

Learn how this world class technology provider won a prestigious Brandon Hall Excellence Award, and dramatically improved employee performance across 80 offices, with a strategic skills training program and their new cloud LMS



SECTOR: Manufacturing

DESCRIPTION:

A technology company focused on industry, infrastructure, transport, and healthcare.

LEARNER TYPES:

Internal employee training and development

CHANGEMAKER:

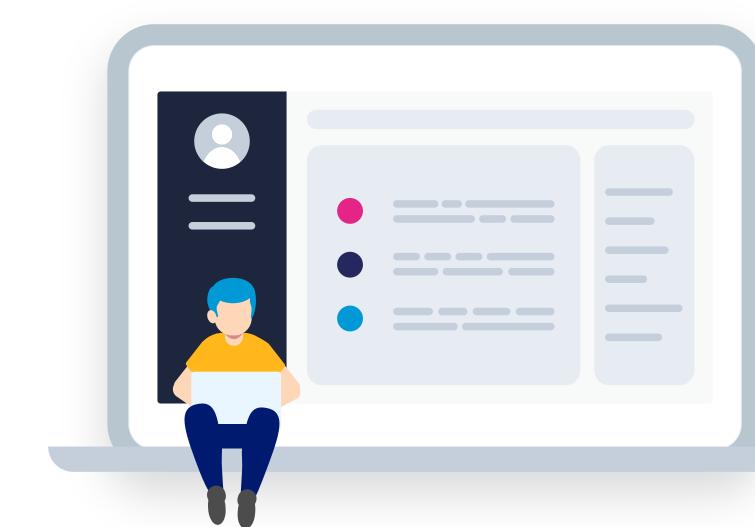
MANAGER, EDUCATION SERVICES

Manufacturing

COMPANY OVERVIEW

A global powerhouse in electronics and electrical engineering and the world's largest provider of environmental technologies.

Its Building Technologies division is the global market leader for safe and energy efficient "green" buildings and infrastructures – with best-in-class offerings for building automation, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), fire protection and security.



CHALLENGE

To succeed as a business, the employees must be able to sell, install, start-up and service an extremely complex combination of hardware and software that centrally control buildings, such as: research facilities, hospitals, multi-story buildings and corporate or school campuses.

Just as challenging... the company has to deliver these systems precisely on time and with no cost overruns. It's critical to their profitability and reputation. And it's crucial for their customers' success.

"Although our company has more than 60 years of providing excellent employee training and support, we had no standardized, sustainable process in place to document the technical skills that already existed in our workforce and to track employee development."

MANAGER, EDUCATION SERVICES

"This important need led us to develop the 'Standardized Training Program', which documents employee skills and provides faster/better training programs - thereby ensuring that all product implementations are delivered on time and under budget."





About Training Program

Known as the global powerhouse in electronics and electrical engineering, the company is also considered a pioneer in corporate learning.

Classroom training began in the 1950s and laid the foundation for the company's pervasive, award-winning training culture.

Other key business challenges the Standardized Training Program was designed to address included:

- Improve customer retention by increasing customer satisfaction
- Improve employee productivity
- Reduce cost overruns and rework
- Reduce employee turnover by increasing employee satisfaction
- Implement standardized processes across 80+ offices by capturing and following their best practices

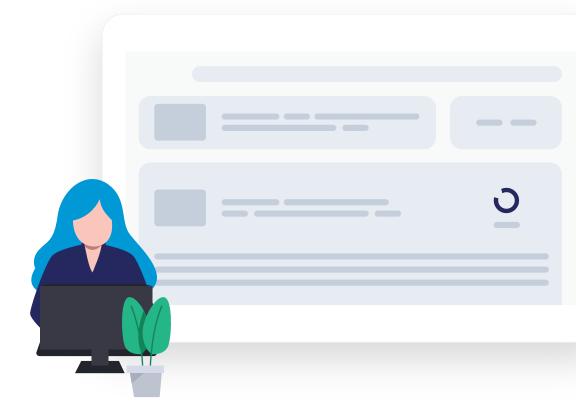
SOLUTION

As the global powerhouse began to develop and implement their Standardized Training Program, they quickly realized that a major component of this program, and its success, would be a robust, user-friendly Learning Management System (LMS), one that would:

- Increase the program's efficiency and effectiveness
- Allow the Company to offer the right type of training, to employees with specific job roles, at the precise time that it would be most effective

So they decided to replace their legacy learning system with PeopleOne' ExpertusONE LMS – which has a next-gen, cloud-based design and great usability.

"Early on, it became obvious that our existing learning management system software was inadequate to sustain and expand our new competency training program." the Manager explained. "So, we reviewed several replacement technologies and chose the ExpertusONE LMS primarily because of its intuitive usability for employees, managers, distributors and customers."



Along with their new LMS, the Standardized Training Program fully addressed the company's top issues and now provides:

- A clear, sustainable and effective training process
- The correct training and development activities for each job role
- Easier, streamlined development planning for employees and managers
- Comprehensive reporting to quickly identify gaps and easily monitor achievements

"Our Standardized Training Program consists of identified roles and associated training paths that are based on best practices from across the company. Employees are assigned these roles and the corresponding training paths based on the functions they perform for our company," