems by monitoring results, solving problems that deviate from plan.	Motivating and inspiring: Satisfying basic human needs to overcome barriers to change.



Produces stability and predictability, allows the possibility to produce short-term results that are expected by various stakeholders.	Produces change that can be dramatic but also extremely useful, for example, new products that customers want.
--	--

(Kotter, 1996, p. 26)

Although clear differences have been noted, research supports the concept that people cannot be sorted neatly into these two types and are instead both necessary roles, or modes of conduct, in managing an organization. Managing maintains predictability and order while leading creates organizational change, these aspects must be kept in balance to promote growth in an organization. Too much emphasize on managing can hinder progress due to lowered risk-taking and bureaucracy while too much leadership can disrupt order and cause impractical change. Due to the flexible definition of leadership the terms leader and manager will be used interchangeably in the upcoming chapters. (Yukl, 2013, pp. 22 - 23).

3.1 Activities of managerial work

To ensure organizational effectiveness, management needs to create a clear pattern of activities best suited for the organization, harness the efforts of staff, and to ensure that there

are systems to create motivation, job satisfaction, and rewards. While the latter involve organizational processes and how the work is executed to achieve organizational goals and objectives, management must also place attention on creating a climate in which staff work willingly and effectively by considering the needs and expectations of people at work and what kind of systems and styles of management is best suited for the environment to perform effectively. (Mullins, 1999, p. 146). In figure 14 the discussed relation of management and organizational performance and effectiveness can be observed.

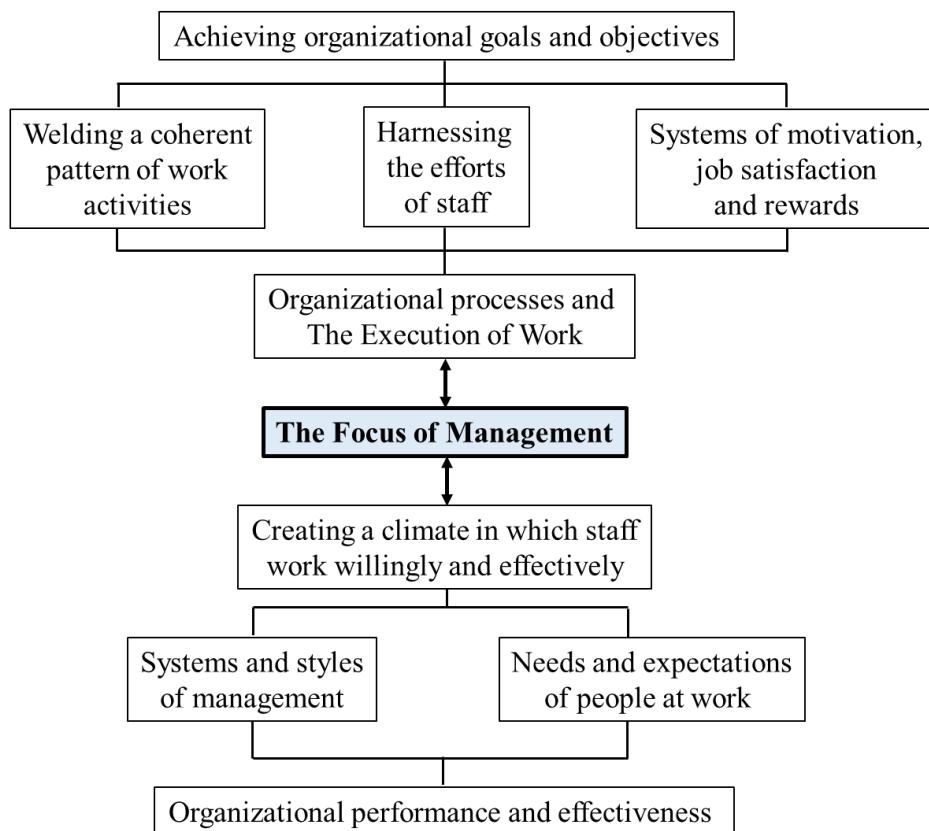


Figure 14. The dual focus of management in an organization (Mullins, 1999, p. 147)

It is through management that the efforts of staff are coordinated and channelled towards the achievement of organizational goals and objectives. There are many ways to describe the activities involved in the management process, however common attributes which are applicable to managers in all organizations can be listed. (Mullins, 1999, p. 147). These attributes will be described next.

The difference between subordinates and managers can be described as one being responsible of carrying out tasks and the actual work, and the other as being responsible for deciding what is to be done by planning and organizing the work to be undertaken by subordinates. Managers must also issue instructions and offer advice while monitoring the

performance of the subordinates. Depending on the industry some managers might spend more time carrying out tasks than managers in other industries, especially the managers in the hospitality industry are frequently involved in tasks at the front office, restaurant, and kitchen to satisfy the needs of guests. Nevertheless, the basic activities of managers can be summarized as following:

- To clarify the objectives and policy to the subordinates.
- To plan the work needed to reach the objectives and policy.
- To organize and distribute the activities and tasks to the subordinates.
- To direct and guide the subordinates through the work process.
- To control and monitor the performance of the work being carried out.

The board of directors, or an equivalent higher authority, will determine the objectives and policy for the operations of the organization. It is then the managers task to implement the decisions by following the basic activities mentioned above. (Mullins, 1999, pp. 148 - 150).

The hierachal process of management and activities is illustrated in figure 15.

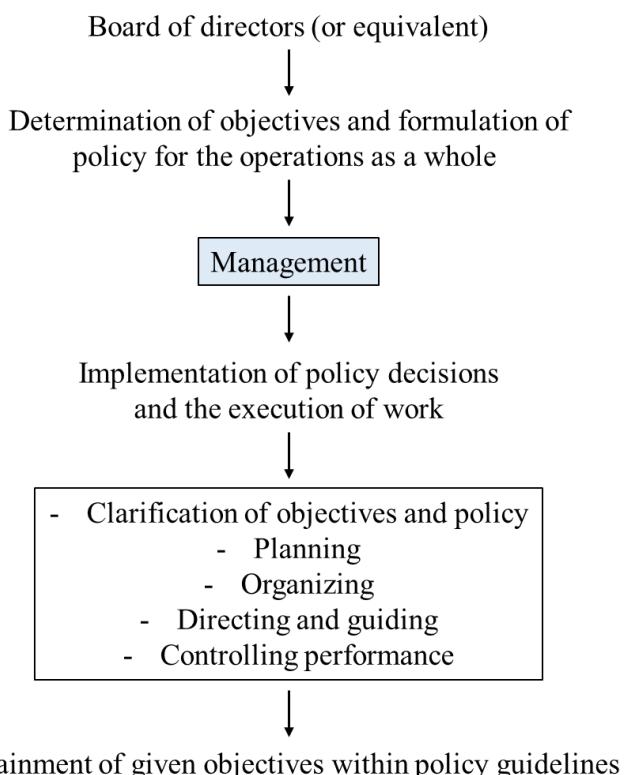


Figure 15. The essential activities of management (Mullins, 1999, p. 149)

The clarification of objectives and policy describe the desired end results and the guidelines for the operations in the organization by determining the course of action to follow when decisions need to be made. This activity is needed if the process of management and execution of work is to be effective, the subordinates need to understand why certain decisions are made and why management is needed. (Mullins, 1999, p. 150).

Planning the work to meet objectives and achieve the desired end results is an essential activity, which allows the staff to understand what they are supposed to do and what is expected from them, this can include explaining timing and sequencing of operations, methods for carrying out operations, and expected standards of performance. (Mullins, 1999, p. 150).

Organizing and distributing the work among the subordinates provides the framework in which management takes place by structuring sections where work activities will be executed, for example reception and kitchen, and what tasks and responsibilities are allocated in those sections. Levels of hierarchical authority and coordination among individuals, groups and departments are also made clear to ensure a productive work environment. (Mullins, 1999, p. 150).

Directing and guiding subordinates is the responsibility of managers to ensure that they work willingly and effectively. Motivation is important and is one of the key tasks of management, to provide job satisfaction is good but managers needs to also ensure that there is development and guidance to perform well in the right areas. Subordinates need to be motivated to place their efforts towards the achievement of given objectives within the given policy guidelines. A motivated staff can be effective but they must also be efficient in what they do. (Mullins, 1999, p. 150).

Controlling performance is the final activity and equally important, determining measures that indicate how close to achieving objectives and planned targets are part of the control process. Control can be a negative restricting activity, but it can have many positive effects. Effective control ensures that performance and progress can be monitored which allows the possibility to give feedback to subordinates and to guide them to future operations. Control creates personal development among subordinates and completes the cycle of managerial activities. (Mullins, 1999, pp. 150 - 151).

3.1.1 Managerial behaviour

The previous chapter described the basic activities in managerial work, the current chapter will describe the different types of leadership behaviour that influence subordinate satisfaction and performance. There are a couple of broadly defined behaviours linked with effective leadership, these behaviours are labelled as: task-, relations-, and change behaviour. (Yukl, 2013, pp. 62, 64).

Task and relations behaviour are two behaviours that involve concern for task objectives by assigning tasks to subordinates, maintaining standards of performance, asking subordinates to follow procedures, concerning over meeting deadlines, criticizing inadequate work, and directing activities of subordinates. The latter describe the properties of task behaviour; relations behaviour concerns relationships and includes doing personal favours for subordinates, listening to subordinates' problems, defending a statement by a subordinate, accepting suggestions from subordinates, consulting subordinates before deciding on important matters, and treating subordinates as equals. (Yukl, 2013, p. 64).

Change behaviour involves encouraging and facilitating change. To behave in a change-oriented way the manager will primarily be concerned with understanding the environment, developing innovative ways to adapt to the environment, and implementing changes in strategies, products, and processes. To understand the environment, a manager can study competitors to get ideas for improvements. Change behaviour involves also encouraging people to view problems in a different way to facilitate innovation and entrepreneurship in the organization. The three behaviours discussed so far have all a distinct purpose in the managerial work. Task behaviour is concerned with that tasks are accomplished in an efficient and reliable way. Relations behaviour is concerned with increasing mutual trust and cooperation while change behaviour is concerned with that the environment is understood and that innovative ways are found to adapt to the environment. Managerial work can involve all these behaviours during one task, for example when a manager consults with team members about the action plan for a project the behaviours can involve human relations by listening to subordinates, task efficiency by organizing personnel and resources, adaptive change by discovering and implementing new innovative ways to satisfy the client. (Yukl, 2013, pp. 65, 66).

3.1.2 Managerial philosophies

In managerial work a highly developed people perception is needed to understand the feelings, needs, and expectations of staff. Having a genuine concern for the welfare of the staff and investing in an interpersonal relationship will, in the long term, greatly enhance organizational performance and effectiveness. Next a few managerial philosophies, which are likely to lead to improved work performance and successful management of people, will be presented. (Mullins, 1999, p. 207).

Consideration, respect and trust define the first philosophy, research shows that most of staff will respond productively if treated with consideration and respect. The basis of this philosophy is that people respond according to the way they are treated, if the staff feel that they are trusted and important they will make efforts to show the trust is necessary and that they are responsible individuals who serve the organization well. (Mullins, 1999, p. 207).

Recognition and credit are vital if constructive criticism is to be accepted and responded to by the staff. By giving recognition and credit when it is due will let subordinates know that the manager appreciates the work they do. In undesirable situations, managers are unresponsive to good performance and seem to take it for granted but are quick to criticize on occasions when performance is lacking. Positive feedback is a strong motivator and will make staff take pride in their work and strive to maintain the good performance. (Mullins, 1999, p. 208).

Involvement and availability are part of the third philosophy. To fully understand the difficulties and responsibilities of subordinates, managers need to involve themselves with work of the staff. An open flow of communication and availability will encourage participation and feedback. Having an active interest in the work of subordinates is important, but it is equally important to not mix involvement with excessive supervision that inhibits the freedom of action. The priority of this philosophy is to be available to staff wherever possible and to listen to their feelings and problems. (Mullins, 1999, p. 208).

Fair and equitable treatment of staff is important, inequality in the working environment causes tension and motivates staff to try and remove or reduce the perceived inequality. Therefore, this philosophy requires justice in treatment, fair systems of motivation and rewards, clear policies and procedures for staff, and full observance that all laws of conduct, relating to employment, are followed. Basically, people expect certain outcomes in exchange for their contributions. (Mullins, 1999, p. 208).

Positive action on an individual basis define the last managerial philosophy. The basis of this philosophy is to treat subordinates as individuals, to deal with situations on an individual level instead of referring the entirety of staff. For example, in a situation where the manager knows that two individuals of staff have been late in arriving for work. The manager chooses to address all the members of staff reminding them of the importance of good timekeeping. This solution is the easy way out to the manager but might cause conflicting feelings with staff. The individuals who are late might not understand that the speech was mostly directed to them while individuals who are working hard to maintain their good timekeeping, without any positive recognition from management, might well be annoyed or upset by the speech. To avoid these problems, the manager needs to address the poor timekeeping by talking directly to the two individuals who are arriving late for work. (Mullins, 1999, pp. 208 - 209).

3.2 Long-distance leadership

In this subchapter, additional activities of managerial work to be considered when leading with methods such as telepresence and robotic telepresence are presented. Long-distance leadership can be performed with varying methods but only telepresence and robotic telepresence are handled in this chapter. Additionally, legal aspects that need to be acknowledged with long-distance leadership, through robotic telepresence, are also handled.

3.2.1 Telepresence and Robotic telepresence

Working from a distance is becoming ever more typical in the organizational world. Managers can be required to communicate with people in several different offices and plants, around a country or even several countries. (Nordengren & Olsen, 2006, p. 12). Electronic meetings can be achieved through different ways, such as fixed-desktop videoconferencing meetings with computer-supported hardware and displays, these types of meetings are the most typical form of electronic meetings at the moment and are called telepresence meetings. (Heller, 2010, p. 43).

Telepresence meetings support conveying information between individuals but relies on that the information conveyed is accurate and that decisions are executed as discussed, these types of meetings are also stationary and therefore do not allow managers to survey the work premises. The stationary aspect of telepresence meetings brings about a problem with monitoring that all employees are working according to the company guidelines and that policies are implemented in the correct manner. Reasons for poor performance, except

during telepresence meetings, can be that the employees are deliberately lowering work standards or that discussed goals were poorly communicated. Considering these notes, it can be concluded that telepresence meetings can restrict performance if surveying the premises is needed. (Nordengren & Olsen, 2006, pp. 109, 72).

However, advances in the field of telepresence has brought about robotic telepresence, which includes the benefits of stationary telepresence meetings with the added ability of free movement (Olson, 2013). Successfully working through telepresence and robotic telepresence requires that certain additional activities be performed (Nordengren & Olsen, 2006, p. 120). In figure 16 nine communication methods have been ranked according to their level of connectedness. The methods have been divided into asynchronous and synchronous communications, which describe if the methods transmit information discontinuously or continuously. The method termed as “enhanced visual collaboration” are methods such as robotic telepresence. The methods are according to Heller (2010) almost in par with the face to face communication method. The two methods termed as IM (short of instant messaging) and video conferencing are methods such as skype and telepresence. (Heller, 2010, pp. 39 - 41). The next section will address the slight differences in activities of managerial work when telepresence and robotic telepresence is used.

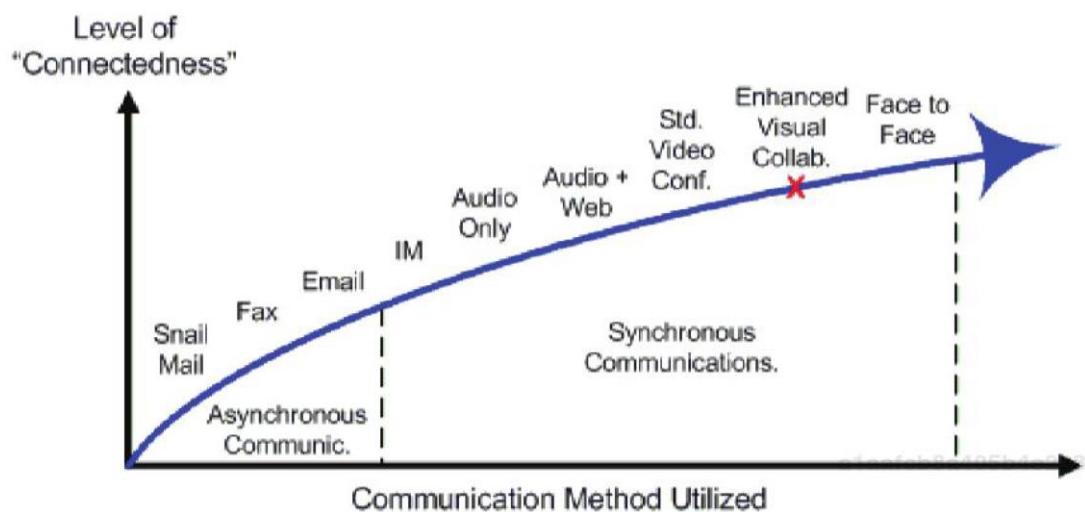


Figure 16. The level of connectedness of communication methods (Heller, 2010, p. 30)

Long-distance leadership requires good communication to avoid misunderstandings, but equally important is to be able to motivate employees who managers might not meet in person. Work performance consistency is also a factor managers need to be concerned about, performance at the initial phase might be high but then start to dwindle if not kept in check. The following points are necessary if long-distance leadership is considered:

- Preparing a communication strategy so that, for example, goals and methods are clear for all employees.
- Clarifying which communication channels should be used for instances and for which purposes.
- Providing required training in the use of devices involved in electronic meetings.
- Scheduling in-person meetings and making clear the purpose of the meetings.
- Entrusting responsibilities and authority and if possible to allow people to tackle situations in their own way while still monitoring the work performance discreetly.
- Ensuring that all employees are working according to guidelines.
- Having no personal quarrels with the nearest subordinates.

From the information discussed it can be concluded that the key to successful long-distance leadership is to find a balance between governance and self-governance. (Nordengren & Olsen, 2006, pp. 120 - 121). The next subchapter will address some legal aspects to consider regarding robotic telepresence.

3.2.2 Legal

The laws that can be applied to robotic telepresence include the central working life laws in Finland and few general ones. There are no laws that directly grip robotic telepresence because effects of robotics are still discussed as part of the near future but not something that right now needs any custom-made action. (Valtiovarainministeriö, 2016). The laws handled are ones that are believed to be of interest and ones that must especially be remembered. The laws handled in the following sections are:

- Act on the Protection of Privacy in Working Life 13.8.2004/759
- Act on Co-operation within Undertakings 30.3.2007/334
- Employment Contracts Act 26.1.2001/55
- Occupational Safety and Health Act 23.8.2002/738
- Damages Act 31.5.1974/412
- The Constitution of Finland 11.6.1999/731
- The Criminal Code of Finland 19.12.1889/39
- Personal Data Act 22.4.1999/523

According to the act on the protection of privacy in working life (13.8.2004/759) before any personality and aptitude assessment tests can be executed, they need to be first approved by the employees targeted by the tests. The tests must also be executed with reliable methods and that the individuals in charge of the tests must be qualified for the task. (§13, Chap. 4).

The conditions for camera surveillance are also defined in the act on the protection of privacy in working life (13.8.2004/759). To ensure the personal safety of employees and property camera surveillance is allowed. Surveillance is also allowed to monitor that business processes are performed per organizational guidelines and to prevent or examine situations that endanger property, processes, or worker safety. However, camera surveillance without a purpose on specific employees is not allowed, surveillance is also not allowed in toilets, changing rooms, or other similar locations. An employee's private work office can't similarly be monitored through a surveillance camera. Camera surveillance can be directed to a specific work station only when the aim is to prevent apparent danger to employees, property, or to ensure that the rights and benefits of employees are not offended. (§16, Chap. 5).

According to the act on co-operation within undertakings (30.3.2007/334) any changes regarding acquisition of new machines and devices, work arrangements, or other similar aspects that affect employees must be first negotiated with them. (§32, Chap. 6). The topics that discussed during the negotiations are changes regarding an employee's work status, work methods, work arrangements, workplace arrangements, work transitions, and working hours (§33, Chap. 6).

According to the employment contracts act (26.1.2001/55) states that employers must ensure that employees can perform their job even when work procedures and methods change (§1, Chap. 2). The law gives general guidelines to what information to add to the employment contract, such as defining in one or more documents an employee's main tasks, work station, and the start date (§4, Chap. 2). Nordengren and Olsen (2006, 147) recommend to ensure in long-distance work that all important questions regarding long-distance work have been answered in a contract, questions to consider answering include:

- How is the employees work station defined?
- How should the progress of work be followed?
- How are work times and availability defined?
- Who bears responsibility for telepresence equipment?
- Which safety and privacy rules apply?
- How is information handled?

According to the occupational safety and health act (23.8.2002/738) it is the employer's responsibility to ensure the safety of all employees and that factors that can cause danger and other incidents are prevented, removed, and mitigated. Employers must constantly monitor the safety of the work environment and that safety measures are considered. (§8, Chap. 2). The working environment must be designed so that work can be executed safely which requires that structures, machines, or devices used in business processes do not cause any imminent danger (§12, Chap. 2). If necessary internal traffic should be organized with appropriate traffic rules so that pathways can safely be used (§35, Chap. 5). Employers must also ensure that all employees are properly educated and familiarized with possibly dangers in the working environment so that they can perform their responsibilities safely (§14, Chap. 2). Machines and devices used in the working environment must be installed correctly and if needed include safeguards and safety labels so that they do not cause danger or harm to employees or other individuals in the work environment (§41, Chap. 5).

According to the damages act (31.5.1974/412) an individual is obliged to compensate who on purpose or through negligence causes damage to another individual (§1, Chap. 2). An employer is responsible to compensate for damages that an employee has caused through error or negligence (§1, Chap. 3). Likewise, an employee is responsible to compensate for

the damages caused through error or negligence (§1, Chap. 4). The compensation amount is set according to the damage caused. In cases of personal injury, compensation for medical treatments, loss of earnings, pain and suffering, and permanent disability must be given. (§2, Chap. 5). In cases of damage to property, compensation for repair and loss in value or the value of destroyed property (§5, Chap. 5).

According to the constitution of Finland (11.6.1999/731) everyone has the freedom of speech, including the right to express, publish, and receive information, opinions, and other messages without being prevented by anyone beforehand (§12, Chap. 2). The law also states the right for domestic privacy, granting a person privacy in the premises that may be considered his home, including his house or apartment, other domestic buildings such as a hotel room (10§, Chap. 2).

According to the criminal code of Finland (19.12.1889/39) it is illegal to unlawfully listen and record with a technical device: conversations, speech, or other private life sounds that are not meant to be heard in locations defined by domestic privacy or in locations not defined by domestic privacy in circumstances where the eavesdropped does not expect to be heard. (§5, Chap. 24). Similarly, it is also illegal to unlawfully watch, film, and photograph with a technical device: places protected by domestic privacy, or private locations, such as, toilets and changing rooms (§6, Chap. 24).

According to the personal data act (22.4.1999/523) gathered personal data must serve a purpose in the work operations (§5, Chap. 2). The purpose must be defined and permitted before gathering takes place. (§6, Chap. 2) Personal data entails any descriptive details of natural persons, or their belongings and living conditions (§3, Chap. 1). Personal data no longer needed must be properly erased (§34, Chap. 7). A natural person can forbid using their personal data for purposes, such as, marketing (§30, Chap. 6).

The information handled in the chapter 3 will be used to gain commitment to the vision by defining the responsibilities of managerial work and defining thereafter the capabilities and restrictions of robotic telepresence. The capabilities and restrictions are explained to the commissioner during the second interview. The next chapter will handle change management.

4 Change management

In the previous chapter the theory needed for the second step was handled. In this chapter the third step is handled by defining change management and aspects of leadership and change, these theories will be used to develop an action plan by determining the correct implementation strategy. Subjects handled in this chapter are: change triggers, types of change, change obstructs, strategies for managing change, and change leadership.

Change is one of the characteristics that describe the modern world today. Recessions and advances in technology are only a few aspects in the world that accelerate the need for change in all organizations, private, public, and voluntary. If organizations are to survive they need to be able to anticipate and respond to change. Most common changes across industry sectors involve: cost reductions, redundancies, culture changes and performance improvements. Therefore, organizational change can affect roles, jobs, and working conditions. Change can be a dramatic restructuring of a whole organization or a simple change in procedures and operations. (Linstead, et al., 2009, p. 619).

Triggers for change will be described in more detail next. Followed by descriptions of different types of change, and how organizational culture and politics affects change. Concluding with two strategies for managing change, and one structure for leading change.

4.1 Change triggers

Organizations are affected by the organizational environment. Remnants of historic changes, also called the temporal environment, as the industrial revolution and other more present changes that have revolutionized the way things are done in our society are still affecting organizations today, but the most direct influence comes from the external and internal environment. To understand how the external environment causes change, a common tool to use is the PEST analysis, which comprises: political, economic, social, and technological factors. Legal and ecological factors can also be added to make a PESTLE analysis. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 12-15). Framework for a PEST analysis can be seen in figure 17 with the factors, which can function as triggers, prompting change in organizations at some time or another. These four triggers will be described in greater detail later.

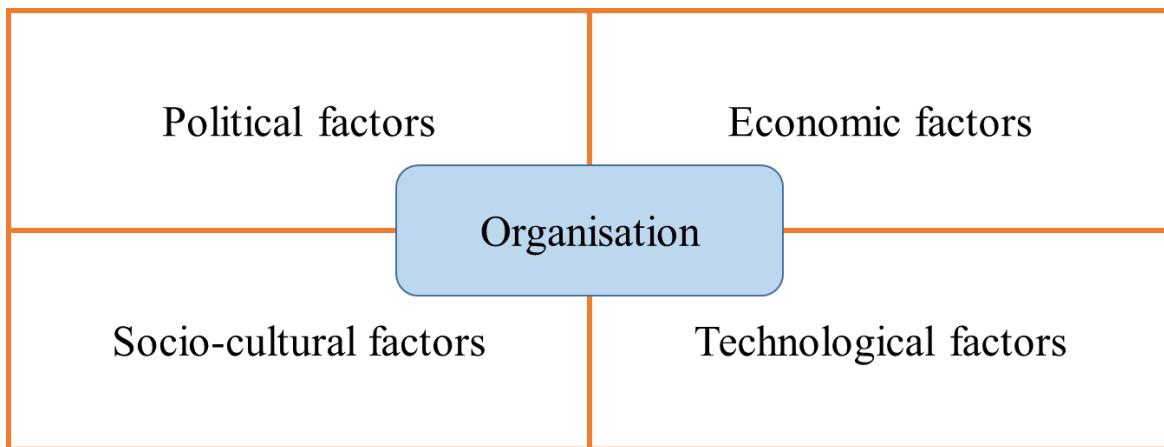


Figure 17. PEST factors influencing organizational change (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 15)

Before moving on to the triggers, a brief reflection on the organizational system and how change affects it in different ways is handled next. In figure 18 there is an illustration of an organizational system where the external factors from the PEST analysis can be seen on the outer layer while on the inside the internal environment of the organization can be seen.

The internal environment is divided into two subsystems called formal and informal. The formal subsystem includes all the tangible elements of an organization such as structure, strategy and goals while the informal subsystem includes the more intangible elements of an organization, such as its culture and political behaviour of its members. Organizations turn inputs into outputs; inputs can be materials, resources and knowledge. The formal outputs of the organization are products and services while the informal outputs are employee behaviour and job satisfaction. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 4-6).

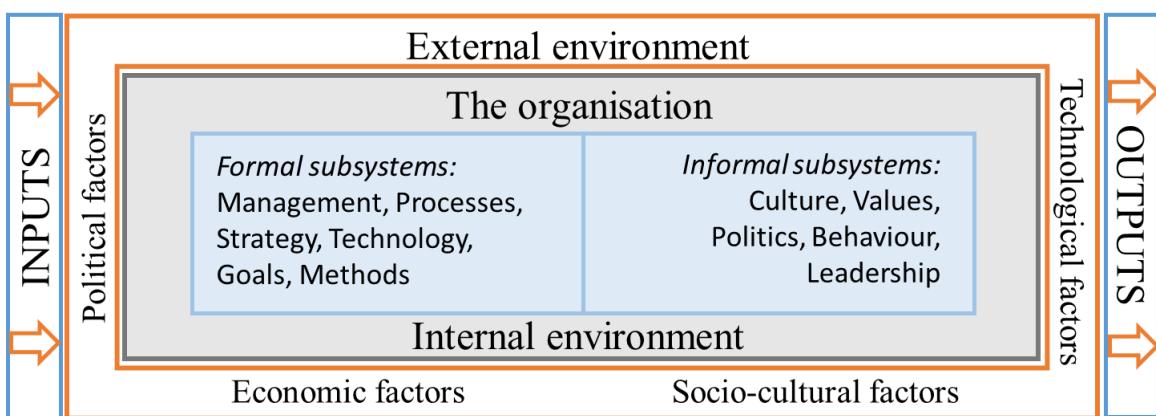


Figure 18. The organization as a system (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 24)

Now that the system has been presented it can be more easily perceived how, for example, an external technological advancement can make certain management procedures obsolete by creating a need for change in management which can possibly affect the organisational

culture and the behaviour of its employees. The service output might increase from the management change but can subsequently also change the job satisfaction output of the organization. Next the four external PEST triggers will be explained and a correlation to the organizational system in figure 18 can be kept in mind while reading.

4.1.1 External triggers

Political triggers are governmental influences both national and international which influence organizations to a greater or lesser degree depending on the political situation. All the factors in the PEST framework are intertwined with each other. For example, a recession, which is an economic factor, can influence the political decisions involving tax legislation, resulting in changes for the organizations in that country. Political factors include law-making; new legislations which address healthcare, equal pay, and work hours can greatly affect organizations and therefore prompting change. Different political changes on an international level creates problems for global organizations when they must cope with different ever changing political factors across the world. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 15-17).

Economic triggers are as mentioned, interrelated with political factors because governments work to increase economic growth, keep inflation low, keep unemployment low, and to have more exports than imports. However, it is not always possible to keep these economic aspects under control resulting in, for example, recession. Whether the economic situation is good or bad there will be varying changes to competition, exchange rates, corporation tax, wage rates, and skills available. Recessions usually cause a drop in confidence within organizations resulting in cutbacks, change of priorities, and change of procedures. Organizations are perhaps most fixated on economic triggers since organizations exist to make profits, or in the case of public sector organizations to operate within budgets. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 18).

Socio-cultural triggers can involve a wide range of factors including for example lifestyle changes, skills availability, attitudes to minority groups, and demographic trends. These factors will influence how organizations are set up, run, and managed but also how well they can attract new employees and talent to work with them. Internal demographic changes such as the age composition of the workforce and external change of heightened awareness of equality and intolerance of unfair and unethical practices might cause problems in long-established organizations where there might be practices that could be classed as

discriminatory; branding the whole organizational culture as sexist or racist. To eliminate the cultural problems and prompt change, managers need to realize that they need to act to remove any discriminatory practices in the organization. Socio-cultural factors come into play also when organizations try to apply their organizational culture in the same way in a different country; socio-cultural differences between countries prompts need for change if an organization wishes to succeed in a new country. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 18-19).

Technological triggers such as changes in information technology, production, and processes drive productivity by creating new jobs and products but also replacing old ineffective labour. Advances in technology determine organizational structures and procedures which create value to the organization. Information and communication technology improves efficiency by cutting time spent on conveying information and observation across the organization. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 20-21). Robotic telerobotics is a good example, the technology is in the category of information and communication by allowing management to convey information and communicate more effectively even when a great geographical distance is involved. The use of telerobotics however brings also the change of managerial procedures by making perhaps long-distance, in-person visits, obsolete.

There is no one way to how organizations should react or interact with the triggers for change from the PEST environment. Triggers for change originate not only from external factors, triggers are also present inside organizations, these internal triggers will be discussed next.

4.1.2 Internal triggers

External triggers might create a need for change to which organizations have no control over, but some changes occur from planned choices. Internal triggers for change might be a realization that operating structures are performing poorly or the employment of a new chief executive with new bold ideas for change. Internal triggers are often connected with external factors, for example a realization of bad performance due to the operating structure might originate from a technological change in the external environment. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 22-23).

The correlation between the internal and external environment can be described by picturing an organization trying to fit into its surroundings. Internal change occurs when an organization understands that it needs to change to succeed in the external environment. (Linstead, et al., 2009, p. 636).

How fast an organization can react to external changes and realize internal change is needed, depends on the level of environmental turbulence, which can be divided into five levels:

1. Predictable; the environment is repetitive and organizations can react faster than the occurring changes.
2. Forecastable by assumptions; the future changes can still be forecasted by assumptions from the past with confidence.
3. Predictable threats and opportunities; organizations have problems responding to changes but the future can still be predicted with some degree of confidence.
4. Partially predictable opportunities; responding to changes becomes even harder with global factors, the future is only somewhat predictable.
5. Unpredictable surprises; unexpected events and situations occur more quickly than the organizations can respond

From the five levels, it can be noted that the first is the easiest level to cope with while the fifth is the most difficult level of turbulence. Turbulence levels one to three allows organizations to cope with external factors by changing internally while levels four to five leave little chance for organizations to cope beforehand. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 24).

To summarize triggers for change it can be stated that organizations operate in multiple environments from external to internal and even temporal. Change can be anticipated or it can come as a surprise, but in all situations organizations need to work with what they have and try to manage their environments. Organizations are constantly trying to adapt to the external environment by integrating their internal environment, this is the core of managing organizational change.

4.2 Types of change

There are different theories involving ways to conceptualize change. Which of these theories is the most reliable one is a question of preference and the situation at hand, but what can be summarized from the theories is that they organize change into dimensions: pace and scope, and planned and emergent. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 33). These dimensions will be explained in the subsequent subchapters.

4.2.1 Pace and scope of change

As mentioned, there are varying opinions in how to conceptualize change. Reasons for this is that change is not a uniform concept, it is formed by living environments which is a quite an unpredictable source. Different theories regarding types of change will be presented next.

Grundy (1993) describes three varieties of change, his theory is a good starting point in trying to understand the nature of change. Grundy's theory is conceptualized in figure 19, the vertical axis demonstrates the rate of change, not amount of change, during the course of time, which is demonstrated on the horizontal axis.

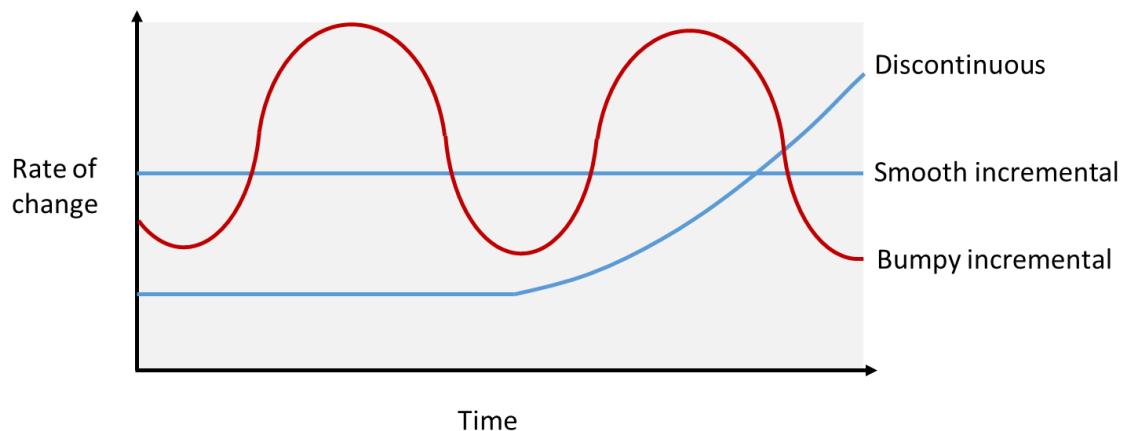


Figure 19. Three types of change according to Grundy's theory (Grundy, 1993, p. 25)

The first line, smooth incremental, describes a type of change which occurs constantly at an equal and predictable rate. Smooth incremental change is, however, rare in the 21st century and describes more the economies during the 1950s to early 1970s when change was slower and more systematic. The second line, bumpy incremental, describes a type of change which at times has periods of calmness which are then interrupted by periods of accelerated rate of change. Bumpy incremental change can be caused by external factors but also internal factors, such as reorganization. Both incremental changes describe the rate of change that organizations need to achieve to meet their goals, for example the rate of change needed to meet sale goals in the 1950s differs quite drastically to what organizations need to achieve in a present globalized world. The last line, discontinuous, describes a type of change which is characterized by rapid shifts in organizational strategies, structures, and cultures. Discontinuous change can occur from brand new technology which creates a whole new business opportunity or other developments as, for example, the realization in the 1970s of the harmful effects of asbestos insulation and the subsequent permanent removal of the

product from the market, forcing companies to change completely. (Grundy, 1993, pp. 24 - 26).

The three types of change by Grundy (1993) are rather simplistic and generalizes something quite complex. From Grundy's theory, however, it can be observed that he conceptualizes change with different paces for change; bumpy and smooth incremental, and discontinuous.

The next theory, by Balogun and Hope-Hailey (2004), suggests a quite similar approach as Grundy's, but they propose four different types of change called evolution, revolution, adaptation, and reconstruction. The theory also includes pace which is divided into incremental and big bang that is called the nature of change. The theory contains also scale as a dimension, which was absent in Grundy's theory, the new dimension is divided into transformation and realignment that is called end result. (Balogun & Hope-Hailey, 2004, p. 20). A conceptualization of Balogun and Hope-Hailey's theory can be seen in figure 20.

		End results	
		Transformation	Realignment
Nature of change	Incremental	Evolution	Adaptation
	Big bang	Revolution	Reconstruction

Figure 20. Types of change per Balogun and Hope-Hailey's theory (Balogun & Hope-Hailey, 2004, p. 20)

The first change, evolution, is caused by the dimensions incremental and transformation which implies a transformational change that is implemented gradually through interrelated initiatives, the change is likely to be practical and is undertaken in participation of the need for future change. Adaptation is the next change, caused by the dimensions incremental and realignment and implies a change undertaken to realign the way in which the organization operates, the change is implemented in a series of gradual steps. The third change, revolution, is caused by the dimensions big bang and transformation and indicates a transformational change that occurs via simultaneous initiatives on many fronts in the organization, this change is more likely to be forced and complex because of the drastic pace of change. The last change, reconstruction, is caused by the dimensions big bang and

realignment and implies a change undertaken to realign the way in which the organization operates with many initiatives implemented simultaneously, the change is often forced and complex due to the similar pace of change as revolutionary change. (Balogun & Hope-Hailey, 2004, pp. 20-24).

Balogun and Hope-Hailey's theory develops the change theory with new additions while containing similarities to Grundy's theory. However, as mentioned it also fails to capture the complexity of change and instead simplifies the possible end results of change.

The last theory to be explained is by Plowman et al. (2007), the theory develops aspects from the previous theories by including the pace and scope of change and subsequently creating the four different types of change, which each explain the characteristics and scale of the change. (Plowman, et al., 2007, p. 515). The four types of change by Plowman et al. can be observed in table 3.

Each of the four types of change are formed through five dimensions. Driver, which describes what causes the need for change and can be either instability or inertia. Form, which describes in which form the change will take place and can be either adaptation or replacement. Nature, which describes if the change was intended or emergent. Feedback, which describes the response from the organization when changing and can be either negative or positive. The last dimension is connections, which describes the networks between the targets for change and the rest of the organization and can be either loose or tight. (Plowman, et al., 2007, pp. 516 - 517).

Table 3. Four types of change per the work of Plowman et al.

		Scope	
		Convergent	Radical
Pace	Continuous	1. Driver: minor system instability. Form: small adaptations within an existing framework. Nature: emergent and local as people improvise and learn. Feedback: positive, encouraging deviations and adaptations. Connections: loose coupling which helps local conditions from amplifying.	2. Driver: major system instability. Form: frame-bending adaptations. Nature: emergent and system-wide as adaptions accumulate into patterns. Feedback: positive and negative feedback which pulls in two directions. Connections: tight coupling which enables local adaptations to amplify into radical change.
	Episodic	3. Driver: minor inertia. Form: minor replacement within an existing frame. Nature: intended and local. Feedback: negative, highlighting the need for minor replacement. Connections: loose coupling which requires local minor replacements.	4. Driver: major inertia. Form: dramatic frame-bending replacement. Nature: intended and system-wide. Feedback: negative, highlighting need for major replacement. Connections: tight coupling which requires system-wide radical replacement.

(Plowman, et al., 2007, p. 516)

The five dimensions are affected by the pace and scope and create together the four types of change, which are marked by numbers in the four quadrants in table 3. The four types of change are:

1. Continuous and convergent change is slow and caused by minor instability in the organizational system but the change only consists of small adaptations within the existing organizational framework. The change is emergent and local due to loose connections. The feedback is also positive due to the slow and emergent change through improvisation and learning.
2. Continuous and radical change arises out of an emergent accumulation of small changes, which eventually cause major system instability and ultimately changes the framework of the organization. The connections are tight, which causes local changes to become system-wide. Due to the slow but frame-bending change, feedback is both positive and negative.
3. Episodic and convergent change happens quite quickly and can be because of a specific shock or crisis, which results in an intended and local change to combat minor system inactivity. The feedback is negative and pushes only minor changes to keep the existing organizational framework. Small local changes are also possible due to loose connections.
4. Episodic and radical change occurs quickly due to a major shock or crisis, which causes major system inactivity and can only be fixed by altering the organizational framework completely. The change is intended and system-wide due to the tight connections.

A practical example of continuous and radical change is told by Plowman et al. (2007). In the example, churchgoers at a city church in the United States were discussing ways to support the community. They eventually decided to offer hot food on Sundays to homeless people. After a few months, a volunteer serving food noticed that a lot of the homeless people wanted to discuss health related issues, which was met with starting a full-scale medical clinic for the homeless people. After a few years and with the help of grants, the church had evolved into a day centre to help thousands of homeless people. The church's mission had completely changed, which caused conflict with the wealthier worshippers and the local business community. The radical change was not planned but continuously emerged from a simple decision to serve hot food on Sundays. (Plowman, et al., 2007, pp. 518 - 523).

So far change has been analysed in terms of its pace, scope and size. In the next chapter, how change arises through planned and emergent factors will be discussed.

4.2.2 Planned and emergent change

Emergent change arises from ongoing operations as organizations try to find a balance between their internal environment and the external environment. In subchapter 4.1 it was mentioned, how the organization can be depicted as a system, which constantly adapts to its surroundings. However, all organizations do not change constantly. If all organizations changed constantly then radical frame-breaking change would be unnecessary, due to organizations continuously assessing their environments and responding to the smallest need for change before it can escalate into something radical. It is far more common for organizations to become too comfortable with their way of working, that they become negligent to warning signs of approaching difficulties from the environment. These careless organizations will be forced to undergo radical change to realign their organization's strategy, structure, and processes to be again in tune with the environment. This planned change to realign the organization involves two fundamental objectives; modifying the behaviour of individuals within the organization and improving the ability of the organization to cope with changes in its environment. The distinction between emergent and planned change is not clear, but organizations are affected by both during their life cycle. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 41- 44).

How well organizations can cope with planned and emergent change depends on the complexity and seriousness of the problems at hand. Problems can be categorized as being hard or soft, which also means that change can be described as being of a hard or soft complexity. Hard problems require change that is of smaller scale and less serious, there are also quantifiable objectives and solutions, and the timescale to fix the problem is known. Soft problems are the opposite of hard problems, objectives and solutions are vague, which makes the timescale and extent of the change unclear. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 59 - 60).

To help organizations get a better understanding of the problems at hand and the required amount of change needed, a tool called the TROPICS test exists. With the test, organizations can determine if a problem is hard or soft and get a better understanding of what must be done to change. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 61). In figure 21 there is a illustration of the TROPICS test.

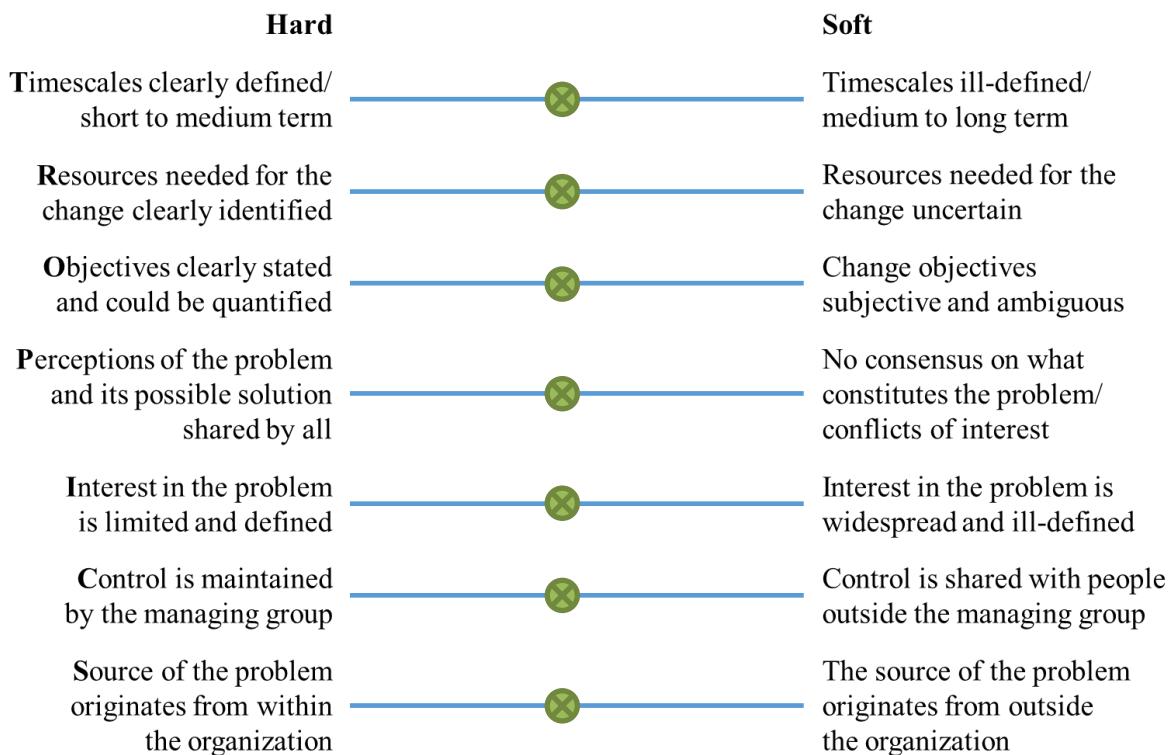


Figure 21. The TROPICS test (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 62)

In the TROPICS test, there are statements to consider of both hard and soft nature. A mark will be placed on the lines between the statements, according to how far or close the statement is from the perceived truth. To which side most of the marks lean into, will determine the overall nature of the problem and the required change. Problems and change are not always either hard or soft, they can be a mix of both, but the test will still give a better understanding of the required planning and implementation of any change. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 61).

It can be concluded that there are varying ways to describe different types of change. Change can be analysed by its pace and scope to determine the scale of the change needed. Change can also be emergent from organizational growth and planned to counter future problems or solve a present crisis. Whether a problem is hard or soft will also determine what the best change approach is to fix it. The next subchapter will handle potential obstructions towards implementing change.

4.3 Change obstructions

This chapter will address the more informal aspects of organizational functions, such as organizational culture, politics, issues of power, and cooperation and conflict. These aspects will influence organizational life and organizational change processes by either supporting

or hindering change. The chapter is divided into two subchapters; the first subchapter describes the aspects of organizational culture and the second subchapter comprises organizational politics and power.

4.3.1 Organisational culture

In subchapter 4.1 the organization was described as a system, consisting of two subsystems called formal and informal. An illustration of the subsystems was depicted in figure 18, the formal part was described as something tangible while the informal part something intangible. A new depiction of the formal and informal organization can be seen in figure 22. The formal and informal aspects of the organization are depicted as contrasting sides of an iceberg, with the formal part of the organization visible and clear, above the surface, and the informal part hidden and unclear, below the surface. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 128).

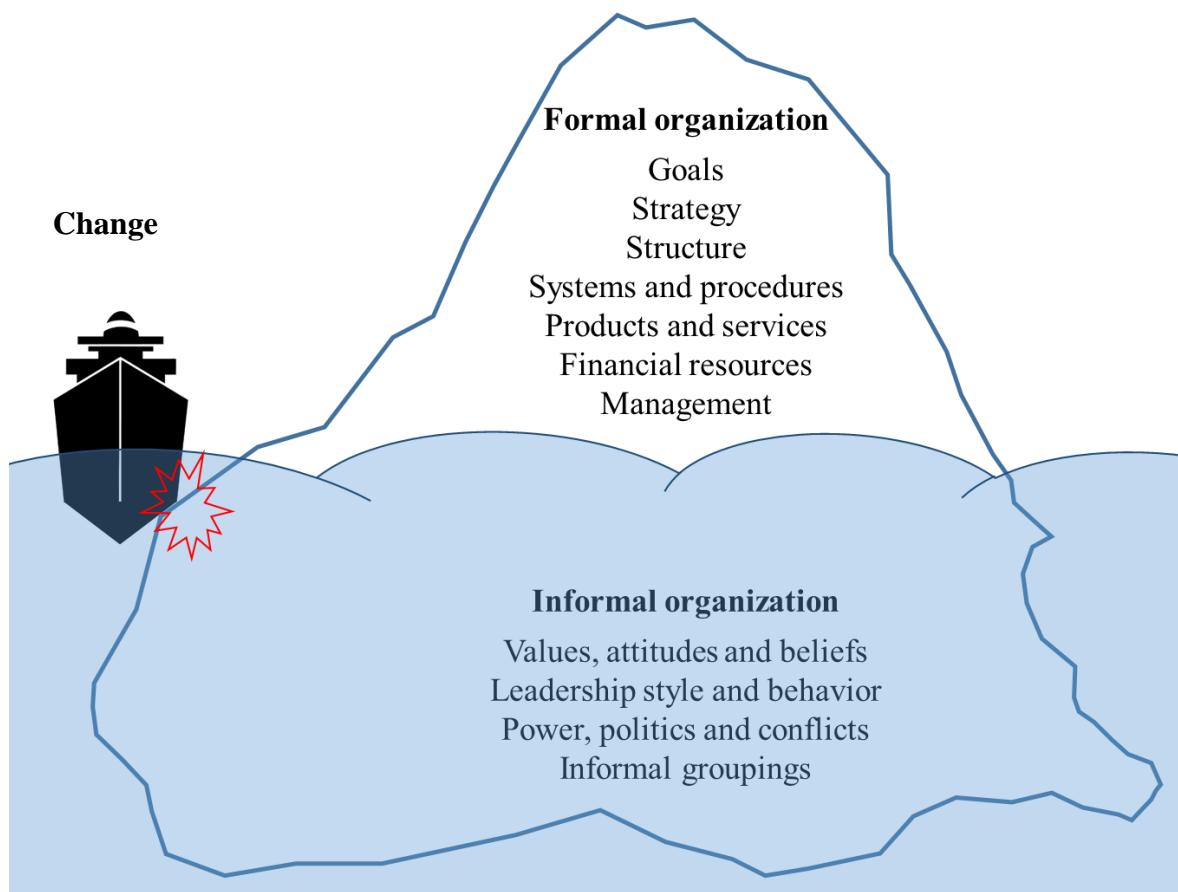


Figure 22. The internal organizational aspects depicted as an iceberg (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 128)

The formal part of the iceberg consists of agreed, measurable, outputs and outcomes involving how organizational goals and objectives are met. The informal part includes values, beliefs, attitudes held by management and other employees, informal partnerships

between employees, the norms of work behaviour which influences how things are done, and politics that drive decisions and actions. The iceberg metaphor points out that the greater part of the organization lies out of sight and is the most dangerous part of the organization and requires thorough analysis before change is considered, otherwise the chance of failure might be high. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 128 - 129).

Culture can be described as the customary and traditional way of thinking and doing things in an organization, these aspects are shared by all members in the organization, which new members must learn and accept in order to be recognized in the organization. Culture is also often deeply rooted in the organization and is therefore likely to be resistant to change. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 130). The main characteristics of organizational culture can be framed by seven points:

- Innovation and risk taking; to which degree employees are encouraged to be innovative and risk takers.
- Attention to detail; to which degree employees are expected to demonstrate precision, analysis and attention to detail.
- Outcome orientation; to which degree management focuses on results rather than the techniques used to achieve those results.
- People orientation; to which degree management considers the outcomes of their decisions regarding the effects on employees within the organization.
- Team orientation; to which degree work is organized around groups rather than individuals.
- Aggression; to which degree employees are aggressive and competitive rather than laidback.
- Stability; to which degree activities are supposed to maintain the current situation of the organization rather than aspiring growth.

Four different types of organizational culture can be shaped from the seven organizational characteristics. These four types of cultures are defined by different levels of organizational assertiveness and responsiveness. Assertiveness describes if the behavior in the culture is forceful or directive, high assertive means that there is little hesitation in the actions of the

organization, while low assertiveness means that actions are carefully considered before being realized. Responsiveness indicated how emotionally expressed an organization is, high responsiveness means that the organization is employee friendly and relaxed, low responsiveness indicated that the organization behaves in a more reserved and serious way, with reliance on facts rather than feelings. In figure 23 the four types of culture are conceptualized in a so-called compass model. Depending on the main characteristics, an organizational culture will contain a certain amount of behaviour from each of the four types of cultures. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 131, 137 - 140).

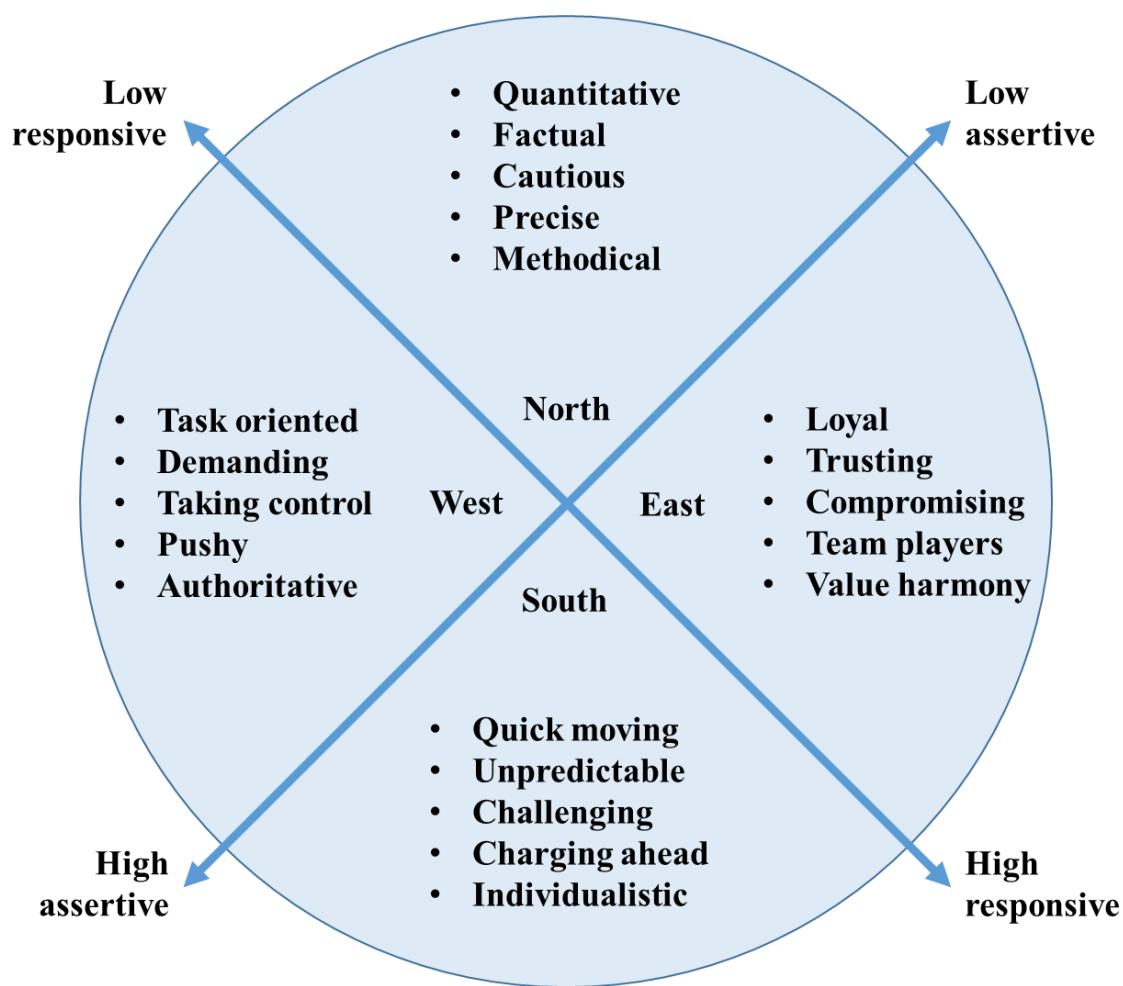


Figure 23. Four different types of culture according to the compass model (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 140)

The compass model in figure 23 terms the four types of culture by the four cardinal directions: north, east, south, and west. Each type has been described below in more detail:

- North: Innovation and risk taking is avoided due to a cautious work environment with reliance on quantitative, factual, and precise data when decisions are made and even then, only decisions that maintain stability. Attention to detail is highly expected with every technique used to achieve results methodically analysed. Decisions are made with little consideration to effects on employees. Control is maintained by organizing work individually avoiding competitive behaviour.
- East: Innovation and risk taking is accepted but overall work environment values harmony and stability. Attention to detail is expected but the atmosphere is more laidback with greater trust in the capabilities of employees. Management considers both techniques and results important. People orientation is high, which contributes to loyalty towards the management. Employees are team players who compromise rather than compete.
- South: Innovation and risk taking is expected in an unpredictable and challenging work environment. Attention to detail is expected but must keep up with the quick moving work pace in the organization. Management focuses on results empowering employees to find their own way by charging ahead with activities that can aspire growth. Decisions are made with focus on effects on employees. Work is individualistic and competitive in a positive spirit.
- West: Innovation and risk taking is encouraged but the work environment is demanding with results and techniques closely monitored. There is a lack of emotional expression and consideration towards employees. Growth is achieved by taking control of tasks and exerting a pushy and authoritative management style. The work climate can be considered aggressive but also well-organized.

The type of culture will imply how the organization will most likely react to change. Organizational cultures that are low assertive and responsive are unlikely to support change, due to their mechanistic structure and cautiousness. The opposite is a culture with high assertiveness and responsiveness, these cultures supports frame-breaking change, if it creates progress. The cultures west and east are a mix of low and high, west being highly decisive and progress oriented and east highly emotionally expressing and concerned with stability,

west will support change more than east but both are equally capable to change. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 140 - 141).

Cultures are unique and complex, attempts at classifying and describing cultures are therefore quite difficult. However, there are still ways to classify cultures through common variants which have been presented in this chapter. Organizational politics is examined in the next chapter, where the issues of power, politics, conflict, and change are discussed.

4.3.2 Organisational politics

Organisational culture can cause problems when faced with episodes of change, organizational politics can be defined as a subpart of a culture and can, in a similar way, cause problems when change is needed. Power relates to politics through and through and can be described as an individual's capacity to exert their will over others, while political behaviour consists of activities that are not part of any formal role in the organization, but can influence advantages and disadvantages within the organization. A practical example of power is a person with a managerial position in an organization who can exert the required tasks on other employees, the political behaviour this manager could exert is, for example, recommending that an employee in the organization should be promoted or demoted and could therefore influence the decisions of an employee in favour of a promotion or in fear of a demotion. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 178).

In the previous example the source of power was a managerial position; this power can be categorized as positional and comprises the power gained from a formal position in a hierarchy. Positional power is perhaps one of the most typical sources of power. However, there are other sources of power. Expert power refers to persons with skills and knowledge which is scarce and desired, these persons can use their knowledge as an advantage and exert more power than others. Referent power derives from charisma, persons with the ability to attract others to a cause can give a person at the bottom of a hierarchy power to influence decisions with upper management. Reward power occurs when there is a possibility to give some sort of reward such as salary, promotion, time off, or access to resources. Coercive power is negative and forceful and used when a punishment for non-compliance is necessary. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 181).

Conflict occurs when one party in an organization perceives that another party who wields power has, or is about to, negatively change something that the first party cares about. There

are varying reasons for conflict occurrence but six common reasons can be stated: declining power, misunderstandings, differences of-, values, viewpoints, interests and interpersonal differences. If control and overall autonomy falls below a threshold level, then conflict occurs to restore control to an acceptable level. Conflicts derived from misunderstandings are perhaps the easiest to resolve but can still cause problems if left unresolved. Disagreements from conflicting values can arise from ethical reasons, such as accepting bribes, or it can be caused by disagreements about the purpose of the organization and its goals and objectives. Differences of viewpoint; the same values can be shared between parties but how certain goals and purposes should be achieved can differ greatly. Differences of interest; status and resources are just a few outcomes that most people want or want to keep hold of and if one party is set to gain and one to lose, then conflict is bound to happen. Interpersonal differences; personality clashes between employees can make it difficult for them to work together and possibly hinder change efforts due to differences in temperament, style, or other behavioural reasons. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 202).

Change takes an organization from one state to another and regardless of the scale of the change there will be a possibility for problems to occur. In figure 24 there is an illustration of how change can start a chain reaction of resistance, conflict, and political action. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 111).

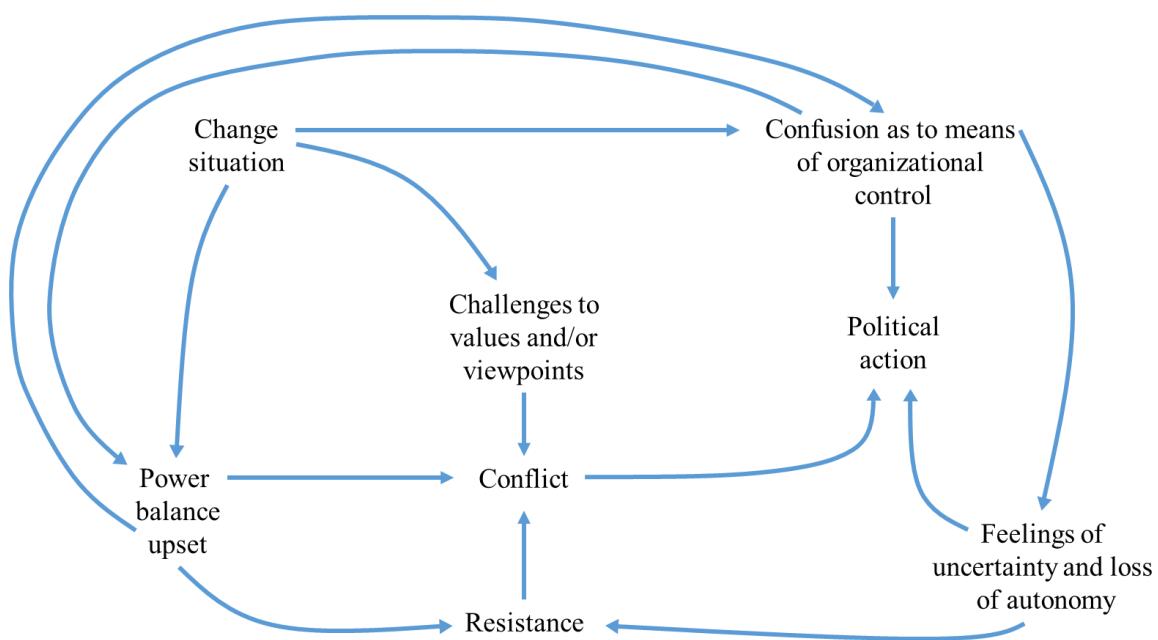


Figure 24. Interconnections between power, conflict, change, and political action (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 211)

The illustration in figure 24 suggests six major problems derived from change situations, which are: power balance upsets, challenges to values and/or viewpoints, organizational control, uncertainty, and loss of autonomy. How many of these problems are present during a change process depends on the situation, but as the illustration shows the problems are often interconnected causing, for example, changes in organizational control to upset the power balance and autonomy, triggering feelings of uncertainty and eventually lead to political action against the change. Conflict can be defined as functional or dysfunctional. Functional conflict stimulates self-criticism and innovation while dysfunctional conflict causes hostility and mistrust and possibly sabotage and other extreme covert political actions. In figure 25 the optimal level of conflict is illustrated as a curvilinear line where a moderate amount of conflict allows the highest task output, low conflict will foster complacency and apathy which is not the right climate for progress and innovation, too much conflict will however be too dysfunctional to foster productivity. Dysfunctional conflict should however not be dismissed as criminal or deviant behaviour and instead taken as a sign that there are serious problems, which are causing the underlying tensions. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 211 - 213).

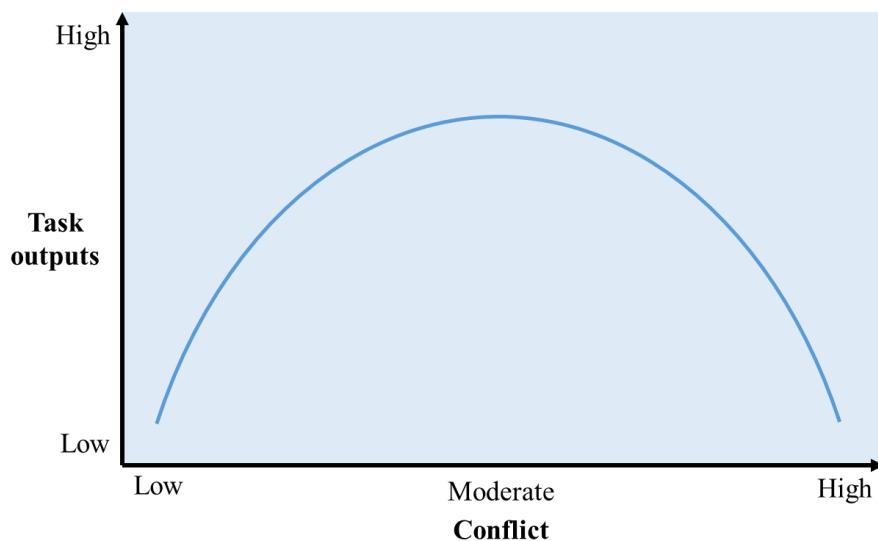


Figure 25. The optimal level of conflict to stimulate greater performance (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 214)

This chapter has shown that power and conflict are elements in organizational politics. To have a better chance to implement change, the potential actions of individuals, or groups, affected by change, need to be analysed. To determine the potential actions, two factors need to be understood; the individuals or groups power and motivation to block change. The first step is to identify who holds sufficient power to block or assist change. The sources of power,

discussed earlier, can be used as framework to determine the amount of power. The second step is assessing the motivation to block change, this information is not gained easily and may require discussions with the individuals or groups affected by the change or by only assessing what the most likely response will be. For example, if the degree of power is lowered then resistance can be expected. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 217 - 218). In figure 26 there is an illustration of the discussed two factors and different situations and strategies categorized by the level of power to block change and motivation to do so.

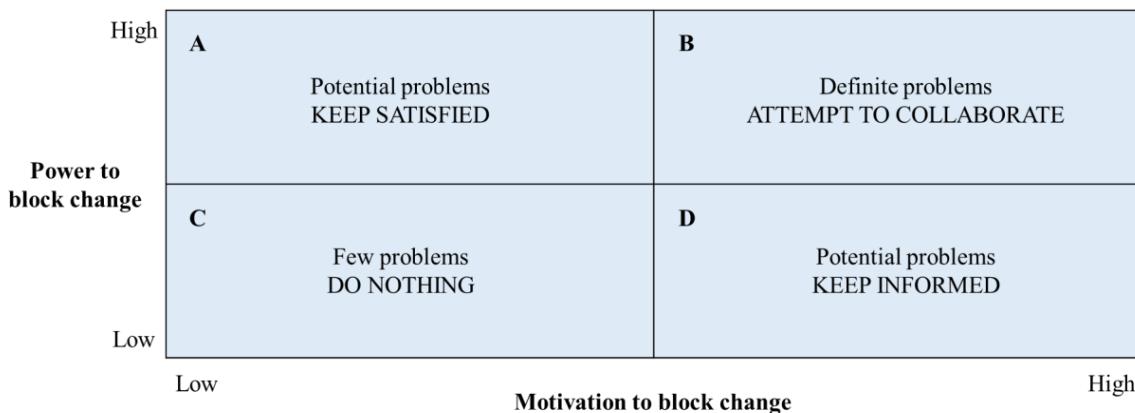


Figure 26. Analysis to categorize individuals or groups according to their power and motivation to block change (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 218)

Each of the four categories in figure 26 are defined by a letter, the extent of problems expected, and the required action to deal with the situation. If an individual or group has little motivation to block change and little power to do so, then the category at hand is C with few problems expected and require therefore no action to be taken. The opposite situation in category B represents a situation with high power to block change and high motivation to do so, in this situation problems are expected and negotiations and collaborations with the concerned individuals or groups is required. Category A is problematic because the power to block change is high but the motivation to do so is low, if the situation changes then the motivation to block change might increase, moving the category to B. The strategy to deal with category A is to keep individuals or groups satisfied, by maintaining their awareness of how the proposed change might benefit them. Employees in category D are in the risk of being ignored and faced with serious consequences, like job loss due to their little power to block change. However, future change can bring the people in category D more power and move them to category B. Therefore, effort to understand their motivations and concerns should be made, while keeping them informed of change developments. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 218 - 219).

Politics and power are driven by human differences and are relatively difficult to analyse, because qualitative methods and information are needed to capture the complex nature of organizational politics. However, in most cases political action is required while managing change to keep the interests of individuals and groups in balance. In the next chapter strategies for managing change will be discussed by presenting two different approaches, which are related to the hard and soft types of change discussed in subchapter 4.2.2.

4.4 Strategies for managing change

This chapter will describe the processes of designing, planning, and implementing change. As mentioned in the previous chapter, two approaches to manage change will be introduced, hard and soft strategies for change. Both contain various procedures to tackle change. Hard strategies are best suited for situations where informal issues are low while soft strategies are best suited for situations where culture, politics, and other informal aspects are prevalent. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 281).

4.4.1 Hard strategy for change

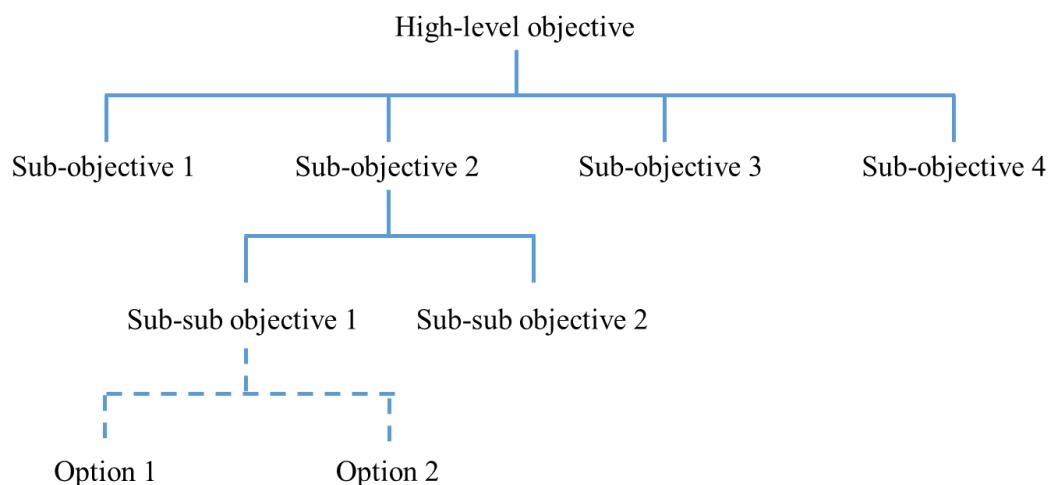
Change is formed by its complexity; situations can vary from radical and frame-breaking to convergent and adaptive. Situations termed by hard complexity may initially seem to indicate a difficult situation, but change in situations of hard complexity are most likely implemented easily and speedily because covert aspects as culture and politics are not strongly present and the change process and timetable are well known. Hard strategies for change are systematic and measurable approaches with concrete objectives that can be shown when they have been achieved. The strategy discussed in this chapter is called the hard systems model of change, abbreviated to HSMC. The HSMC strategy has been developed for designing and managing change, it determines objectives for change through a systematic process and generates options for action, the options are subsequently evaluated until an ideal combination has been reached. The strategy can be divided into three phases: the description-, options-, and implementation phase. Each phase consists also of different stages; the phases and stages are shown in table 4. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 284, 286 - 287).

Table 4. Phases and stages within the hard systems model of change

Phases	Stages
Description	1. Situation summary 2. Identify objectives and constraints 3. Identify performance measures
Options	4. Generate options 5. Edit options and detail selected options 6. Evaluate options against measures
Implementation	7. Develop implementation strategies 8. Carry out the planned changes

(Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 287)

The first stage in the description phase is to develop a situation summary. Descriptions regarding why change is needed and where the changes will be made are both important aspects in the change process. Reasons explained can be, for example, to solve a problem or take advantage of an opportunity. Regardless of reason, employees who are affected by the change need to be consulted. At the end of the first stage the scope of the change will be defined together with all problems and issues that need to be addressed. The second stage involves identifying objectives and constraints. Objectives are defined as desired outcomes while constraints are things that prevent achieving the objectives. The objectives need to be related to the themes emerged from the situation summary stage, the objectives can be arranged into a hierarchy, a so-called objectives tree. A generalized objectives tree can be seen in figure 27, the high-level objective is at the top while lower-level objectives are arranged in descending order, but all contribute to the fulfilment of the high-level objective. Options are also stated in the objectives tree, but these will be explained later in stage four. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 288 - 289).

**Figure 27. An objectives tree (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 289)**

Stage three consists of identifying performance measures that will show when objectives have been achieved. The best measures are quantifiable, which means they are measurable factors such as costs, savings, time, and amount of labour. If objectives cannot be quantified, then other forms of rating or ranking should be used. The measures are then placed with the objectives in the objectives tree. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 289).

The second phase, called options, starts with stage four. This stage involves generating options or by other words, routes to objectives. Objectives describe what must be done while options will tell how to achieve the objectives, as seen in figure 27. The options will be generated to all the objectives in the hierarchy. It can be noted that some sub-objectives might even be considered options to reach the higher-level objectives. Options to, for example, improving methods of reporting could be to start using standardized forms or electronic mail reporting. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 290).

At stage five the selected options need be edited and detailed. Sorting the options may be necessary and this can be done through evaluating which options are feasible given the situation described in stage one and how the constraints can affect the results. After the sorting the remaining options should be described in more detail by explaining what is involved, who is involved, and how it will work. Options can, for example, be described through some form of cost-benefit analysis or input-output process. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 291).

The last stage of the options phase is stage six where options are evaluated against measures. In this stage decisions are made regarding which options should be used by comparing them to objectives in an evaluation matrix. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 292). A generalized evaluation matrix can be seen in table 5.

Table 5. A matrix for evaluating strategic options.

Objectives and related measures of performance	Options			
	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Objective 1, measure 1				
Objective 2, measure 2				
Objective 3, measure 3				

(Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 293)

The outcomes of combining an option with an objective will be theorized in the cells in table 5, through this method the most desirable combination will be known. In some situations, more than one option may contribute most to the main objective and should therefore be combined. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 293 -294).

The last phase, the implementation phase, starts with stage seven. There are three strategies for implementation: pilot study, parallel running, and big bang. Pilot studies are great to sort out any problems before executing the change completely, a drawback is the potential delays pilot studies might cause, which can be problematic in fast-moving situations. Parallel running is used, for example, when a new computer system is implemented but it is run alongside the old system. The new system will be fully implemented when there is confidence that the system is reliable and effective. If the goal is to maximize the speed of change, then the big bang strategy is well suited. However, it carries a high risk of failure if planned badly. The big bang strategy contains no trials as the previous two strategies and instead implements the change immediately. It can be noted that implementations usually involve aspects of all three strategies. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 294).

Stage eight is the last stage in the HSMC strategy and it is called consolidation, this is one of the most crucial stages in the strategy. New systems will need time to become part of the organization, if there is a decline in concentration to support the change then the employees might divert back to the old ways. On this stage, measures need to be made to actually carry through the change by monitoring the situation and to make further changes if they are

needed to balance the new system with the environment in the organization. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 294).

As mentioned in the beginning of this chapter, the HSMC strategy is most appropriately used in situations of hard complexity where, for example, only a part of the organization needs to be changed and does not interfere with other parts in the organization. The description phase in the HSMC strategy can also be used to diagnose a change situation so that it can be categorized into either hard or soft complexity. If the change situation proves to involve much behavioural and other cultural aspects, then it is most likely a change situation of soft complexity. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 308). The next chapter will describe the change process for situation of soft complexity, also called messes.

4.4.2 Soft strategy for change

The HSMC strategy is not capable of clarifying a situation of soft complexity and providing a model that can be used in planning and implementing change. The HSMC strategy requires quantifiable objectives and a clear view on what the objectives are. In situations described as messes, there is no agreement on what the source of the problem is and what changes are needed. Individuals involved in situations of soft complexity are most likely looking for ways to dissolve the problems rather than to solve the problems. Situations of soft complexity involve the whole organization or large parts of it. Therefore, a suitable approach to cope with change in these types of situations requires complete organizational development, or in other words, the OD approach. The OD approach involves the organization as a whole and defines people at all levels as the drivers of change. In chapter 4.1 the organization was described as a system of interconnected and interrelated subsystems, this view is the core of the OD approach. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 312, 317, 318).

The OD process consists of phases; these phases can be best illustrated by the Kurt Lewin's three-phase model of change, which consists of unfreezing, moving, and refreezing an organisation. The model states that there are two forces in operation in any social system, those driving change to a desired state and those attempting to maintain the present situation, or in other words, the status quo by restraining change. (Linstead, et al., 2009, p. 642). These forces are illustrated in the force field analysis in figure 28.

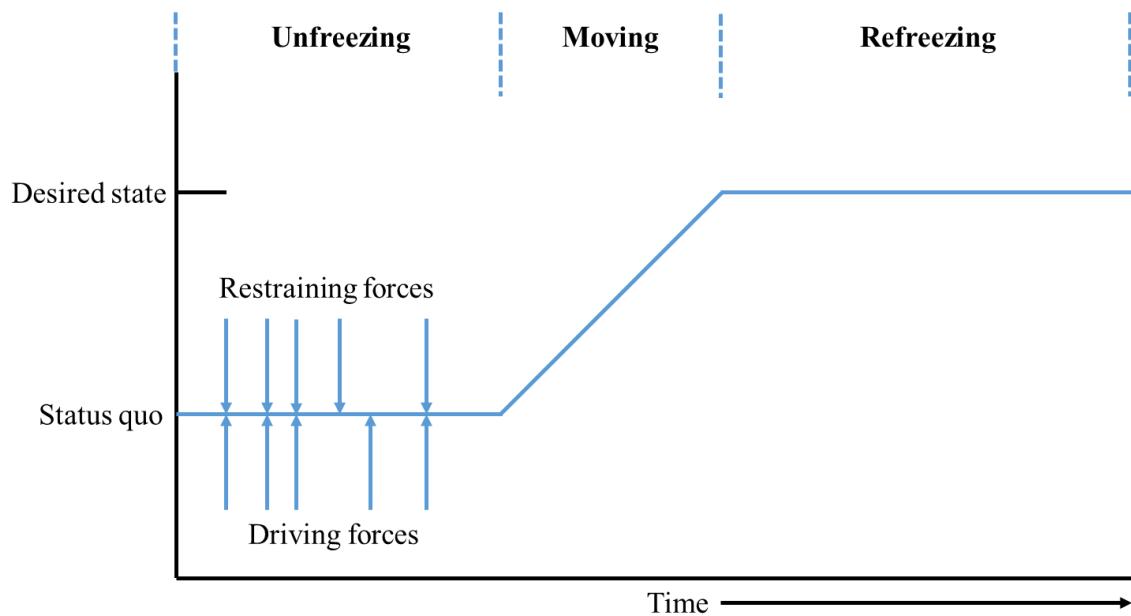


Figure 28. Kurt Lewin's force-field analysis (Linstead, et al., 2009, p. 642)

The forces seen in figure 28 are maintaining the situation in a state of equilibrium, to reach the desired state, an organization needs to either increase the driving forces or lower the restraining forces (Linstead, et al., 2009, p. 642). This is the first phase called unfreezing and consists of shaking up the forces by presenting information of how present modes of operating are against reaching desired goals. The phase can even include promoting or terminating employees. The goal of the phase is to change methods of thinking and behaviour. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 322 - 323).

The next phase is moving the organization to the desired new state. In this phase the actual changes are made by involving new types of behaviour and thinking, establishing new strategies and structures with methods of helping to secure the new ways of doing things. This phase may include experimentation and modification and hiring new people until a state of equilibrium is reached ones again. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 324).

The final phase in the change process is refreezing the organization by stabilizing or institutionalizing the changes. The continuing support and involvement of top management is crucial to keep the changes present and securing against systems retreating to old ways. It might even be necessary to recruit new staff, who are not familiar with the old ways of doing things and therefore will help keep the new changes in place. Symbolic changes such as a change of logo and outfits can also have a big impact on reinforcing changes. In this phase, it is important to use collected data and feedback to keep track on how the changes are performing and progressing. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 324 - 325).

The hard and soft systems models of change offer a way to address the issues whether they are simple or complex. There is no one best way to achieve successful organizational change but the topics discussed in this section will make it possible to understand the wide variety of change situations and the paths to change. The key areas that are crucial for managing change can be summarized as:

- Continuous internal and external environmental scanning to get early warnings of change triggers.
- Understanding the different types of change.
- Understanding the differences between the strategies for managing change and when to use which.

Persistence is also the key to bring about change. Persisting in situations which seem at first insoluble and understanding that nothing is perfect and that people will act in a hostile manner when the stability of the organization is shaken up, but change is necessary and certainly worth the journey. (Senior & Swailes, 2010, pp. 385 - 386). In the next subchapter, the recommended structure for leading change is presented.

4.5 Leadership and change

Change efforts can be difficult and failure is always possible, but without adequate leadership the change process will surely be unsuccessful. Kotter (1996) proposes an eight-stage process of creating major change that leaders can follow to achieve successful change. The eight stages are:

1. Establishing a sense of urgency
2. Creating the guiding coalition
3. Developing a vision and strategy
4. Communicating the change vision
5. Empowering broad-based action
6. Generating short-term wins
7. Consolidating gains and producing more change
8. Anchoring new approaches in the culture

Successful change goes through all eight stages and the sequence is usually as shown above. Organizations tend to operate in multiple stages at once, but skipping a step or getting too far ahead without completing the previous steps can cause problems. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 20 - 21, 23 - 24). In the next few chapters the eight stages will be described in more detail.

4.5.1 Building the foundation

Establishing a sense of urgency is important to gain cooperation in the organization. If the organization is in a state of complacency, any change effort usually goes nowhere because few people are interested in working with problems that they perceive not urgent. Sources of complacency can be many, often its human nature to deny problems if people are already busy or stressed but small changes may also be overlooked if they do not appear as a visible crisis. Complacency can also be a sign that there are low overall performance standards and structures that focus employees on narrow goals. Pushing up the urgency level requires that sources of complacency are removed or minimized. Ways to raise the urgency level can be to inform people on future opportunities, on the rewards for capitalizing on those opportunities, and on the organizations current inability to achieve those opportunities. Middle and lower-level managers can create a change coalition to sell the vision of change to others and increase urgency, but to do this they need sufficient autonomy. Without sufficient autonomy, a change effort can be doomed from the start if it takes place in a small unit in an organization beset by complacency. Therefore, senior executives are usually needed in any effort to increase urgency because they have the power. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 36, 40, 42, 44, 47).

Creating the guiding coalition is a crucial stage, it is easy to think that major change happens through decisions of one highly visible individual but in reality, the process is so difficult that no one individual could develop the right vision, communicate it to a large number of people, eliminate all obstacles, generate short-term wins, manage dozens of change projects, and anchor new changes in the organizational culture. A strong guiding coalition is needed which has the right composition, trust, and shared objectives. Putting together such a team is therefore an essential task in the early stages of leading change. Four key characteristics are needed in a successful guiding coalition. They are:

- Position power: There needs to be enough key people on board, like senior executives and main line managers, so that those who are not in the coalition cannot easily block progress.
- Expertise: For the coalition to make informed, intelligent decisions there needs to be expertise relevant to the task at hand adequately represented.
- Credibility: If pronouncements by the coalition is to be taken seriously by others there needs to be enough people with good reputation in the coalition.
- Leadership: The coalition needs enough proven leaders to be able to drive the change process forward.

The last characteristic is especially important, the guiding coalition needs a balance of both management and leadership, one keeps the process under control while the latter drives the change. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 51 - 52, 57 - 58).

Developing a vision and strategy is the third stage and clarifies the direction of change. A good vision serves three purposes. First, as mentioned, it clarifies the general direction for change. Second, it motivates people to work towards the right direction. Third, it coordinates the actions of people in a fast and efficient way. People often disagree on direction or are confused, that is why it's so important to clarify the direction of change with an effective vision and strategies, because it resolves issues of endless debates and confusion. Without a good vision a great strategy can rarely inspire the kind of action needed in leading change. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 68 - 70). In figure 29 there is an illustration of the relationship between vision, strategies, plan, and budgets.

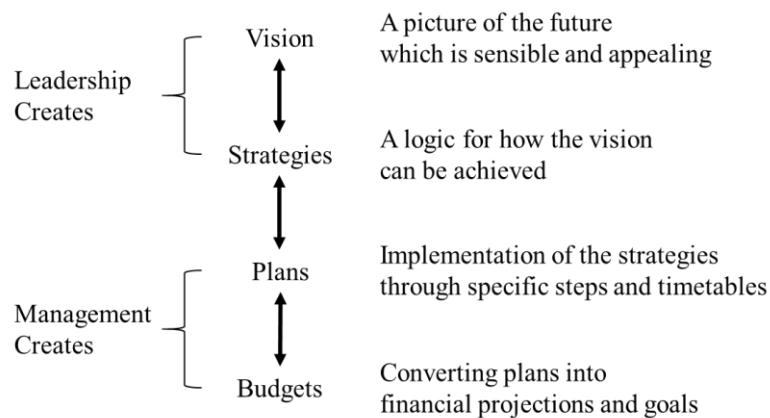


Figure 29. The relationship of vision, strategies, plans, and budgets (Kotter, 1996, p. 71)

Creating a vision might be only one element in a larger system, but it is still an especially important element. Without a good vision strategy making can become a problematic activity, due to lack of direction and vision of the future resulting in a process where little is made to reach grander success. An effective vision has six key characteristics. These characteristics are:

- Imaginable: Describes a picture of what the future will look like.
- Desirable: Includes possibilities that are in the best interest of most people.
- Feasible: An effective vision needs to be realistic and attainable.
- Focused: Is clear enough to provide structure and guidance in decision making.
- Flexible: Is general enough to allow altering, in light of changing conditions.
- Communicable: Is easy to successfully communicate in a short amount of time.

An ineffective vision can be worse than no vision at all. Poorly developed visions can send people working towards goals that will only damage the organization while having no vision will eventually undermine a change effort. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 71 - 72, 83).

4.5.2 Increasing momentum

Communicating the change vision is essential, because the real worth of a vision is revealed only when most of those involved in an organization have a common understanding of its goals. This task can be difficult, especially in large organizations. The guiding coalition can spend a few hundred hours working on a vision but then expect others to comprehend the

vision in a fraction of that time. To solve the problem, seven key elements need to be included to achieve effective communication of vision. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 85 - 88). The seven key elements are:

- Simplicity; To be clear and concise is much harder than overcomplicated and wordy, but focused information can be disseminated to larger groups of people more easily.
- Metaphor, analogy, and example; Well-chosen words can make information memorable and communicate a complicated idea quickly and effectively.
- Multiple forums; A message stands a better chance of being remembered when multiple outlets are used, such as group meetings, memos, newspapers, posters, and informal one-on-one talks.
- Repetition; To effectively transfer information deeply into the recipient's consciousness repetition is needed.
- Leadership by example; Problems regarding credibility disappear when employees see top management acting out the change vision.
- Explanation of seeming inconsistencies; If the change vision requires, for example, cost-cutting then management can't be seen leasing jets for executive use without addressing the reason simply and honestly.
- Give-and-take; Costly problems can be averted by briefing employees of upcoming changes and then through the feedback fixing possible problems that management had missed.

Empowering employees for broad-based action is the fifth stage in creating successful change. Completing the steps in stage four offers already possibilities to empower people but numerous obstacles can still exist that stop employees from creating needed change. Therefore, in this stage the goal is to remove as many barriers that might still exist. The biggest barriers to empowerment are usually structures, skills, systems, and supervisors. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 89 - 100, 102). In figure 30 there is an illustration of the mentioned four biggest barriers to empowerment and how they trap employees who try to reach the vision.

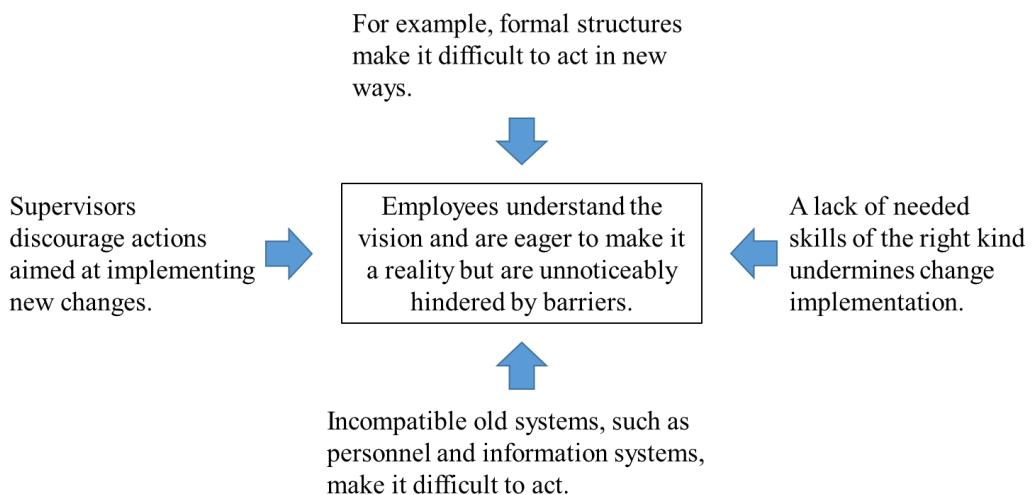


Figure 30. A summarization of the biggest barriers to empowerment (Kotter, 1996, p. 102)

Structural barriers may arise in situations where the change vision is not compatible with the present structure of the organization. For example, if the organization wants to focus on the customer but the structure fragments resources and responsibility for products and services so much that employees cannot deliver without working seamlessly together with four different organizations, this structural barrier makes, therefore, the vision nearly impossible to reach without structural changes. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 103 - 106).

Lack of skills can undermine any change effort; training is often provided but it is usually not the right kind or done at the right time. Giving a five-day education in technical skills will not change habits built up over years regarding social skills, behaviour, and attitudes. Old work habits might be irrelevant after changes have been made and will only halt progress. Attitude training is therefore as important as technical skills training to put a new vision to work, as fast as possible. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 106 - 109).

Different old systems for performance appraisal, compensation, promotions, and succession planning might not be aligned with new changes and will therefore not entice employees into accepting new ways of working. These systems are typically associated with human resources which is often left with highly bureaucratic personnel functions which makes altering practices difficult. Nevertheless, if outdated systems are at odds with the new vision then the only solution is to deal with the inconsistencies directly. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 109 - 111).

The last barrier to empowerment can come from troublesome supervisors who refuse to change their work style which suppresses initiative and creativity, such styles are usually command-and-control based and will hinder empowerment. There is no easy solution to deal

with this sort of problem, but the best solution is to try to have an honest dialogue with a problematic supervisor and clarify the situation and expectations. If the person is still incapable of changing, then the last resort is replacement. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 112 - 114).

Successfully dealing with barriers to empowerment allows organizations to tap an enormous source of power where the right structure, training, systems, and supervisors creates hundreds or thousands of employees capable of providing leadership to reach the needed change. (Kotter, 1996, p. 115). The next section will explain stage six in creating successful change.

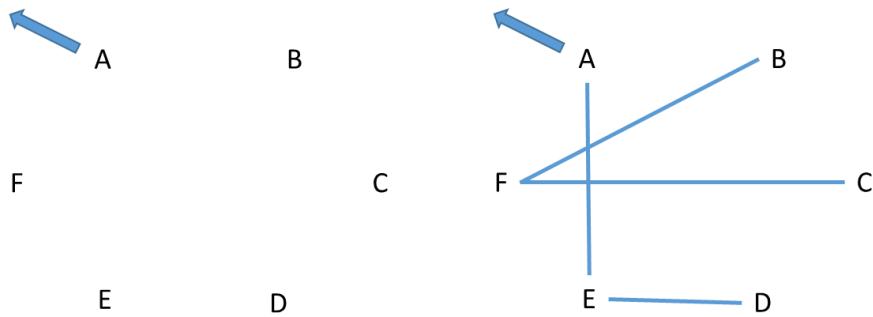
Generating short-term wins is the sixth stage and will help transformations in at least six ways. First, it provides evidence that the present efforts and costs are worth it and that they are making the organization stronger. Second, having the possibility to celebrate little wins after a lot of hard work will boost morale and motivation. Third, short-term wins make it possible to test the vision against concrete conditions and help fine-tune the vision and strategies if needed. Fourth, providing evidence of improvements in performance will quickly silence cynics and other resisters to change. Fifth, the visible results from short-term wins will help keep the bosses on board. Finally, short-term wins help build momentum by transforming disinterested and reluctant employees into supporters and active helpers. Short-term wins will not come about on their own, the guiding coalition needs to plan for short-term wins, organize, and implement the plan to make short-term wins happen. The goal is not to maximize results but to make sure that improvements are visible to lend sufficient credibility to the change effort. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 122 - 126).

Before moving to the last two stages it is helpful to mention what the stages so far have created. The first six stages are in a way primarily supposed to build up sufficient structure and momentum to survive stages seven and eight where a solid foundation of credibility and powerful drive is needed to bring the change effort forward. (Kotter, 1996, p. 130).

4.5.3 Generating and securing change

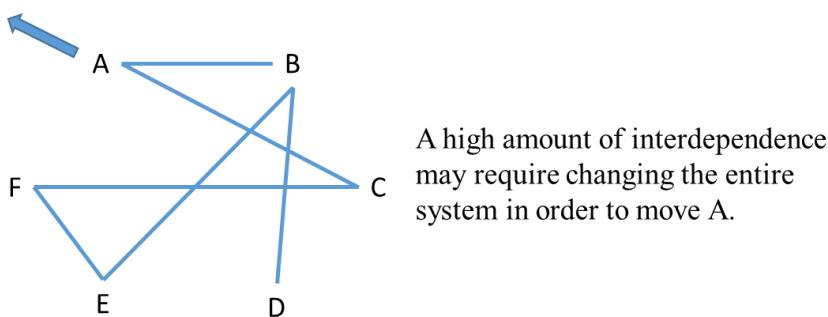
Consolidating gains and producing more change is the seventh stage and the most difficult stage in the transformation process. The biggest mistake to do at this stage is accidentally lowering the urgency level by making it seem like the difficult work of change is over and the rest is easy. Therefore, losing in process all momentum built up in previous stages. Until changed practices have been built into the culture, which will take place in stage eight, they

can be quite easily disregarded. Stage seven is also difficult because the amount of change will vastly increase, because in modern organizations everything is more interdependent and changing one thing will usually lead to changing a whole lot more, if not everything. Figure 31 illustrates well the notion of interdependence in systems and how changing one thing might prove more difficult than first imagined. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 132, 134 - 136).



If a system only consists of independent elements then A can simply be moved without changing others.

A Moderate amount of interdependence in a system may require changing several elements (A, E, D) in order to move A.



A high amount of interdependence may require changing the entire system in order to move A.

Figure 31. Change efforts in systems with varying interdependence (Kotter, 1996, p. 137)

To accomplish this monumental task, it is important that the empowerment from earlier stages exists because no one person can handle hundreds if not thousands of change elements. These elements can amount to many change projects and to successfully tackle them all executives need to lead the overall effort but delegate most of the managerial and leadership work as low as possible in the organization. This way, there can be hundreds of people available to help with the change projects who have much more relevant information than the senior executives. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 140 - 142). Below is a summarization of the qualities that the guiding coalition needs to deal with in stage seven:

- More change: The momentum from previous stages is used to tackle more and bigger change projects.
- More help: While the amount of change projects increase, more people are brought in, promoted, and developed to help.
- Leadership from senior management: Urgency levels can be kept up by having senior people focus on clarifying and maintaining the shared purpose for the overall change effort.
- Project management and leadership from below: To operate many projects at the same time, help from lower ranks in the hierarchy will be used to lead and manage the multitude of projects.
- Reduction of interdependencies: By identifying unnecessary interdependencies and eliminating them, change is made easier in both the short and long term.

Changing anything in highly interdependent systems might take years and at the extreme be a decade-long process. Here, again, is where strong leadership and management is vital. Leaders are willing to think long term with compelling vision and stay the course to accomplish objectives while management will set logical short-term wins and visible progress. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 143 - 144).

Anchoring new approaches in the culture is the last stage and the goal is to thoroughly anchor new practices into the organizational culture. Employees might be accepting new practices during the transformation because the urgency level is high and the guiding coalition is enforcing changes, but when the transformation program ends, the old culture with its old practices might slowly reassert itself. Therefore, it is crucial that measures are taken to ensure that the new practices stick by changing shared values and group norms. This process should take place in the end of the transformation because culture changes first when employees can see that their new practices produce some group benefit and is connected to the overall performance improvements. Throughout the transformation process changes are made in attitudes and behaviour to, for example, create more teamwork among the guiding coalition. But it is only at the end pf the process that the truly powerful norms and values are anchored. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 146, 155 - 156). Below is a summarization of the key features of anchoring new approaches in the culture.

- Comes last: Alterations in norms and values come at the end of transformation process.
- Needs results: New practices merge into a culture only after the new results are superior than the results from the old methods.
- A lot of talk: During the process, verbal instructions and support are needed in order get employees to admit the validity of new practices.
- Replacement: Sometimes to change the culture people may be required to be changed also, people with different kind of experience are often needed to create any change.
- Succession planning: It is important to make sure that candidates being considered, for example, to replace the CEO or other promotions have none of the old culture in their minds.

The reason the transformation process has eight stages is mostly because the extraordinary difficulty of changing cultures. There needs to be time to produce needed results and confidence that the new changes are worth the effort. (Kotter, 1996, pp. 157 - 158).

The information handled in the chapter 4 will be used to develop an action plan. This will be done by defining the type of change, analysing for change obstructs, and choosing and structuring an implementation strategy. The next chapter will summarize the theoretical framework.

5 Theory summation

The main theoretical subjects handled, have been: activity-based costing, leadership, and change management. Some supplementary subjects have been legal, robotic telepresence, and change leadership. As mentioned in the beginning, and at the end of each chapter, the theory will be used to complete the three first steps, in the action research model, which will also answer the research questions. Subsequent chapters are named by the three steps in the action research model. Starting with analysing current situation and developing a vision for change. But first, a short overview of the, two other, research methods used. The interviews and survey.

5.1 Interviews

The goal of the interviews, with the commissioner, was to get as much qualitative information as possible. An interview as a method was concluded as the best option to obtain qualitative information. Two interviews were held, the first one through the phone, and the second one in-person in Helsinki. The interviews were divided, because information about the current situation was required before the topic in the second interview could be handled. The second interview involved presenting the potential solution to the commissioner and discussing the responsibilities of a manager, and hearing the commissioner's opinions of the proposed solution, involving robotic telepresence. The interviews are described in more detail in subchapter 7.3.

5.2 Survey

The goal of the survey, sent to the hotel managers, was to get qualitative and quantitative information, regarding robotic telepresence and cultural aspects of the workplaces. The information will be used in the obstructs analysis in subchapter 8.3. A survey as a method was chosen, due to its ability to gather a large amount of information in a short amount of time. Ideally it would have been good to interview the hotel managers, but this would have taken too long and possibly made little difference in the end. The survey is handled in more detail in subchapter 8.3.

6 Analyse current situation

This chapter and its subchapters put into practice the theory from chapter 2, regarding activity-based costing and management. Current activities in the work process will be defined with ABC and with the information a vision for change will be developed with ABM. Information from the interviews with the commissioner will be handled in this chapter, but both interviews are described in detail in chapter 7.

6.1 Creating an ABC system

As stated in chapter 2, the two first steps in developing a ABC system are to identify all the activities and cost drivers in a process. During the first interview with regional manager Juntunen (2016) the activities during consultation trips to hotels were defined as: preparation, travel, meeting, overnight stay, and evaluation. The chain of activities starting

with preparation is illustrated in figure 32, which also portrays how some activities are performed multiple times during the process, the reason for this will be explained later. The cost drivers were theorized to be: the number of topics needing to be handled, number of travel moments, and number of overnight stays needed. These cost drivers are also illustrated in figure 32 under each activity.

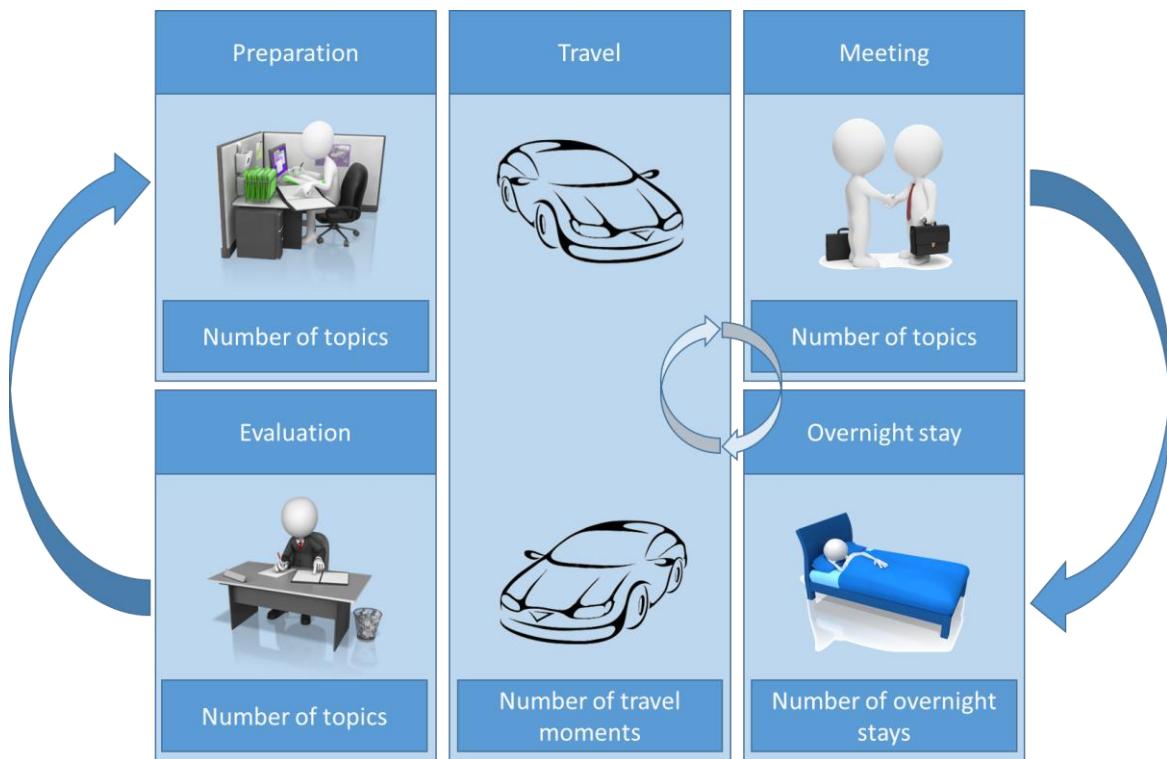


Figure 32. The current activity chain, which also illustrates how some activities can be performed multiple times before finishing with the evaluation (Juntunen, 2016)

The chain of activities starts with preparing for the different topics to be handled during a consultation trip. The cost driver for this activity is the number of topics to be handled. Each hotel can have varying amounts of topics to be handled and the longer the list the longer the preparation will take. The next activity is to travel to the hotel where the topics will be handled. The number of travel moments between the main office in Helsinki and the destinations is the cost driver for this activity. During the interview with regional manager Juntunen (2016) it was stated, that to save time and resources, hotels near each other are bundled together into groups. In these cases, the travel moments between each hotel becomes the cost driver. Four groups were defined and are illustrated in figure 33 with different colours for each group.

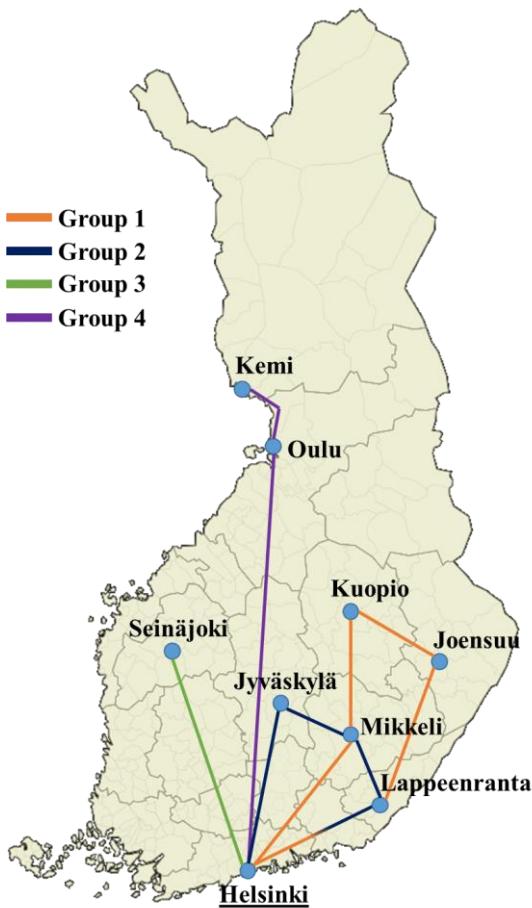


Figure 33. Single and grouped travel routes (Juntunen, 2016)

The hotel in Seinäjoki, is the only one visited separately. For the hotels that are grouped together, the activities travel, meeting, and overnight stay happen multiple times before the evaluation activity is performed back in Helsinki. The overnight stay activity happens at every hotel, even when they are grouped together. This fact is illustrated in figure 32, with the circular smaller arrows between the activities. But moving on to the third activity, in the chain, the actual meeting in a hotel. As you may have noticed, the cost driver for the meeting activity is the same one as the cost driver for the preparation activity. This is simply because the number of topics handled will also dictate the duration of the meeting. After the meeting, the next activity in the chain is the overnight stay, which as explained occurs at each hotel after a meeting. The cost driver for this activity is the number of overnight stays. After this, the next activity is again to travel, either back to Helsinki or to another hotel. If the destination is another hotel, then the activities meeting and overnight stay are repeated. If the destination is Helsinki, then the next and finishing activity is the evaluation of the topics handled at all the hotels. The evaluation activity has also the same cost driver as the preparation activity. Namely the number of topics, to be evaluated.

As it was stated in chapter 2 it is beneficial to make a two-dimensional ABC model with both financial and non-financial information. The two dimensions of the model were called process view and cost assignment view. Information about cost objects, activities, and cost drivers are part of both dimensions, but there are still two more aspects left to define before a complete picture of the process can be seen. Below in figure 34 is an illustration of the two-dimensional ABC model with the information handled so far. The cost objects have been defined as consultation, planning, monitoring, and connecting. However, the cost objects could be simply defined as the responsibilities of a regional manager.

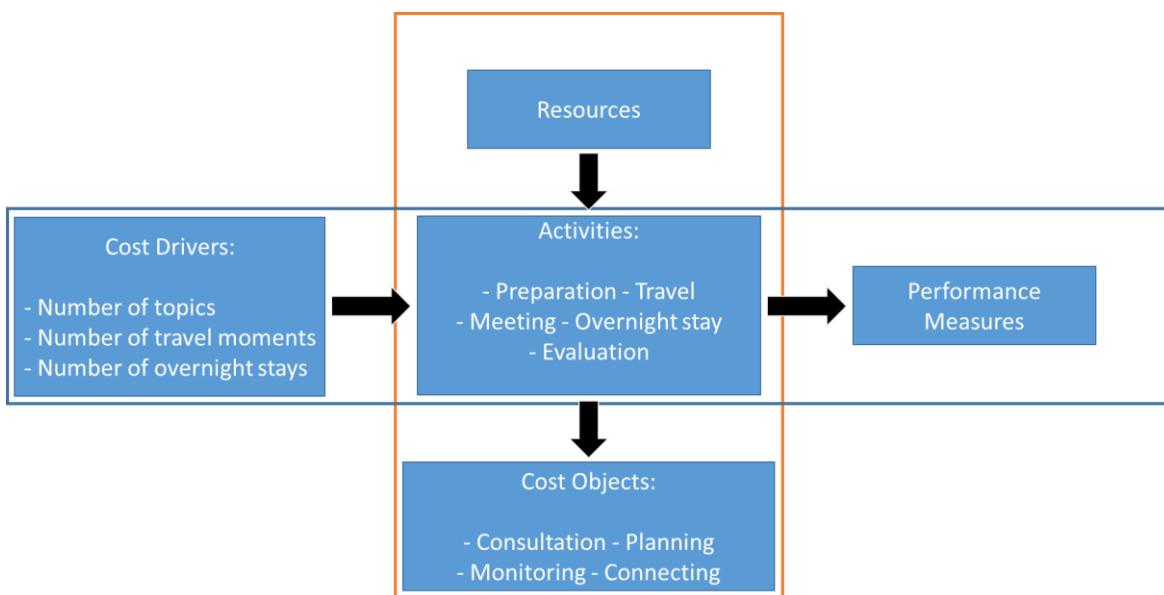


Figure 34. Two-dimensional ABC model

As it can be seen from figure 34 the two aspects left to define are resources and performance measures. The theory stated that cost objects create activities and activities create the need for resources. The first resource that comes to mind is time. The working hours needed to prepare, travel, handle topics, sleep, and evaluate. Second resource is fuel and the money needed to refuel. The travel activity has the most noticeable unneeded costs that do not add any value to the process. The third resource is the distance travelled, because the vehicle used is replaced, according to the commissioner, every 3 years or when 150000 km have been driven. Lastly, since almost all organizations have environmental quotas nowadays, that the fourth resource is emissions. Cumulus City & Resort state that the environment is important to them, so they invest in responsible operations and environmental issues. All the activities, and the resources they consume, are summarized in table 6 where a ABC system has been created. For the travel activity, only a summary is visible in table 6. The detailed steps for the travel activity are visible in appendix 1.

Table 6. Activities and the consumed resources.

Activities & Resources				
Preparation		Meeting		
Total indirect cost per year: 240 h Total number of topics prepared per year: 960 Cost allocation rate: 15 min per topic <u>Cost of preparation per month: 20 h</u>		Total indirect cost per year: 480 h Total number of topics handled per year: 960 Cost allocation rate: 30 min per topic <u>Cost of meeting per month: 40 h</u>		
Travel				
<u>Per month</u>	<u>Group 1</u>	<u>Group 2</u>	<u>Group 3</u>	<u>Group 4</u>
Total travel time:	10h	8h	10h	15h
Total distance:	1020km	748km	800km	1410km
Total CO ₂ :	149940 g	110248 g	117600 g	207270 g
Total fuel price:	83 €	61 €	65 €	115,05 €
Overnight stay		Evaluation		
Total indirect cost per year: 672 h Total number of overnight stays per year: 96 Cost allocation rate: 7 h per hotel <u>Cost of overnight stays per month: 56 h</u>		Total indirect cost per year: 240 h Total number of topics evaluated per year: 960 Cost allocation rate: 15 min per topic <u>Cost of evaluation per month: 20 h</u>		

(Juntunen, 2016) (Öljy- ja biopoltoaineala ry, 2017) (Skoda Suomi, 2017)

It must be noted that all the information in table 6 are mostly approximate numbers, involving time, gathered from the interview with the commissioner. However, information regarding the vehicle and fuel used have been referenced from homepages of Skoda Suomi (2017) and Ölty- ja biopoltoaine ry (2017). The information in table 6 depicts a generalised situation where each hotel is visited once per month, with hotels part of group 1 and 2 visited twice due to the groups overlapping. However, according to the commissioner the number of visits to each hotel can vary between 10 to 15 each year, the number depends on how difficult the situations are in the hotels and how many topics must be handled.

In table 7 is a summarization of the resources needed if each hotel was visited separately once a month, to help with sudden problems or other unplanned topics. The increased amount of resources needed, and environmental impact, each month from just a single visit,

makes it clear why the hotels are strived to be visited in groups and not separately. The information from table 7 can be used later in the thesis, as a motive why simply traveling to a hotel, when they need consultation outside the scheduled trips, is not a viable solution to the problem at hand.

Table 7. Resources used if each hotel is travelled to separately.

Activities & resources								
Travel separately								
<u>Per month:</u> Lappeenranta Mikkeli Kuopio Joensuu Jyväskylä Seinäjoki Oulu Kemi								
Total travel time:	6h	6h	10h	12h	6h	10h	14h	16h
Total distance:	500km	500km	840km	940km	540km	800km	1240km	1410km
Total CO ₂ :	73500 g	73500 g	123480 g	138180 g	79380 g	117600 g	182280 g	207270 g
Total fuel price:	40 €	40 €	68 €	76 €	43 €	65 €	100 €	114 €

(Skoda Suomi, 2017) (Öljy- ja biopoltoaineala ry, 2017) (Juntunen, 2016)

Now that all the aspects of the cost assignment view are stated, it can be noted that the travel and overnight stay activity consume the most resources with no added value to the cost objects. These activities are where cost reductions and improvements can possibly be made.

To complete the process view, in the two-dimensional ABC model, the performance measures need to be defined. The theory stated that there are three aspects to be measured: the efficiency of the activity, time used to complete the activity, and the quality of the completed activity. It was also stated that activities are interdependent, which affects cost drivers. For example, if the travel activity is prolonged for any reason, then the meeting activity will most likely be rescheduled, which then again reschedules all the meetings in the travel group. In table 8, on the next page, is a summarization of theorized performance measures for each activity in the current work process.

Table 8. Performance measures of each activity.

Performance measures	
Preparation	Meeting
Efficiency: 1 topic every 15 min	Efficiency: 1 topic every 30 min
Time: 2h 30 min per hotel	Time: 5h per hotel
Quality: Percentage of revised preparation	Quality: Percentage of reworked meetings
Travel	Overnight stay
Efficiency: 80-100 km driven per hour	Efficiency: 7h of uninterrupted sleep
Time: 8h – 15h	Time: 7h per hotel
Quality: Percentage of rerouting	Quality: Percentage of sleep deprivation
Evaluation	
Efficiency: 1 topic per 15 min Time: 2h 30 min per hotel Quality: Percentage of reworked evaluation	

(Juntunen, 2016)

Similarly, the numbers in table 8 are only estimates. Performance measures complete the process view, in the two-dimensional ABC model. To conclude this subchapter, it can be stated that the current situation consists of five activities, which some are found to be quite non-value adding. Initial discussion has also revealed that traveling to the hotels, solely to solve topics of smaller kind, would not be a viable solution to the presented problem. The next step is to manage the ABC information with ABM, to develop a vision for change, which will be a viable solution.

6.2 Develop a vision for change

The three steps to manage ABC information with ABM were stated as: to analyse the activities to find unnecessary ones or ones that can be improved, to analyse cost drivers and proceed the same way with them as in the first step, and to measure aspects that truly create value to a process.

In the previous subchapter, some unnecessary activities were already identified. The travel and overnight stay activity do not contribute any value to the process and they are also strongly interconnected, meaning that the overnight stay activity only occurs due to the travel activity. However, during the second interview with the commissioner, it was concluded that the current procedure that includes traveling cannot be removed altogether, but the amount of traveling cannot be increased either. Therefore, the procedure in figure 32, in subchapter

6.1, will stay and instead a new supplementary procedure will be created that removes the travel and overnight stay activities, by adding a virtual meeting activity. The new supplementary procedure would be used for quick consultations, monitoring, and other tasks mentioned by the commissioner in the second interview. The procedure would consist of an efficient chain of activities with no repetitive non-value adding activities. Below in figure 35 is an illustration of the proposed new procedure.

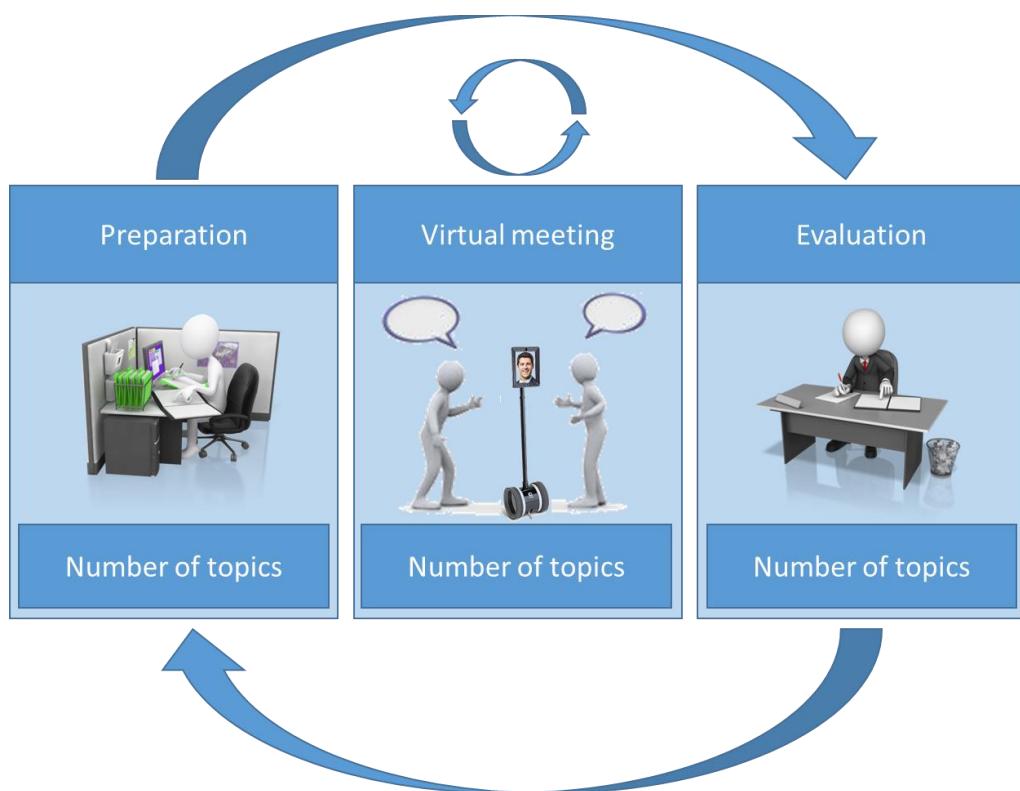


Figure 35. The suggested new activity chain for quick consultations and monitoring

Before the solution is implemented, it cannot be concluded for certain how the resources used by the preparation and evaluation activities change. But it can be theorized that the resources needed are less than the resources needed in the process where travel is still included. This is stated because only minor topics are handled through the supplementary process and can, therefore, be quickly prepared and evaluated. Resources required to perform the new virtual meeting activity are visible in figure 36. The remote client can be a Mac, PC, iPad, or iPhone. Additional add-ons needed are: internet connection, camera, microphone, and a robot control application, included with the purchase of the Double 2. The local client is, in this case, the Double 2 and costs 3000 euros, including the features illustrated in figure 4 in subchapter 1.1. However, the robot requires a recommended iPad Air 2 or iPad Pro to be purchased separately. Training and setup needed is minimal. How many topics handled and time used per year on virtual meetings can only be stated after implementation.

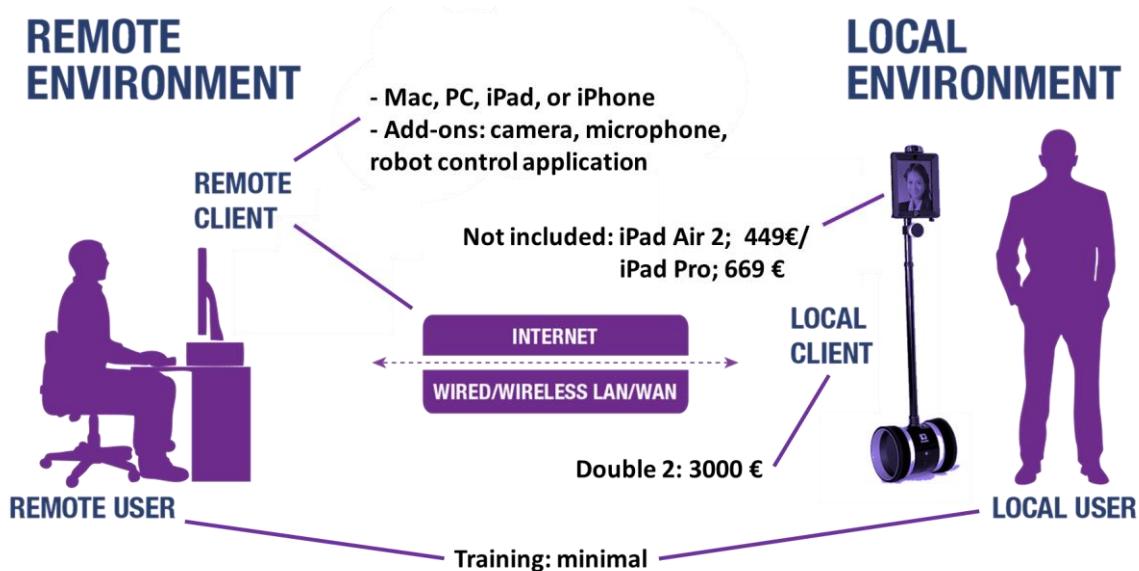


Figure 36. Resources needed for virtual meetings (Double Robotics, 2017) (Apple Inc, 2017)

The second step, in managing ABC information, was to analyse the cost drivers of the activities that were determined unnecessary. Because the only way to eliminate an activity, is to eliminate the cost driver. The cost drivers for the travel and overnight stay activity were the number of travel moments and number of overnight stays. In the new proposed supplementary process, the cost drivers have been eliminated together with the activities. Because there is no need to travel and stay overnight to handle small, sudden, topics when using the telepresence robot.

The last step, in ABM, was to measure aspects that matter. Now that the unnecessary activities are not part of the new supplementary process the only activities measured for the new process are the ones that truly bring value. The efficiency of the new virtual meeting activity would be measured by how long it takes to handle one topic. Time performance would be measured by how long a virtual meeting lasts at each hotel. Quality would be performed by the percentage of meetings that cannot be concluded without additionally traveling to the hotels. The performance measures of the supplementary process can be compared with the performance measures of the currently used process. If the performance of the current process increases, together with the supplementary measures, then it can be concluded that the supplementary process cuts the number of topics needed to be handled, during the scheduled trips, allowing the commissioner to concentrate solely on complex topics at the hotels.

The first step in the action research model has now been completed, which was to analyse the current situation and to develop a vision for change. The next step in the action research

model is to gain commitment to the developed vision for change. This will be done in the next chapter.

7 Gain commitment to the vision

This chapter and its subchapters involve the theory from chapter 3 regarding the taxonomy of leadership and the interviews with regional manager Juntunen. Commitment to the vision has been gained by detailing the capabilities of robotic telepresence and presenting this to the commissioner, during the second interview. It is impossible to state for certain that a managerial activity, behaviour, and philosophy can be completed fully through robotic telepresence, it will require that the solution is implemented first through a recommended pilot study. Details about the pilot study will be handled in chapter 8. However, it can be theorized which managerial activities, behaviour, and philosophies can be accomplished, by comparing an activity to the features of the recommended telepresence robot.

7.1 Possibility of completing managerial activities

The telepresence robot can allow tasks to be fulfilled, which require: speech, movement, and vision. Using the telepresence robot is the closest equivalent to in person visits. It was concluded, in the chapter concerning activities of managerial work, that the major responsibilities of managers are to ensure that organizational processes and work execution is handled appropriately and that a work climate where staff work willingly and effectively is integrated to the workplace. The basic activities of managerial work were stated as:

- To clarify the objectives and policy to the subordinates.
- To plan the work needed to reach the objectives and policy.
- To organize and distribute the activities and tasks to the subordinates.
- To direct and guide the subordinates through the work process.
- To control and monitor the performance of the work being carried out.

By using the telepresence robot objectives and policies can be clarified with open dialogue and eye contact between a manager and subordinate. Movement to desired locations around the workplace is also possible, which could help subordinates understand the given information better. Planning the work needed, with the robot, can be made with open

dialogue with subordinates and by being able to move and visualize the workplace, this will also help managers make better decisions when they can see the environment and discuss it more directly with the people in the local environment. Organizing and distributing work can be performed with the robot, by moving from different sections in the workplace and having an open dialogue about work activities with the subordinates in each section separately. The telepresence robot makes it also possible for managers to direct and guide subordinates through a work process, with open dialog, which allows managers to answer any questions effectively and motivate subordinates around the workplace. Control and monitoring can be performed because the robot can be used at any time or when needed.

7.2 Possibility for behavioural and philosophical expression

The behaviours linked with effective leadership were stated as: task-, relations-, and change behaviour. The telepresence robot can fulfil tasks almost at an in-person level, with movement, vision, and audio. Assigning tasks to subordinates can be made at the location where the task is performed. Allowing a thorough discussion, regarding the task, to be held. Maintaining standards of performance can be accomplished by monitoring workers from time to time and offering feedback when needed. Directing activities of subordinates can also be done much more easily, when the manager can be at the location discussing the activities with the subordinates. These objectives so far were part of the task behaviour and show that the possibility to exert the behaviour is plausible. Relations and change behaviour can be exerted with the robot, by listening to a subordinate's problems and accepting their suggestions for changes. Consulting subordinates before making important decisions is similarly possible. By being able to move around the workplace and understanding the work environment, managers can more effectively implement changes to: strategies, products, and processes.

The philosophies to successfully manage people includes treating subordinates with: consideration, respect, and trust. With the telepresence robot, recognition and credit can be delivered individually with an in-person feel, which will help subordinates know that their work is appreciated and respected. Another philosophy was about involvement and availability. With the robot, managers can fully understand difficulties of subordinates by involving themselves more with the local environment. The possibility for open dialogue will also ensure that the communication and feedback flows unhindered. However, it must be noted that too much involvement, through the telepresence robot, could lead to excessive supervision, which inhibits free action and empowerment. Positive action on an individual

basis and equitable treatment of subordinates can be achieved by addressing individual subordinates on a more in-person level with the telepresence robot.

How successfully human expression, emotions, and body language can be portrayed through robotic telepresence will determine how well a managerial activity, behaviour, and philosophy can be performed through robotic telepresence. These are aspects that can only be found out during the pilot study. During the interviews with the commissioner, which will be described in the next subchapter, points about the importance of body language and the difficulty of certain complex tasks were expressed.

7.3 Interviews with the commissioner

Two interviews were held with the commissioner, the first was held through the phone on 30.9.2016, and the second was held in-person in Helsinki on 11.1.2017. During the phone interview, only one question was asked:

- Could you explain in detail the procedure and resources needed to visit all the hotels for consultation and other tasks belonging a regional manager.

The interview through the phone was held to analyse the current situation and to develop a vision for change, which was presented in the second interview to the commissioner, to gain commitment to the vision. The details learned from the phone interview were stated and illustrated in chapter 6. The interview questions are visible in Finnish in appendix 2.

During the in-person interview with the commissioner, the aspects of the telepresence robot were explained and any questions were answered, in order for the commissioner to have sufficient understanding of the robot. Then afterwards, the following questions were asked:

- According to your own opinions, what are the central tasks and aims in the job of a regional manager?
- Do you think the use of a telepresence robot could hinder completing some aspects of your job?
- Do you think there are some aspects that could improve with the use of a telepresence robot?
- Do you have any questions, own thoughts, or wishes of the telepresence robot?

The commissioner stated that the central tasks and aims are, in his own opinion, supporting the hotels in their daily work and in problem situations, helping them to find the best solutions and work patterns to push forward business operations in accordance with company objectives and policy. To develop the leadership skills of the hotel managers, informing about company goals and performance measures. Following situations with the help of the measures and intervening when it is necessary to steer the situation back on track, towards company goals. To monitor operations, by being close to staff, to understand the general vibe and work methods of the employees. Ensure that planned strategies are put into practice, addressing the hotel managers and the entire hotel staff, about the details of new strategies and procedures and working thereafter in cooperation with the managers. The commissioner also stated that it is important to convey the staff's feedback, opinions, and needs forward to upper management so that proper improvements can be made. Lastly, to praise and reward good performance and motivate in order to create job satisfaction but also offer constructive criticism when performance is lacking.

The central tasks and aims, described by the commissioner, correspond to the theory in the figures 14 and 15 in chapter 3. The next question asked, was about possible hindrances while using the telepresence robot.

According to the commissioner there are not directly any hindrances, but some tasks are too demanding to be solely done through the telepresence robot, such as strategy development and to handle situations where body language is significant. Therefore, it is still necessary to perform the scheduled consultation trips at the current frequency.

The following question was about possible improvements the telepresence robot could bring to the work process. To this question the commissioner answered that even if the in-person trips are still necessary the robot can allow things that previously were not possible or difficult to accomplish due to time shortage. Tasks such as being more available multiple times per day to help with ad-hoc matters, to monitor and follow situations more effectively, see if planned decisions are executed accordingly, to join the managers when they are doing their hotel check-up rounds and answer any quick questions they might have, and lastly to join small and sudden meetings that normally can't be attended.

The starting point for this thesis was the commissioner's problem. The stated problem was that he feels as if he cannot help sufficiently enough the hotels outside the scheduled consultation trips and that discussions through email and telephone are not enough to fully

understand the complex situations at the hotels. By reflecting the answers from this interview, it is already safe to say that the telepresence robot could possibly be the solution to the problem. The capabilities of the telepresence robot all cohere to improving the possibility to be more present at the hotels. The last questions regarded questions, opinions, and wishes from the commissioner, the answer is described below.

The commissioner was speculating if there are any drawbacks to the aspect to being able to monitor situations constantly, if employees feel uncomfortable or if it is even lawful. The manoeuvrability of the robot was taken into question, how easy is it to pass door thresholds and carpets. Juntunen also stated that it is important that downward and upward vision is possible but also overall good quality vision.

The legalities are handled in more detail in chapter 8. However, it can already be stated that some limitations to monitoring are dictated by Finnish law. The Double 2's inability to transmit a complete upward view could be a problem. But, according to the commissioner, considering all the other potential benefits of robotic telepresence, the need for complete upward view could be dismissed.

Overall, the commissioner was exited of the proposed vision for change so it can be stated that commitment to the vision was obtained. Therefore, the second step in the action research model has now been completed. The next step in the action research model is to develop an action plan. This will be done in the next chapter.

8 Develop an action plan

This chapter and its subchapters put into practice the theory from chapter 4 regarding change management and leadership and change but also theory from subchapter 3.2.2 regarding law. The chapter begins with defining the trigger for change and the type of the change. Followed by performing an analysis for potential change obstructs and detailing the solution model to implement the change. Concluding with additional considerations regarding contracts and law.

8.1 Trigger analysis

A need for change can be triggered by external and internal factors. Both factors can be part of the trigger. This chapter will begin with analysing the external environment and then proceed to analyse the internal environment.

To understand the external environment, performing a PEST analysis was recommended in subchapter 4.1. The analysis can also be used to find external change triggers. In table 9 a PEST analysis has been performed, the table contains central descriptions for each PEST factor, which describe the political, economic, socio-cultural, and technological states in both local and global surroundings.

Table 9. PEST analysis.

Political factors	The political situation is gripped by uncertainty. New investments are handled with caution due to the uncertain climate in Europe brought about by several governmental elections and other global political forces. However, the outlook for the tourism industry is on the positive side with little expected effects from political uncertainty on global travel numbers.
Economic factors	The Finnish economy is slowly starting to grow since the economic downturn. However, the growth is solely dependent on domestic demand, exports are likely to remain insignificant. Compared to other European countries, Finland is slightly behind in economic growth. Nevertheless, stable growth is expected until 2018. A study made by the Finnish ministry of economic affairs and employment, tourism has become ever more important for the Finnish economy. The Finnish governments goal for 2025 is to make Finland the number one travel destination among the Nordic countries.
Socio-cultural factors	Public concerns over the effects of global warming are setting actions in motion to implement changes that will mitigate and stop the damages caused by pollution. Multiple countries are focusing on solutions to reduce their pollution as soon as possible. Due to modern demographic patterns possessing concern for the environment, travel destinations with clean nature as the pull factor are the travel destinations dominating in 2017. In a recent study Finland was selected the third best travel destination in 2017.
Technological factors	Technological advancement is occurring at an astonishing rate. Advancements, such as automation, will increase productivity in multiple fields by allowing tasks to be completed more quickly and effectively. Technological advancements will make tasks requiring complex thinking more central in work processes while routine tasks are removed or simplified. Technological advancements will make constant learning and adaptation part of the work process.

(Autio, 2017) (Mark, 2017) (Suomen Pankki, 2016) (United Nations, 2016) (Max, 2016) (Työ- ja Elinkeinoministeriö, 2017) (Travel Trade, 2016)

The information from the PEST analysis outline an external environment characterised by uncertainty from both political instability and technological advancements. However, the uncertainty is also contrasted by stable growth and opportunities. The environmental

turbulence could be set at level 3, chosen from the five levels described in subchapter 4.1.2. The environment is quickly changing, and organization can have a hard time responding to developments. However, the future can still be predicted in some degree.

Change triggers are often a combination of external and internal factors. Therefore, the internal environment is first looked at before any conclusions of change triggers are made. The internal environment is studied by using the illustration of an organization as a system in figure 18 in subchapter 4.1.

The illustration of the organizational system in figure 18 depicted external factors, from the PEST analysis, around the organization. The external factors formed the external environment while the internal environment consisted of factors divided into formal and informal subsystems. Moreover, the organizational system turned inputs into outputs.

To make the illustration of the organizational system more clear, details of the problem presented by the commissioner can be added to the system illustration. The current system uses resources and employee knowledge to perform management processes, the used technology is limited to vehicles and stationary methods, such as phone calls and emails. These details are part of the inputs and the formal subsystems and are targeted by improvements in the solution model. Additionally, informal subsystems such as leadership style, culture, and politics are affected by management and processes, which will subsequently also be affected to some degree by the recommended solution model. This will be more closely analysed in subchapter 8.3. Both subsystems create outputs, formal and informal. The formal outputs are services offered to hotel guests, while the informal outputs are employee behaviour and job satisfaction. Both these outputs can be affected by the solution model, for the better if the solution is accepted, but for the worse if the solution is hated. The room for improvement in the internal environment is one part of the trigger for change.

The factors from the PEST analysis are the other parts of the trigger. The external environment presents opportunities. The technological factor offers an opportunity to improve the formal and informal subsystems with robotic telepresence. If the internal improvements result in higher quality outputs then the increased tourism opportunities from political, economic, and socio-cultural factors can be taken more fully advantage of, by offering quality outputs. In figure 37 the discussed aspects are summarized. On the left side,

the internal environment of the organization with the aspects that can be improved, and on the right, the opportunities from the external environment.

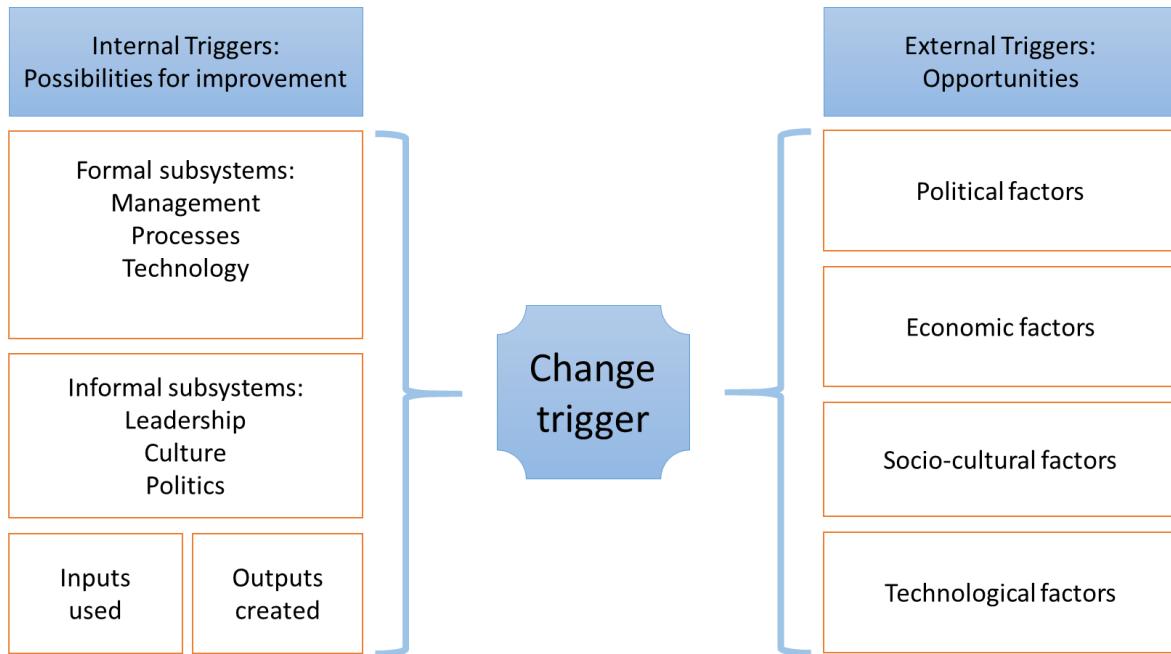


Figure 37. How the external and internal environments trigger change together.

Now that the trigger for change has been defined as a combination of internal improvement opportunities and external opportunities the action plan can be continued by defining the type of the change. The type will be analysed in the next chapter.

8.2 Type analysis

The pace and scope of the change can be analysed with the structure proposed in subchapter 4.2.1. Recap of the structure can be seen in table 10. The type of change, which best describe the situation, is highlighted with a green box in the table. The type of change is the continuous and convergent change. Reason for this will be explained next.

Driver; the need for change is triggered by opportunities and not direct threats, therefore, the current level of system instability in the organizational systems can be defined as minor. Form; the proposed change requires only small adaptations locally to existing frameworks at each hotel. Nature and feedback; the change can be described as emergent because the technology is relatively new and will possibly get positive feedback because the details of the telepresence robot can easily be learned and offers employees a chance to improvise and adapt the use of the robot to the needs at each hotel. Connections; the change can be added

without being forced to change a whole lot of other elements because the connections are loose due to the form of the change.

Table 10. Recap of the four types of changes.

		Scope	
		Convergent	Radical
Pace	Continuous	1. <i>Driver:</i> minor system instability. <i>Form:</i> small adaptations within an existing framework. <i>Nature:</i> emergent and local as people improvise and learn. <i>Feedback:</i> positive, encouraging deviations and adaptations. <i>Connections:</i> loose coupling which helps local conditions from amplifying.	2. <i>Driver:</i> major system instability. <i>Form:</i> frame-bending adaptations. <i>Nature:</i> emergent and system-wide as adaptions accumulate into patterns. <i>Feedback:</i> positive and negative feedback which pulls in two directions. <i>Connections:</i> tight coupling which enables local adaptations to amplify into radical change.
	Episodic	3. <i>Driver:</i> minor inertia. <i>Form:</i> minor replacement within an existing frame. <i>Nature:</i> intended and local. <i>Feedback:</i> negative, highlighting the need for minor replacement. <i>Connections:</i> loose coupling which requires local minor replacements.	4. <i>Driver:</i> major inertia. <i>Form:</i> dramatic frame-bending replacement. <i>Nature:</i> intended and system-wide. <i>Feedback:</i> negative, highlighting need for major replacement. <i>Connections:</i> tight coupling which requires system-wide radical replacement.

(Plowman, et al., 2007, p. 516)

The type of change described so far is small and manageable, which means that the change could be defined as an emergent type, which occurs from ongoing operations as organizations try to find a balance between their internal environment and the external environment, rather than a planned change which mostly occurs when a frame-breaking realignment of an organization is necessary.

Choosing a strategy to handle the change depended on whether the problem is categorized as hard or soft. To determine whether the problem is of hard or soft complexity a TROPICS test was proposed in subchapter 4.2.2. in figure 38 is a completed TROPICS test.

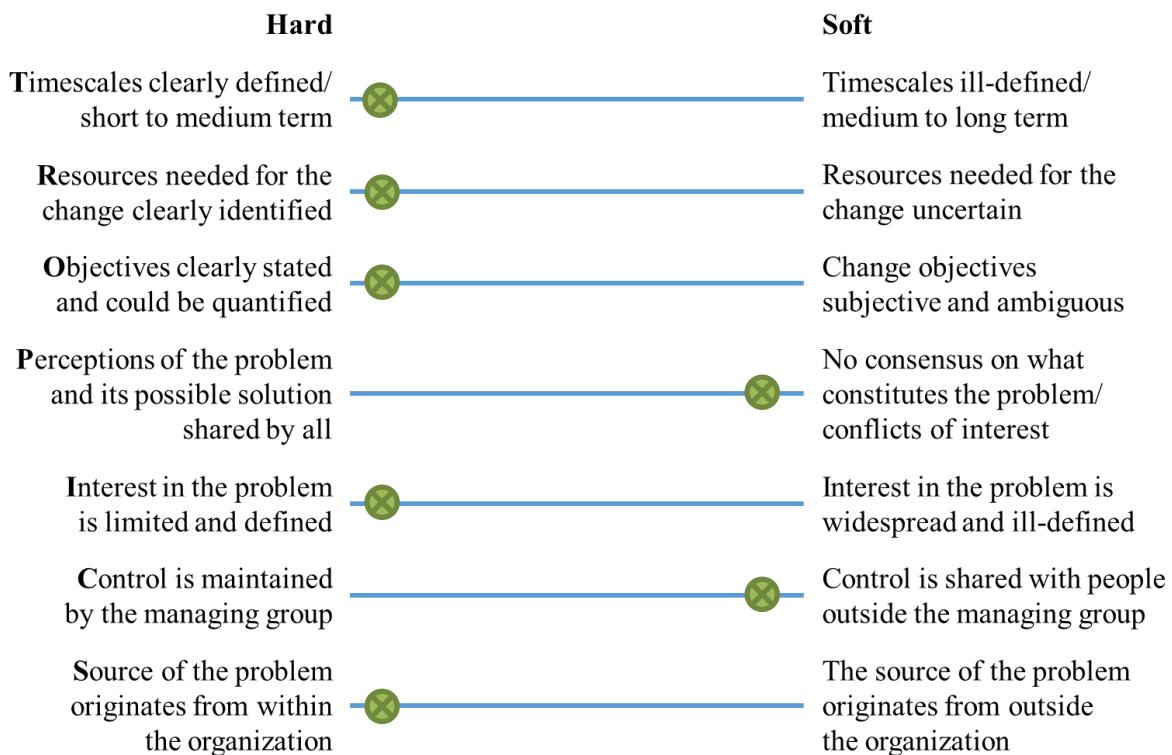


Figure 38. Completed TROPICS test.

The test shows that many of the aspects lean to the left, which means that the change could be defined as hard. Hard change consisted of problems that require change that is of smaller scale and less serious, there are also quantifiable objectives and solutions, and the timescale to fix the problem is known. Therefore, the first statement in the TROPICS test, regarding timescales, leans to the left because the starting point when the telepresence robot is active and allowing tasks to be performed is clear. The resources needed have also been identified. The objectives are stated, which is to improve connectedness. The objectives have been defined in subchapter 8.4, regarding the solution model. The fourth statement leans to the right because the problem and its solution is, presently, only shared by the commissioner and the author of this thesis. Subsequently, the interest in the problem is limited and defined to only two people. The fifth statement leans to the right because opinions from employees outside the managing group can affect how the change is implemented or if it is implemented at all. The last statement leans to the left because the problem is defined by internal improvement opportunities. The results from the TROPICS test match the defined pace and scope in the previous analysis, which depicted a relatively manageable change.

Now that the change is categorized the correct type of implementation strategy can be chosen. But first, potential obstructions must be analysed, which will be handled in the following subchapter.

8.3 Obstructs analysis

Organisational culture, politics, issues of power, cooperation, and conflict can influence organisational life and organisational change processes, by either supporting or hindering change. To analyse these potential obstructions a survey was sent by email to the hotel manager, reception manager, and restaurant manager at each hotel. There were 24 answers overall, which was the expected amount. The reason only the managers were surveyed, is because they exert positional power over others and if they are motivated to block change they have the most significant chance to do it. The commissioner also works more directly with these managers, while the rest of the hotel employees are more directly managed by the hotel managers. The blank survey questions are visible in appendix 3 and all the responses are visible in appendix 4.

To find out if there is any risk for political action, question 2 in the survey requested positive and negative opinions of the telepresence robot. Question 3 requested additional opinions or wishes regarding the subject, the question was marked as optional and got 20 answers. The two questions sought to answer if there are noticeable negative effects on: power balance, values and viewpoints, organizational control, and autonomy. These political aspects, introduced in subchapter 4.3.2, could start problems if negatively changed. The general contents of the responses from questions 2 and 3 have been summarized in figure 39.

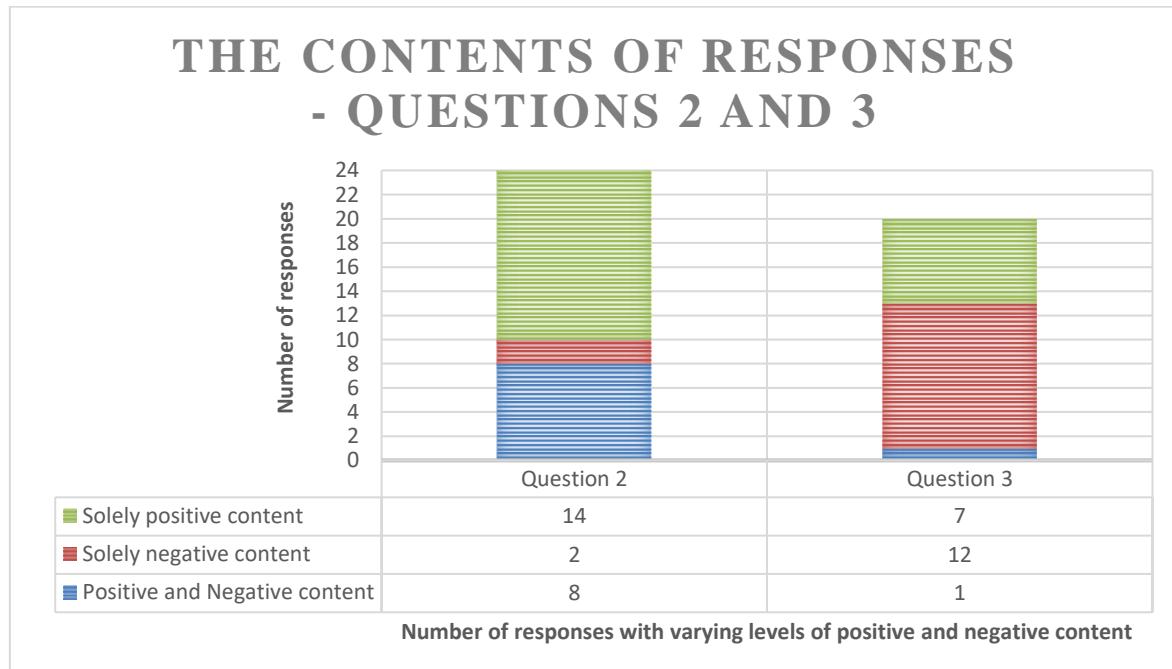


Figure 39. The contents of responses from questions 2 and 3.

The 24 responses from question 2 consist of 14 responses with a solely positive content, 2 with a solely negative content, and 8 with both a positive and negative content. The responses with positive content contain key statements such as: *it helps with communication, it helps with understanding complex situations faster, it helps with monitoring and controlling, it is not dependent of a local user's explanations, it increases availability and presence, it increases efficiency, it handles changes faster, it helps with work coordination, and urgent matters can be solved faster*. The responses with negative content contain key statements such as: *lack of human contact, not reliable in changing/chaotic environments, cannot portray human emotions/body language, cannot operate in stairs and elevators, cannot perform tasks that require hands, and too much control and monitoring causes harm*.

The 20 responses from question 3 consist of 7 responses with a solely positive content, 12 with a solely negative content, and 1 with both a positive and negative content. The responses with positive content contain key statements such as: *helps to create more work experiences, would be interesting to try, it is an interesting device, interested to know more, great that these things are discussed, would be exciting to see in the workplace, and could also be used to communicate between hotels*. The responses with negative content contain key statements such as: *too much control hinders growth and damages work relationships, it is still important to meet in person, humans are needed and irreplaceable, I hope self-checkout counters are not discussed next, robots cannot perform all tasks, hands are required, why are not existing methods enough, and work relationships are built in person*.

Analysing the responses from questions 2 and 3 reveals that many of the managers share the opinion that robotic telepresence can improve communication and that it can bring many other beneficial aspects into the commissioner's work process. However, the positive content is also contrasted with an obvious fear of negatively affecting organizational control and autonomy. Responses with a more strongly negative content depict a fear of getting replaced by robots, with many reminding that humans are irreplaceable in many tasks. From this initial analysis, emotional aspects in the workplace seem to be also an important part of the values and viewpoints of many managers, depicting a fear of emotional detachment. If the majority of the responders would have had a mostly negative view of the benefits of robotic telepresence, then the risk from political action would have been high. However, due to the situation being of the opposite kind, the focal point from this initial analysis is to make sure that the fears of the managers are not brought into reality. This information will be put into use in the next section, where a simple analysis proposes a strategy to deal with the fears.

In chapter 4.3.2 an analysis was introduced. The analysis required that two factors are understood, who holds sufficient power to block or assist change and the level of motivation to block change. We understand that the hotel managers have the power to block change if they feel negatively about it. However, the answers from the survey depict a generally positive view of the benefits from robotic telepresence, which suggests that the chances for political action is low. Below in figure 40 the analysis discussed earlier is recapped with an added green border around the most likely situation, which is category A.

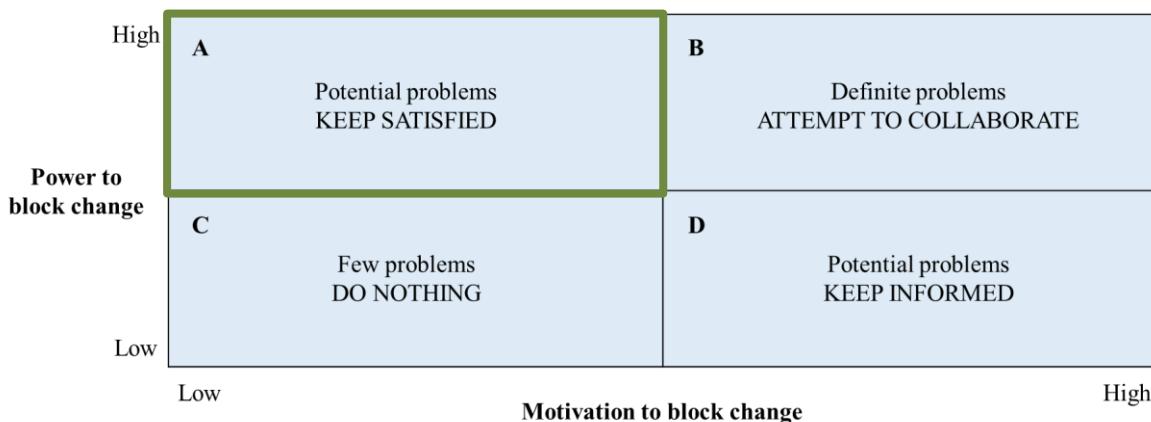


Figure 40. Recap of the analysis to categorize situations and recommended approaches (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 218)

Category A can be problematic if the situation changes. The motivation to block change might increase, moving the category to B. The strategy to deal with category A was stated as keeping individuals or groups satisfied by maintaining their awareness of how the proposed change might benefit them and clearing up misperceptions. Now that the risk of political obstructions have been analysed the risk from cultural obstructions will be analysed. The information needed to perform the analysis, was gathered from the question 4 in the survey.

Question 4 consisted of the four culture descriptions introduced in subchapter 4.3.1, regarding the compass model. In the question, each culture description could be rated between 1 to 5, where 1 meant completely incompatible with the answerers view of their workplace culture, and 5 meaning completely compatible with their workplace culture. The division of responses has been summarised in figure 41 on the next page. The division depicts how some of the culture descriptions are more compatible than others, going from a light blue to a darker blue colour. For example, the north culture type has up to 10 responses on the rate level 1, which means that many find it completely incompatible with their view of the workplace culture. Directly opposite is the east culture type that has zero responses on the rate level 1 and instead more responses on the rate level 5, which means that more find it completely compatible with their view of the workplace culture.

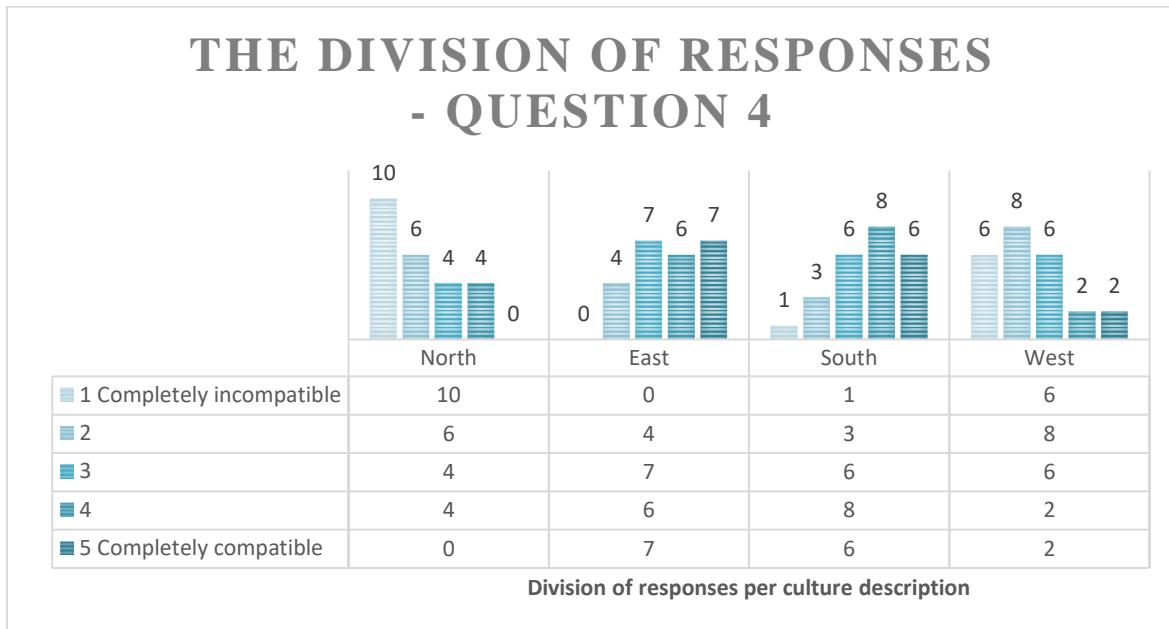


Figure 41. The division of responses from question 4.

The average rate for each culture type was calculated, to see which culture type has the highest compatibility. The data has been composed into figure 42, where a higher rate in the south and east culture types can be noted.

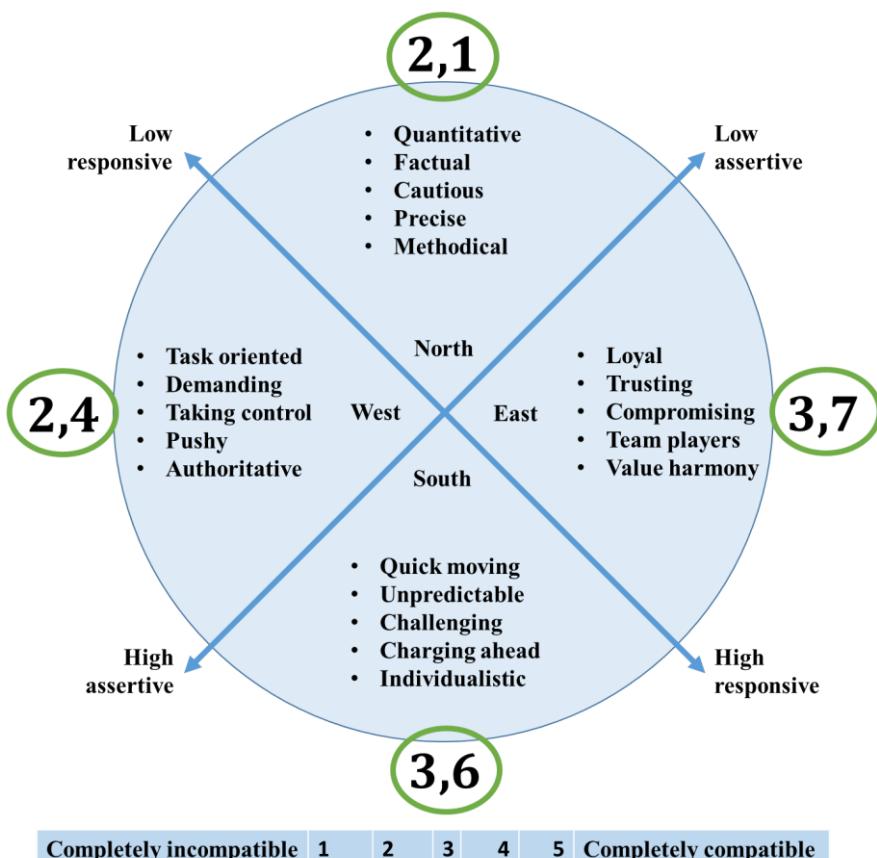


Figure 42. Recap of the four culture types in the compass model with the average score for each description.

The analysis suggests that the culture, most present in the hotels, is a mix of the east and south culture types. As stated in subchapter 4.3.1 the type of culture will imply how the organization will most likely react to change and contain also a certain amount of behaviour from each of the four types. Due to the mix of high and low assertiveness and high responsiveness, the results suggest a culture that accepts change if it creates progress and keeps things relatively stable, while simultaneously keeping the employees content. The high responsive nature of the culture was also reflected in the political obstructs analysis, where some managers were worried about emotional detachment when using the telepresence robot. Nevertheless, this initial analysis suggest that the culture is tolerant of change due to the south type being best for change. The west type was stated to be more accepting of change than the east type, but both were stated to be types that can handle change.

Now that all the potential obstructs have been analysed and concluded that there are no direct political or cultural threats to the proposed solution, the implementation strategy can be described. Because there are no informal threats, the strategy best suitable is the hard systems model of change.

8.4 Solution model

Because the change was defined as hard by the TROPICS test and the obstructs analysis did not show any signs of imminent problems from informal aspects, the strategy for designing, planning, and implementation the change is done with the hard systems model of change, which was introduced in subchapter 4.4.1. The HSMC strategy is best suited for situations where informal issues are minor and the change is overall of a smaller scale. The phases and stages in the HSMC strategy have been recapped below in table 11.

Table 11. Recap of the stages within the hard systems model of change.

Phases	Stages
Description	1. Situation summary 2. Identify objectives and constraints 3. Identify performance measures
Options	4. Generate options 5. Edit options and detail selected options 6. Evaluate options against measures
Implementation	7. Develop implementation strategies 8. Carry out the planned changes

(Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 287)

8.4.1 Description phase

The description phase will describe and diagnose the situation, by making clear the involved aspects and objectives. The first stage is to create a situation summary. The current situation was defined with the help of ABC, and the interviews with the commissioner, and illustrated as a process that included five activities: preparation, travel, meeting, overnight stay, and evaluation. The locations where the activities are performed were stated as: Lappeenranta, Mikkeli, Kuopio, Joensuu, Jyväskylä, Seinäjoki, Oulu, and Kemi. The problem, committed to be solved, in this thesis was to find a solution that makes it possible for the commissioner to have a greater level of connectedness with the hotels he is responsible over, than what current methods: travel, phone calls, video calls, and email allow. Preliminary analyses have showed that the trigger for the solution is a combination of internal improvement opportunities and external opportunities. The type of the change involved in the solution was defined as continuous and convergent, which implied an emergent change of hard complexity. An overview of the aspects mentioned have been compressed into table 12 where the main aspects of the situation summary are visible.

Table 12. Situation summary for the description phase.

Stage 1. Situation summary	
Current situation:  Activities from the ABC model.	Commitment: To find a solution that makes it possible for the commissioner to have a greater level of connectedness, with the hotels he is responsible over, than what current methods: travel, phone calls, video calls, and email allow.
Change trigger: -Internal improvement opportunities -External opportunities	Change type: -Continuous and convergent -Hard complexity

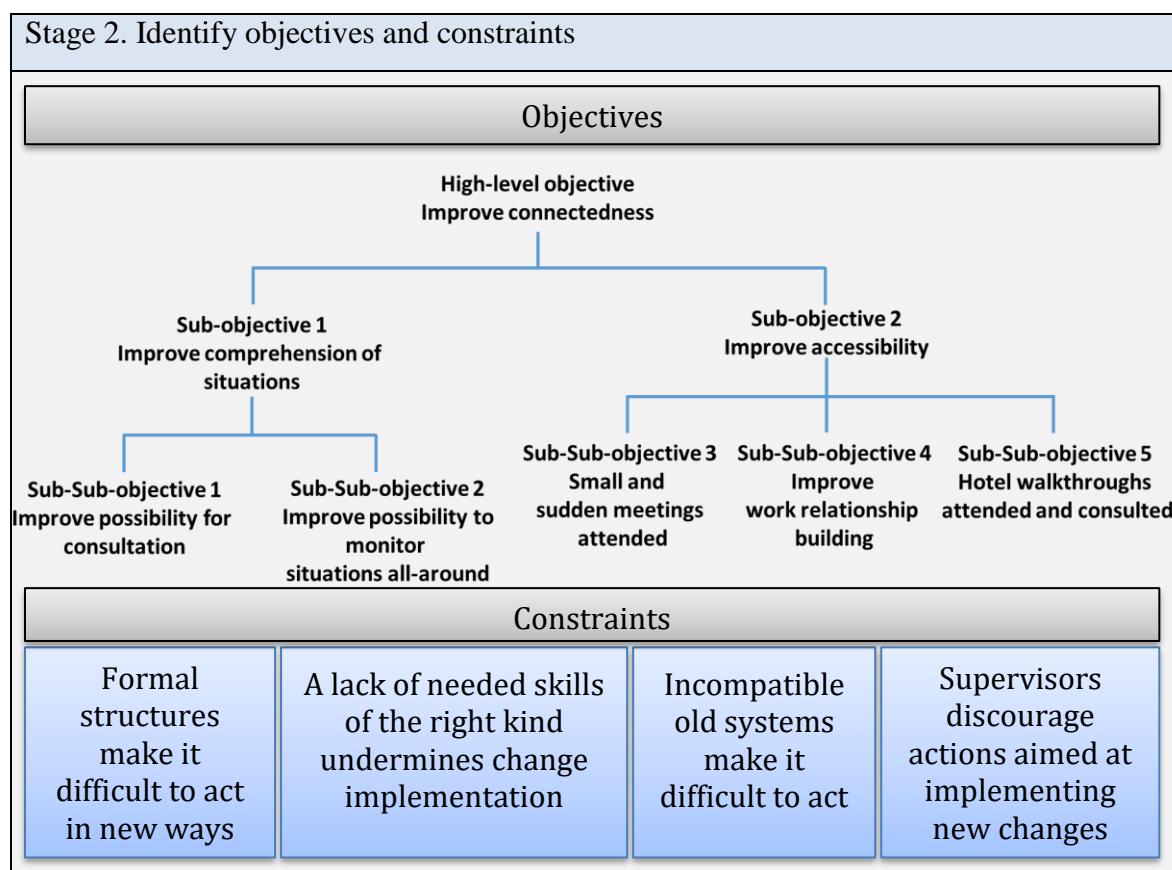
The second stage in the description phase consists of defining objectives and constraints of the solution model. The objectives and constraints have been generated from the interview

with the commissioner and the survey answers from the managers. The objectives and constraints are visible in table 13.

The high-level objective of the solution model is to allow a greater level of connectedness. How this is achieved is by the sub-, and sub-sub-objectives. The sub-objectives are: to improve comprehension of situations and to improve accessibility. The sub-sub-objectives are: to improve possibility for consultation, improve possibility to monitor situations all-around, small and sudden meetings attended, improve work relationship building, and hotel walkthroughs attended and consulted.

The constraints that can hinder the objectives to be achieved are the barriers to empowerment defined in subchapter 4.5.2, which were: formal structures make it difficult to act in new ways, a lack of needed skills of the right kind undermines change implementation, incompatible old systems make it difficult to act, and supervisors discourage actions aimed at implementing new changes. The constraints can be controlled by following the eight-step process to lead change. This will be applied in the implementation phase. The next stage will define objectives that are consistent with the improvement opportunities which emerged from the situation analysis.

Table 13. The objectives and constraints for the description phase.



The third stage in the description phase is to formulate measures of performance for the objectives stated in table 14. The formulated performance measures are visible in table 14. For sub-objective 1 the measure is the time taken to comprehend situations, this problem arose during the interview with the commissioner who stated that complex situations can be difficult to understand if not seen in person. The measure for sub-objective 2 is the number of times connected with employees, beyond the consultation trips staying effectively connected to the hotel employees is difficult. The five measures for the sub-sub-objectives are: times effectively consulted, times situations effectively monitored, times sudden meetings attended, times connected informally with employees, and times walkthroughs attended and consulted.

It can be noted that in chapter 6, performance measures for the developed vision were defined by the structure from the theory regarding ABC. The performance measures defined in this chapter do not follow the principles of efficiency, time, and quality. However, both performance measures can be used to get a more thorough measurement of the performance. Performance measures complete the description phase. The theme of the next phase is options and will start with the generation of options, which could be used to reach the objectives defined in stage 2.

Table 14. Performance measures for the description phase.

Stage 3. Identify performance measures		
Performance measures		
Sub-objective 1	Sub-objective 2	
Time taken to comprehend situations	Times connected with employees	
Sub-Sub-objective 1	Sub-Sub-objective 2	Sub-Sub-objective 3
Times effectively consulted	Times situations effectively monitored	Times sudden meetings attended
Sub-Sub-objective 4	Sub-Sub-objective 5	
Times connected informally with employees	Times walkthroughs attended and consulted	

8.4.2 Options phase

The first stage in the options phase consists of generating a list of options that could be used to achieve the objectives. The different level of connectedness achieved from certain communication methods was illustrated in chapter 3.2.1, and is recapped in figure 43.

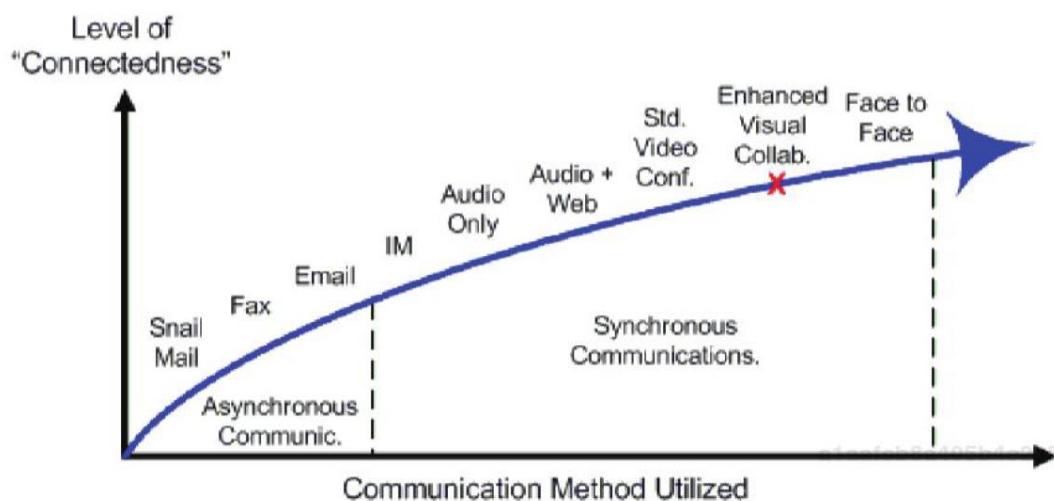


Figure 43. Recap of the level of connectedness from communication methods (Heller, 2010, p. 30)

From the methods, illustrated in figure 43, six communication options have been generated. The options are visible in table 15. The generated methods are: face to face, electronic mail, video call, phone call, telepresence, and robotic telepresence. The generated methods are a mix of methods that are in use presently and methods that could be implemented. Theory wise this stage is supposed to generate options that could have equal chance of being selected. However, because main research question of this thesis is to prove that robotic telepresence is a viable solution, the other options stated in this stage are only used to show why robotic telepresence surpasses them in the objectives stated in the description phase. The next stage is to edit the selected options to narrow the choices down and then detailing the selected ones.

Table 15. Generated options for the options phase.

Stage 4. Generate options		
Face to Face	Electronic mail	Video call
Phone call	Telepresence	Robotic telepresence

Narrowing down the options can be done by removing the face to face method as an option, in chapter 6 the current situation was analysed and it was concluded that traveling separately to each hotel would consume too many resources, each month, and go against the commissioners wishes from the solution. To make the evaluation of the options more compact, the options telepresence and video call will be bundled together as one option. After this initial editing the options left are: robotic telepresence, telepresence/video call, phone call, and electronic mail. The next task is to detail each option more clearly, describing what is involved, who is involved, and how it will work. What is involved with the robotic telepresence option is using a robot to perform tasks remotely. Who is involved in the process is the remote user and possibly a local user, but no local user is needed if surveying premises is the only task done. How things are achieved is by applying audio, video, and movement. The telepresence and video call option consists of using a stationary device to perform tasks remotely. The ones involved are a remote user and at least one local user. The option is performed through audio and video. The descriptions for the phone call and email options are similarly described, all the options and their short descriptions are visible in table 16.

Table 16. Edited options for the options phase.

Stage 5. Edit options and detail selected options			
Robotic telepresence What: Using a robot to perform tasks remotely Who: A remote (and local) user How: With audio, video, and movement	Telepresence/ Video call What: Using a stationary device to perform tasks remotely Who: A remote and local user How: With audio and video	Phone call What: Using a portable device to perform tasks remotely Who: A remote and local user How: With audio	Electronic mail What: Using an application to transfer data remotely Who: A remote user and local user How: With data transfer

The last stage in the options phase is to evaluate options against the objectives and performance measures defined in the description phase. The complete evaluation is visible in table 17 on the next page. The options have been graded on each objective with a colour

and symbol. Indicating if they are useful, somehow useful, or not ideal in accomplishing the stated objectives.

Table 17. Options evaluated against measures for the options phase.

Stage 6. Evaluate options against measures				
Objectives and related measures of performance	Options			
	 Robotic telepresence	 Telepresence/Video call	 Phone call	 Electronic mail
Improve comprehension of situations (Time taken to comprehend situations)				
Improve possibility for consultation (Times effectively consulted)				
Improve possibility to monitor situations all-around (Times situations monitored effectively)				
Improve accessibility (Number of locations visited)				
Small and sudden meetings attended (Times sudden meetings attended)				
Improve work relationship building (Times connected informally with employees)				
Hotel walkthroughs attended and consulted (Times walkthroughs attended and consulted)				

 Useful
 Somehow useful
 Not ideal

With robotic telepresence, comprehension of situations is fast because situations can be comprehended in local environment. With telepresence or video calls comprehension can take longer if the situation is not taking place in the stationary location where the telepresence or video call devices are located. Therefore, these options are heavily dependent on that situations can be explained sufficiently by a local user. With the phone call option, there is no possibility for visual comprehension and is, therefore, completely dependent on vocal explanations. Electronic mail is graded as not ideal to achieve an improvement in

comprehension of situations. The option is asynchronous and can take multiple tries before a remote user has full comprehension of a situation.

On the second objective, robotic telepresence has been graded again useful, because it allows a remote user to offer consultation in changing locations, where the subject requiring consultation is located. The option of robotic telepresence is also not bound by a local user, meaning that a remote user can operate the robot unaccompanied and offer consultation to subordinates, wherever the robot is located. The ability to improve the quality of consultations with the telepresence, video call, or phone call options is limited by the problems stated in the previous objective. Similarly, electronic mail is also not ideal option to achieve an improvement in the quality of consultations. To improve the possibility to monitor situations all-around can only be achieved by robotic telepresence or if the situation is limited to the location where telepresence and video calls are performed. Similarly, robotic telepresence is the only option capable of achieving an improvement of accessibility because of the added capabilities of video, audio, and movement. Small and sudden meetings can also be attended more efficiently with robotic telepresence because sudden meetings could be held in changing locations while the options telepresence and video calls can only achieve this objective if the meetings are scheduled to happen in set locations.

Lastly, robotic telepresence is the only option that allows truly informal discussions to take place. Therefore, also an improvement in work relationship building. Reason for this statement, is the fact that the other options all require an agenda. Employees need to have a reason to come to a telepresence meeting room or in front of a camera to answer a video call. While with a telepresence robot, a remote user can be surveying a hotel and stop to have a talk with an employee on a coffee break, or anyone who happens to pass by, without any agenda of meeting them to discuss any particular matter. Similarly, robotic telepresence is the only option that allows remote users to join hotel walkthroughs and simultaneously offer consultation to hotel managers. Now that an option is clear the implementation phase can begin in the next stage.

8.4.3 Implementation phase

Due to the hard nature of the change, implementation is rarely a problem. However, it is still wise to first test the change with a pilot study. This will help sort out any potential unseen problems before more extensive change is implemented. In the pilot study the achievement of the objectives are monitored through the performance measures. The hotel most suitable

for a pilot study would be the one farthest away, which is the hotel in Kemi. Because the distance makes it difficult to offer sufficient consultation on urgent matters and to do follow-ups on situations. In table 18 the chosen implementation aspects have been summarised. Other possible strategies to choose from were parallel running and big bang. However, parallel running is most suitable when the goal is to change a process completely, in this case the telepresence robot will only be an addition to the current work process. The big bang strategy is most suitable in situations that urgently need change on a large scale, due to the small nature of the change handled in this case, a pilot study is recommended.

Table 18. Suggested implementation strategy for the implementation phase.

Stage 7. Develop implementation strategies	
Implementation strategy: Pilot study	Location: Hotel Cumulus City Kemi

The last stage in the implementation phase is to consolidate the changes into the organizational system. The eight-stage process to implement change from subchapter 4.5 can be applied in this stage. The eight stages are recapped in table 19.

Table 19. Structure for carrying out planned changes by Kotter for the implementation phase.

Stage 8. Carry out the planned changes
1. Establishing a sense of urgency
2. Creating the guiding coalition
3. Developing a vision and strategy
4. Communicating the change vision
5. Empowering broad-based action
6. Generating short-term wins
7. Consolidating gains and producing more change
8. Anchoring new approaches in the culture

(Kotter, 1996)

Signs of compliancy showed up in survey answers, some managers were questioning why the present techniques are not enough. Raising the urgency level can be done by presenting the opportunities from the trigger analysis, and the vision for change. The second stage, involving the creation of a guiding coalition, is crucial if the change was implemented immediately on a larger scale, but for the pilot study a smaller coalition consisting of mangers from the hotel in Kemi is sufficient. The third stage has already been done in subchapter 6.2. The fourth stage is to properly communicate the change vision. The key elements to successfully communicate the vision were: to keep the vision simple, to use metaphors and examples while explaining the vision, to use multiple forums to communicate the vision, repeat the vision, make it visible that management approves the vision, and to listen to feedback and make visible improvements accordingly. To empower employees to achieve broad-based action, they cannot be constrained by the four barriers to empowerment, which were recapped in the description phase. The pilot study is perfect for spotting these potential barriers. But to mitigate the chances of barriers, attitude training to change old ways of working is important. In the end, troublesome managers who refuse to change their work methods can be the reason change cannot be properly implemented.

Stage six in the eight-stage process consist of generating short-term wins, this can be achieved by using the performance measures from the description phase as references. The measures will provide evidence that improvements are resulting from the change, bringing more people on board the change effort. Stage seven was stated as the most difficult stage in the change process when change is implemented on a larger scale with strongly interdependent elements. However, the type of change in this case is, according to the type analysis, small with loose coupling, which means that change can be implemented without the need to change multiple other elements. The last stage in the eight-stage process is to anchor the changes into the organizational culture. The urgency level must be kept up until the changes are truly part of the values and group norms in the workplace. In this stage results from performance measures are even more important to be openly presented and discussed. Overall the anchoring takes place throughout the eight-stages, and beyond.

Developing an action plan is the last step in the action research model handled in this thesis. So far the current situation has been analyzed, which also answered the research question regarding how the current work process is structured. The step involving the development of a vision for change answered the research question regarding how the proposed solution is structured. The process of gaining commitment to the vision answered the research questions regarding what are the responsibilities of a manger and can responsibilities of a

manager be fulfilled through robotic telepresence. Lastly the step just completed answered the research questions regarding how the solution is implemented and are there any potential obstructs towards implementing the solution. Before concluding this thesis with a more detailed overview of the results, some additional considerations when implementing the solution are presented in the next subchapter.

8.5 Additional considerations

During the interviews with the commissioner, potential drawbacks from being able to monitor situations constantly were discussed and the overall lawfulness of using a telepresence robot. The survey answers also showed some concern that using robotic telepresence would lead to obsessive supervision. Formulating contracts that contain all needed details of the changes will make the implementation smoother, when no open questions are left hanging. Additionally, understanding what is legal and illegal when using robotic telepresence will help with avoiding situations that can escalate into courtroom dramas between managers and employees.

8.5.1 Legalities

While using new technological devices, legalities can easily be forgotten. It was stated in subchapter 3.2.2 that everyone has the freedom of speech, which included the right to express, publish, and receive information. The video and audio information transmitted by the telepresence robot is within bounds of freedom of speech. Meaning that any area not defined by the law of domestic privacy is an area where the telepresence robot can move and freely transmit visual and audio information, to the remote user, without being lawfully prevented by anyone. However, hotel rooms are covered by domestic privacy, which means that entering a hotel room, in use, requires first the permission from the guest. It can also be problematic to operate the robot in locations defined as private, such as toilets and changing rooms. To avoid problems, reasonable reasons why the robot can be present in the private locations must be defined and approved by the hotel employees.

Situations that can be labeled as eavesdropping or spying are illegal even in public locations. Therefore, while using the robot, its presence should be made as obvious as possible. If situations must be recorded or photographed, additional regulations must be considered. If the gathered information can be considered personal data, then it must serve a purpose in

work operations and be permitted by the employees. Additionally, the personal data must be erased when no longer needed.

If the robot is left stationary at a specific location while still transmitting video and audio information, then it can be considered camera surveillance. To avoid problems from illegal surveillance, the locations where surveillance can happen must be defined and made clear to all employees. The purpose must also be lawful, which in this case could be to monitor that business processes are performed according to guidelines. If certain employees are targeted, it could be considered a personality or aptitude test, requiring permission from the targeted employees before any surveillance can commence.

To avoid situations where individuals are harmed due to the telepresence robot, it can be necessary to organize the internal traffic. Avoiding the beginning of stairs, area in front of elevator doors, or any door can mitigate chances of employees and guests bumping into the robot. Additional safety labels can be added to the telepresence robot to make it more noticeable to individuals in the work environment. If damages occur the sections stated from the damages act can be applied. The next chapter handles aspects to consider regarding work contracts.

8.5.2 Contracts

Before any changes to contracts or robot acquisitions can be made, the aspects that will affect employees must be first negotiated with them. After changes are made the employer must ensure the employees can perform their jobs even when procedures and methods change. The recommended additions to contracts were stated in subchapter 3.2.2. Firstly, the work stations of the remote and local user should be defined. Stating that the commissioners work station can be in Helsinki while he is remotely performing tasks, while a work station of a local user can change depending where the telepresence robot is located. Secondly, how work progress is followed should be defined. If progress is followed by monitoring situations it is important to do it within the laws regarding surveillance. Thirdly, work times and availability when the telepresence robot can be used needs to be stated. The fourth point consists of assigning someone with the responsibility of maintaining the telepresence robot, which should then be stated in the contract. On the fifth point the discussed safety and privacy laws should be considered and applied as necessary. Lastly how information is handled is worth defining, the laws regarding personal data can be applied.

The law leaves room for interpretation and the possibility for organizations to define things more clearly in contracts. Therefore, during the pilot study details that remain unclear should be fleshed out more clearly in contracts.

9 Results and discussion

The result from this thesis is a complete solution model to solve the problem presented by the commissioner. If the recommendation is accepted, the model can be used to implement the solution. The solution model was achieved by answering the research questions:

How is the current work process structured? The current work process is structured in five activities: preparation, travel, meeting, overnight stay, and evaluation. The hotels are traveled to mostly in groups; Group 1: Lappeenranta, Joensuu, Kuopio, and Mikkeli; Group 2: Lappeenranta, Mikkeli, and Jyväskylä; Group 3: Seinäjoki; Group 4: Oulu and Kemi. The cost drivers are: number of topics, number of travel moments, and number of overnight stays. Resources used are: time, distance, CO₂, and fuel.

How is the proposed solution structured? The proposed solution is structured by adding a supplementary process to the current work process, consisting of three activities: preparation, virtual meeting, and evaluation. The cost drivers for the activities are: number of topics. Resources used are: time and the initial investment costs from acquiring the telepresence robot and additional requirements. The main objective of the solution is to improve connectedness, this is achieved by achieving set objectives: improve comprehension of situations, improve possibility for consultation, improve possibility to monitor situations all-around, improve accessibility, small and sudden meeting attended, improve work relationship building, and hotel walkthroughs attended and consulted.

What are the responsibilities of a manager? The general responsibilities of a manager are: Handling organizational processes and the execution of work by welding a coherent pattern of work activities, harnessing the efforts of staff, and systems of motivation, job satisfaction and rewards, to achieve organizational goals and objectives; Creating a climate in which staff work willingly and effectively by using systems and styles of management and meeting needs and expectations of people at work, to achieve sufficient organizational performance and effectiveness. Moreover, management achieves given objectives within policy guidelines by: clarifying objectives and policy, planning, organizing, directing and guiding, and controlling performance. Additionally, management can exert behaviours to lead

effectively, these behaviours are: task-, relations-, and change behaviour. Managerial philosophies include: consideration, respect, and trust towards subordinates; offering recognition and credit; being involved and available for subordinates; fair and equitable treatment of staff; positive action on an individual basis.

Can responsibilities of a manager be fulfilled through robotic telepresence? In theory, yes, at least more efficiently than through other options stated in this thesis, but according to the commissioner some responsibilities are too demanding and involve a lot of body language and paper work to be effectively completed through robotic telepresence. However, small urgent matters are suitable to be completed through robotic telepresence, the activities that can be fulfilled through robotic telepresence are defined by the objectives stated in the description phase in subchapter 8.4.1. However, it will require that a pilot study is done before any conclusive answers can be given.

How is the solution implemented? The solution is implemented using the hard system model of change. Additionally, the implementation is recommended to start with a pilot study in the hotel located in Kemi. The eight-step process by Kotter is recommended to be followed throughout the implementation. Lastly, following legal aspects in the implementation and to update contracts to be compatible with the change is also strongly recommended.

Are there any potential obstructions towards implementing the solution? Imminently, no, the analyses suggest that there are no direct threats from cultural or political factors. If there are any existing constraints against achieving the objectives, they can be documented during the pilot study. However, following the eight-step process by Kotter should remove any constraints, such as a constraint from lack of attitude training.

Is robotic telepresence a viable recommendation to the presented problem? By comparing the requirements of the problem with the abilities of the telepresence robot, then the answer is, yes, robotic telepresence is a viable recommendation to the presented problem. Even if certain aspects will become clear first when a pilot study is performed, the telepresence robot still shows greater promise as a solution than any of the other options stated in subchapter 8.4.2.

9.1 Reliability and validity

The reliability and validity of this thesis can be graded as high. Advancements in robotics is presently the most relevant topic in the world. The validity is further supported by the solution's relevance to the presented problem. The opportunities from robotic telepresence seem to fulfil all the requirements needed to solve the problem and to bring connecting to a whole new level. The reliability is strengthened by the applicable theory and the other research methods. By interviewing the commissioner, detailed qualitative information about the current situation was gathered, as well as the commissioner's own thoughts about the solution. By also including the opinions of hotel managers, varying qualitative and quantitative information was gathered to conclude if there are any ob structs against the solution but also to gain important information about potential problems and benefits. It is believed that the commissioner and the hotel managers gave truthful answers, and are the ones who know best, if a solution could potentially be beneficial or not.

9.2 Critical review

Firstly, the research process could have been strengthened by surveying the entire staff in every hotel. However, this was determined to be a monumental project and would have taken up most of the time. Instead, how work is divided hierarchically was used as a reason to only survey the hotel managers. The commissioner is more directly responsible for the managers while the managers are responsible for their own subordinates. Therefore, ensuring that there were no ob structs between the work being done between the commissioner and the managers, was prioritized.

Secondly, the implementation strategy could have been more detailed if the premises of the hotel in Kemi were surveyed. This way, potential architectural ob structs could have been noted and an overall strategy of where the telepresence robot could be located, and where it can move could have been planned. However, the information gathered was concluded to be sufficient to be used as a recommendation, with further action possible if the solution is accepted and initiated.

Thirdly, carrying out the performance measures defined in subchapter 6.1 would have given a better picture of the current situation, by analysing the performance of the current process. However, the required data to complete the measurements, was not available, since the information needed had never been documented for the newly defined activities.

Lastly, the thesis could have been more complete by including all the steps in the action research model. This, however, would have gone beyond what was initially planned with the commissioner. The basis for this thesis was solely to offer a solution to the presented problem; whether the solution is implemented remains in the hands of the commissioner and his supervisors. However, the solution model contains required information to complete the remaining two steps by following the eight-step process by Kotter.

9.3 Conclusion and follow-up

As a conclusion, it will be stated which steps to take if the solution is accepted and initiated. The steps are recommendations, as it is not established if the thesis author will be responsible of continuing with the implementation process. The steps to continue are the two remaining steps in the action research model: to implement the change and to assess and reinforce the change. The action research model and the two remaining steps are recapped in figure 44. However, if potential problems arise, the process might regress to a previous step. The remaining steps can be implemented by following the eight-step process recapped in subchapter 8.4.3. Below are some additional notes regarding contracts and law.

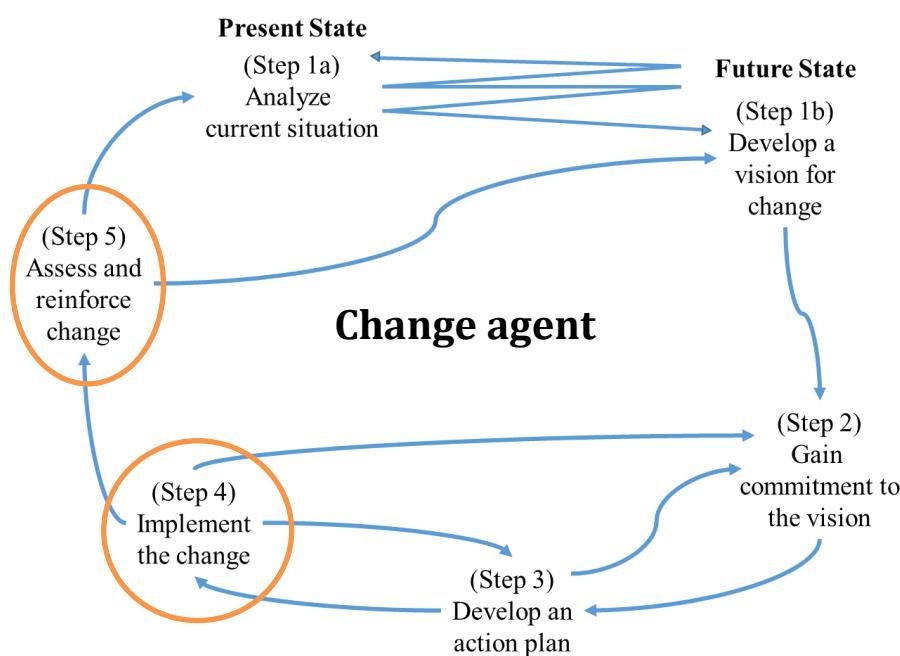


Figure 44. The last two steps in the action research model (Senior & Swailes, 2010, p. 328)

Firstly, before any acquisition of devices, the employees in the hotel in Kemi must be informed about the changes. During the presentation, the steps in the action research model can be reused by starting with explaining the current situation and following with the details

of the proposed solution. How processes and work methods change must be clearly stated together with the legal aspects. An open discussion among employees is desired. This way flaws can be noted and aspects found that need further explaining. By including the employees, they are most likely also kept satisfied, which was an important factor noted in the obstructs analysis. Secondly, before any implementations are made the performance measures for the current work process should be used to get a picture of the performance of the situation before the solution. Afterwards, it can be more clearly noted what has changed when the solution is implemented. As mentioned multiple times, the eight-steps are incredibly useful in the implementation process. The steps that should be used in the last two stages of the action research model are: establishing a sense of urgency, creating the guiding coalition, communicating the change vision, empowering broad-based action, generating short-term wins, consolidating gains and producing more change, and finally anchoring new approaches in the culture. The contents of these steps can be recapped by reading subchapter 4.5.

The author's part in the research for a solution for improved connectedness is now concluded. It can be stated that the aim to prove that robotic telepresence is a viable solution to the presented problem has been achieved.

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Appendix 1

Activities & Resources	
Travel	
Group 1	<p>Total indirect cost per year: 120 h; 12240 km; 996 € fuel; 1799280 grams of CO₂</p> <p>Total number of travel moments in the group per year: 60</p> <p>Cost allocation rate: 2 h-, 204 km-, 16,60 €-, and 29988 g of CO₂ per travel moment</p> <p><u>Cost of travel per month: 10 h, 1020 km, 83 €, 149940 g of CO₂</u></p>
Group 2	<p>Total indirect cost per year: 96 h; 9000 km; 732 € fuel; 1323000 grams of CO₂</p> <p>Total number of travel moments in the group per year: 48</p> <p>Cost allocation rate: 2 h-, 187 km-, 15,25 €-, and 27562 g of CO₂ per travel moment</p> <p><u>Cost of travel per month: 8 h, 748 km, 61 €, 110248 g of CO₂</u></p>
Group 3	<p>Total indirect cost per year: 120 h; 9600 km; 780 € fuel; 1411200 grams of CO₂</p> <p>Total number of travel moments in the group per year: 24</p> <p>Cost allocation rate: 5 h-, 400 km-, 32,50 €-, and 58800 g of CO₂ per travel moment</p> <p><u>Cost of travel per month: 10 h, 800 km, 65 €, 117600 g of CO₂</u></p>
Group 4	<p>Total indirect cost per year: 180 h; 16920 km; 1380 € fuel; 2487240 grams of CO₂</p> <p>Total number of travel moments in the group per year: 36</p> <p>Cost allocation rate: 5 h-, 470 km, 38,35 €-, and 69090 grams of CO₂ per travel moment</p> <p><u>Cost of travel per month: 15 h, 1410 km, 115,05 €, 207270 grams of CO₂</u></p>

(Öljy- ja biopolattoaineala ry, 2017) (Skoda Suomi, 2017) (Juntunen, 2016)

Appendix 2

Haastattelu kysymykset:

Ensimmäinen haastattelu:

- Voisitko kuvalla yksityiskohtaisesti työprosessisi, ja luetella myös tarvittavat resurssit, kun käyt läpi kaikki vastuullanne olevat hotellit.

Toinen haastattelu:

- Mitkä ovat aluejohtajan keskeisiä tehtäviä ja tavoitteita?
- Rajoittaisiko etäläsnäolorobiikan käyttö joitakin tehtävien ja tavoitteiden suorittamista?
- Parantaisiko etäläsnäolorobiikan käyttö joitakin tehtävien ja tavoitteiden suorittamista?
- Onko sinulla kysyttävää, omia ajatuksia tai toiveita etäläsnäolorobiikasta?

Appendix 3

Kysely etäläsnäolorobottitekniikan inkorporoimisesta sisäiseen viestintään.

Kiitos, että otat osaa kyselytutkimukseen. Palautteesi on tärkeää.

Kysely on osa liiketalouden opinnäytetyötä, jossa tavoitteena on päättellä etäläsnäolo robottitekniikan käyttöönnoton kannattavuus. Perustana on löytää keino parantaa mahdollisuksia paikan päälliseen neuvontaan aluejohtajan ja hotelleiden välillä, etäisyydestä riippumatta. Etäläsnäolorobotti mahdollistaa läsnäolon toisessa paikassa, viestintäteknologian kautta. Robottia voidaan ohjata helposti etäältä ja mahdollistaa sujuvan keskustelun ja katsekontaktin, paikalla tai liikkeessä. Mainittu robotti näkyy alla olevassa kuvassa.



1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	
Joensuu	
Kemi	
Kuopio	

Lappeenranta	
Mikkeli	
Oulu	
Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

"Innovointia ja riskinottoa vältetään. Työympäristö on hyvin varovainen ja on riippuvainen kvantitatiivisista ja tarkoista tiedoista muutoksia tehdessä. Muutokset tulee ylläpitää yrityksen vakautta. Yksityiskohtien huomiointi on erittäin tärkeätä ja tuloksiin saavuttamiseksi käytetyt menetelmät ohjataan ja määräätään tarkasti. Päättöksiä tehdessä, negatiivisia vaikutuksia työntekijöihin ei huomioida. Hallintaa ylläpidetään organisoimalla työt yksilöllisesti, välttää kilpailukäyttäytymistä."

Ei päde Pätee täysin

1	2	3	4	5
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"Innovointia ja riskinottoa hyväksytään, mutta työympäristön pyrkii mieluummin luomaan yhteisointia ja vakautta. Huomiota yksityiskohtiin odotetaan, mutta ilmapiiri on rento ja luottamusta kohdistetaan työntekijöihin. Johto pitää tulokset tärkeänä mutta myös tavat joilla tulokset ovat saavutettu. Päättöksiä tehdään työntekijöiden etuja ajattelemana. Työntekijät ovat joukkuepelaajia, kompromisseja suositaan kilpailimen sijaan."

Ei päde Pätee täysin

1	2	3	4	5
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"Innovointia ja riskinottoa vaaditaan, työympäristö on arvaamaton ja haastava. Huomiota yksityiskohtiin odotetaan, mutta työtekijän täytyy pysyä mukana nopeassa työtahdissa. Johto keskittyy tuloksiin ja valtuuttaa työntekijöitä löytämään omat keinonsa tulosten saavuttamiseksi. Päättöksiä tehdään työntekijöiden etuja ajattelemana. Työ tehdään yksilöllisesti ja kilpailua esiintyy myönteisessä hengessä."

Ei päde Pätee täysin

1	2	3	4	5
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"Innovointia ja riskinottoa kannustetaan, mutta työympäristö on vaativa. Tuloksia ja työmenetelmiä seurataan ja hallitaan tarkasti. Emotionaalinen ilmaisu on vähäinen. Kasvua luodaan vahtimalla työtehtäviä, johtamistyylillä määrävä ja tunkeileva. Työilmapiiriä on hyvin aggressiivinen mutta myös hyvin organisoitu."

Ei päde Pätee täysin

1	2	3	4	5
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Kiitos vastauksista. Jos sinulla on jokin kysymys joka askarruttaa mieltäsi, voit jättää kysymyksen osoitteeseen: sebastianmakila@edu.novia.fi

Appendix 4

Kysely etäläsnyöolorobottitekniikan inkorporoimisesta sisäiseen viestintään.

Kiitos, että otat osaa kyselytutkimukseen. Palautteesi on tärkeää.

Kysely on osa liiketalouden opinnäytetyötä, jossa tavoitteena on päätellä etäläsnyöolo robottitekniikan käyttöönnoton kannattavuus. Perustana on löytää keino parantaa mahdollisuksia paikan päälliseen neuvontaan aluejohtajan ja hotelleiden välillä, etäisyydestä riippumatta. Etäläsnyöolorobotti mahdollistaa läsnäolon toisessa paikassa, viestintäteknologian kautta. Robottia voidaan ohjata helposti etäältä ja mahdollistaa sujuvan keskustelun ja katsekontaktin, paikalla tai liikkeessä. Mainittu robotti näkyy alla olevassa kuvassa.



1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joensuu	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kemi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kuopio	<input type="checkbox"/>

Lappeenranta	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mikkeli	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oulu	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seinäjoki	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robotti saattaisi auttaa kommunikoinnissa. Mahdollinen huono puoli on ihmiskontakin puute.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Työkokemukset ovat tärkeitä, että on mukavaa olla tekemisissä toisten ihmisten kanssa ja että toinen ihminen vastaa hänen eleisiinsä jne.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

"Innovointia ja riskinottoa vältetään. Työympäristö on hyvin varovainen ja on riippuvainen kvantitatiivisista ja tarkoista tiedoista muutoksia tehdessä. Muutokset tulee ylläpitää yrityksen vakautta. Yksityiskohtien huomiointi on erittäin tärkeätä ja tuloksiin saavuttamiseksi käytetyt menetelmät ohjataan ja määräätään tarkasti. Päättöksiä tehdessä, negatiivisia vaikuttuksia työntekijöihin ei huomioida. Hallintaa ylläpidetään organisoimalla työt yksilöllisesti, välttää kilpailukäyttäytymistä."

Ei päde Pätee täysin

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"Innovointia ja riskinottoa hyväksytään, mutta työympäristön pyrkii mieluummin luomaan yhteisointia ja vakautta. Huomiota yksityiskohtiin odotetaan, mutta ilmapiiri on rento ja luottamusta kohdistetaan työntekijöihin. Johto pitää tulokset tärkeänä mutta myös tavat joilla tulokset ovat saavutettu. Päättöksiä tehdään työntekijöiden etuja ajattelemana. Työntekijät ovat joukkuepelaajia, kompromisseja suositaan kilpailimen sijaan."

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Ei päde Pätee täysin

1	2	3	4	5
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Kysely etäläsnyöolorobottiteknikan inkorporoimisesta sisäiseen viestintään.

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1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	
Joensuu	
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Mikkeli	
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Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robotin avulla voisi tehdä asioita/tehtäviä joita ennen ei ole voitu tehdä, kuten esimerkiksi hankalien tilanteiden ymmärtäminen hujauksessa. Tärkeitä ovat tilanteet, joissa molemmat ovat kiinnittäneet huomionsa samaan kohteeseen.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsääntörobotiikkaan liittyen.

Mutta henkilökohtaisesti tapaaminen on silti tärkeätä.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

"Innovointia ja riskinottoa vältetään. Työympäristö on hyvin varovainen ja on riippuvainen kvantitatiivisista ja tarkoista tiedoista muutoksia tehdessä. Muutokset tulee ylläpitää yrityksen vakautta. Yksityiskohtien huomiointi on erittäin tärkeätä ja tuloksiin saavuttamiseksi käytetyt menetelmät ohjataan ja määräätään tarkasti. Päättöksiä tehdessä, negatiivisia vaikuttuksia työntekijöihin ei huomioida. Hallintaa ylläpidetään organisoimalla työt yksilöllisesti, välttää kilpailukäyttäytymistä."

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1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	
Joensuu	
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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robotilla voisi tehdä yksittäisiä rutiinittehtäviä kuten valvomista. Robotista olisi myös hyötyä, kun täytyy kohdistaa huomion esineisiin, ihmisiin tai toimintoihin.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Robottia olisi kiinnostavaa kokeilla.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1	2	3	4	5

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
1	2	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 3	4	5

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
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1. Hotelli

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Joensuu	✗
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Kuopio	

Lappeenranta	
Mikkeli	
Oulu	
Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Uskon että robotti ei olisi luotettava ratkaisu muuttuvissa/ei-järjestätyneissä ympäristöissä. Robotit eivät pysty kaikkeen. Mutta robotilla voisi mahdollisesti helpommin viittata erilaisiin kohteisiin ja tilanteisiin.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsääntörobotiikkaan liittyen.

Ihmisiä kuitenkin tarvitaan, esimerkiksi tilanteissa joissa kehonkieli on tarpeellinen.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robotti voisi korjata tilanteet joissa suppea sanavarasto johtaa siihen, että henkilö jäsentää ympäröivän tilanteen eri tavalla kuin todellisuudessa.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Kekseliäisyyttä ja luovuutta tarvitsevissa tehtävissä ihminen on korvaamaton.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robotti lisäisi läsnäoloa, jokainen uusi kommunikointikokemus muokkaa ja rikastuttaa ihmisen tietämystä.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsääntörobotiikkaan liittyen.

Tulevaisuden vempeleet ovat niin kiinnostavia!

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Muuttuvassa työympäristössä me pärjäämme osaamisella ja mukautumiskyvyllä. Kommunikointi kuten ajatusten, tunteiden, aikeiden, odotusten, mielipiteiden, havaintojen ja kokemusten välittäminen ihmisten kesken ovat hyvin tärkeitä seikkoja joita robotti voisi kehittää.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsääntörobotiikkaan liittyen.

Olen hyvin kiinnostunut kuulemaan enemmän tästä ehdotuksesta.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Merkittävä osa ihmisten välisestä viestinnästä tapahtuu sanattomasti. Erityisesti tunnetilat välittyvät ensisijaisesti eleiden ja asentojen ym. kautta. Robotti ei olisi käytännöllinen tunnetilojen viestinnässä.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Toivottavasti seuraavaksi ei kyseillä itsepalvelukassoista.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Ei päde Pätee täysin

1	2	3	4	5
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1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joensuu	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kemi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kuopio	<input type="checkbox"/>

Lappeenranta	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mikkeli	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oulu	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seinäjoki	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsnäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robottien yms. myötä tulee uudenlaisia työtehtäviä ja ammatteja mutta puhuttu ja kirjoitettu kieli mahdollistaa rajattomat mahdolisuudet ilmaista niin konkreettisia kuin abstrakteja asioita. Minun mielestä etäläsnäolorobotti on mahdollisesti kätevä kommunikoinnin osalta, monipuolistamalla mahdolisuutta puhua vapaammin.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsnäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

On suurenmoista että kehityksen tuomista mahdolisuuksista keskustellaan.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Ei päde Pätee täysin

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1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	
Joensuu	
Kemi	
Kuopio	

Lappeenranta	
Mikkeli	
Oulu	
Seinäjoki	✗

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robotin avulla produktiivisuus voisi lisääntyä edistämällä kommunikointia. Robotilla pystyisi paremmin: suunnitella tulevaa, käsitellä tunteita, kysyä ja vastata, pyytää ja vaatia, myöntää, kielttää ja vastustaa, kertoa ja kuvitella, tai jopa hassutella.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

On tehtäviä, joita robotilla ei kannata tehdä. Ihminen on vielä taloudellisempi ja tehokkaampi tietyissä puuhissa.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

"Innovointia ja riskinottoa vältetään. Työympäristö on hyvin varovainen ja on riippuvainen kvantitatiivisista ja tarkoista tiedoista muutoksia tehdessä. Muutokset tulee ylläpitää yrityksen vakautta. Yksityiskohtien huomiointi on erittäin tärkeätä ja tuloksiin saavuttamiseksi käytetyt menetelmät ohjataan ja määräätään tarkasti. Päättöksiä tehdessä, negatiivisia vaikutuksia työntekijöihin ei huomioida. Hallintaa ylläpidetään organisoimalla työt yksilöllisesti, välttää kilpailukäyttäytymistä."

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1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	
Joensuu	
Kemi	
Kuopio	

Lappeenranta	
Mikkeli	
Oulu	✗
Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robotti voi säästää ihmistä tekemästä työtä monimutkaisissa tilanteissa. Toisaalta robotti ei pääse varmaan kaikkiin paikkoihin, eikä sillä voi käyttää yksin hissejä ja liikkua alas/ylös portaita.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Vaatiko robotin käyttö myös paljon harjoittelua?

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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1	2	3	4	5
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1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	
Joensuu	
Kemi	
Kuopio	

Lappeenranta	
Mikkeli	✗
Oulu	
Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robotilla pystyisi nostamaan ja tehostamaan palveluiden laatua. Tukemalla viestintää. Menetelmä soveltuu myös tilanteisiin, joissa pelkästään Skypellä kommunikointi ei ole riittävä.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Muistutan, että ihmistä tarvitaan edelleen. Liika kontrolli tukahduttaa kasvun ja kehityksen.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1	2	3	4	5

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
1	2	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 3	4	5

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
1	2	3	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 4	5

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1	2	3	4	5

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1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	
Joensuu	
Kemi	
Kuopio	

Lappeenranta	X
Mikkeli	
Oulu	
Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Osa töistä kannattaa teettää robottilla, mutta toisaalta jonkun on tehtävä paperityöt, suunniteltava strateginen toteutus ja ohjattava työtä. Ilman käsiä nämä tehtävät eivät kyllä onnistu. Mutta robottilla pystyisi vastata muutoksiin nopeasti.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Robotti olisi hauska nähdä työympäristössä, varmaan myös asiakkaiden näkökulmasta.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	
Joensuu	✗
Kemi	
Kuopio	

Lappeenranta	
Mikkeli	
Oulu	
Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Robotilla ei ihmisuhteita voi korvata, kehonkieli on hyvin tärkeä asia. Robotti olisi toki käytännöllinen haasteellisissa tilanteissa, jotka johtuvat nopeasti lisääntyvästä kompleksisuudesta.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Miksi eivät nykyiset kommunikointi menetelmät ole tarpeeksi?

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

"Innovointia ja riskinottoa vältetään. Työympäristö on hyvin varovainen ja on riippuvainen kvantitatiivisista ja tarkoista tiedoista muutoksia tehdessä. Muutokset tulee ylläpitää yrityksen vakautta. Yksityiskohtien huomiointi on erittäin tärkeätä ja tuloksiin saavuttamiseksi käytetyt menetelmät ohjataan ja määräätään tarkasti. Päätöksiä tehdessä, negatiivisia vaikutuksia työntekijöihin ei huomioida. Hallintaa ylläpidetään organisoimalla työt yksilöllisesti, välttää kilpailukäyttäytymistä."

Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1	2	3	4	5

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
1	2	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 3	4	5

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
1	2	3	4	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 5

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1	2	3	4	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 5

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Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Ihan oikein, mikäli ei käyttäisi kaikkia kommunikointi apuvälineitä mitä on tarjolla ja jos niihin on varaaakin. Olen nähty kyseisiä robotteja joissain, ihan toimiva menetelmä minun mielestä. Robotista olisi erityisesti apua prosessien suunnittelussa, koordinoinnissa, valvonnassa ja raportoinnissa.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsääntörobotiikkaan liittyen.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Kaipa nuo robotit pystyvät liikkumaan näppärästi mutta miten robotti pärjää lattialistojen ja muiten esteiden kanssa? Lisäksi, liiallinen hallinta muuttaa työpaikan jäykemmäksi ja hidaslukkaisemmaksi.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Robotilla työsuhteet eivät kehity samalla tavalla kuten kommunikoinnista henkilökohtaisesti.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Kommunikoinnin edistämisessä robotti on erinomainen ratkaisu. Robotin avulla voisi kohdentaa, valvoa ja koordinoida työtehtäviä ja niiden tuloksia.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Robottia voisi myös käyttää hotellien välisessä kommunikoinnissa.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Kyllä tietyt tehtävät vaativat ihmissilmää ja tehokasta työtettä mutta usein valvontaa ja kontrollia tukevien ja keskittävien menetelmien lisääminen nähdään itsestään selvänä.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Kontrollointi- ja organisointikyky robotin avulla ovat erittäin hyviä ominaisuuksia. Niiden avulla voi muun muassa helpottaa työntekijöiden elämää ja saada paljon tehdynkin nopeammin.

Jos kontrollointi ja huolehtiminen menevät liiallisuksiin, seuraukset ovat haitallisia.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

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"Innovointia ja riskinottoa vältetään. Työympäristö on hyvin varovainen ja on riippuvainen kvantitatiivisista ja tarkoista tiedoista muutoksia tehdessä. Muutokset tulee ylläpitää yrityksen vakautta. Yksityiskohtien huomiointi on erittäin tärkeätä ja tuloksiin saavuttamiseksi käytetyt menetelmät ohjataan ja määräätään tarkasti. Päätöksiä tehdessä, negatiivisia vaikuttuksia työntekijöihin ei huomioida. Hallintaa ylläpidetään organisoimalla työt yksilöllisesti, välttää kilpailukäyttäytymistä."

Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1	2	3	4	5

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
1	2	3	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 4	5

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Ei päde	Pätee täysin			
1	2	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 3	4	5

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1. Hotelli

Jyväskylä	
Joensuu	
Kemi	
Kuopio	

Lappeenranta	
Mikkeli	
Oulu	✗
Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Varmasti toimii kommunikoinnin kehittämisessä.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Liika kontrollointi voi huonontaa välejä työntekijöihin, sillä painostava ilmapiiri saa olon tuntumaan tukalalta.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Seinäjoki	

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Kommunikointi kehittyy työntekijöiden välisessä kanssakäymisessä. Huono puoli on, että useimmiten liiallinen kontrollointi uuvuttaa.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Liiallinen kontrollointi johtaa siihen, että tulee vain suorittaneeksi elämää tunteitaan kuuntelematta, työntekijöihin täytyy luottaa ilman liiallista kontrollointia.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Mikkeli	
Oulu	
Seinäjoki	✗

Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Edistää vuorovaikutusta joka luo paremman perustan kommunikoinnille ja kehitykselle.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Ylivastuulliset uupuvat ja palavat työssään loppuun. Kun taas ne joilla on vastuuta liian vähän puolestaan turhautuvat. Robotilla ei siis saa kontrolloida pakonomaisesti, mutta ei myöskään vastuuta pakenemalla tavalla, sopivan rennosti on oikea tie.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsänäolorobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Hyvä puoli on, että yhteys työympäristöön ja toisiin ihmisiin tapahtuu melkein aistien välityksellä.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsänäolorobiikkaan liittyen.

Robottikäsi olisi tarpeellinen lisävaruste.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

4. Arvioi seuraavat neljä kuvausta eri työkulttuureista. Arvioi merkitsemällä yhden numeron, kuvaksen alla olevaan asteikkoon. Numero tulee kuvastaa teidän näkemyksenne hotellin työkulttuurista.

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Tulevissa kysymyksissä haetaan syventäviä mielipiteitä etäläsnyöolorobotin käyttöönnotosta.

2. Mitä huonoja/hyviä puolia etäläsääntörobotin käyttöönnotosta voisi seurata?

Yllättävissä tilanteissa voi tarvita erityistä tukea ongelmien ratkaisemiseen, sellaisissa tapauksissa robotti olisi hyvin käytännöllinen.

3. Tähän kohtaan voitte lisätä mielipiteitä, kysymyksiä, toiveita, tai muita aiheita etäläsääntörobotiikkaan liittyen.

Seuraavassa kysymyksessä haetaan tietoja työkulttuurin ominaisuuksista.

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1	2	3	4	5
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"Innovointia ja riskinottoa vaaditaan, työympäristö on arvaamaton ja haastava. Huomiota yksityiskohtiin odotetaan, mutta työtekijän täytyy pysyä mukana nopeassa työtahdissa. Johto keskittyy tuloksiin ja valtuuttaa työntekijöitä löytämään omat keinonsa tulosten saavuttamiseksi. Päättöksiä tehdään työntekijöiden etuja ajattelemana. Työ tehdään yksilöllisesti ja kilpailua esiintyy myönteisessä hengessä."

Ei päde Pätee täysin

1	2	3	4	5
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"Innovointia ja riskinottoa kannustetaan, mutta työympäristö on vaativa. Tuloksia ja työmenetelmiä seurataan ja hallitaan tarkasti. Emotionaalinen ilmaisu on vähäinen. Kasvua luodaan vahtimalla työtehtäviä, johtamistyylillä määrävä ja tunkeileva. Työilmapiiriä on hyvin aggressiivinen mutta myös hyvin organisoitu."

Ei päde Pätee täysin

1	2	3	4	5
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Kiitos vastauksista. Jos sinulla on jokin kysymys joka askarruttaa mieltäsi, voit jättää kysymyksen osoitteeseen: sebastianmakila@edu.novia.fi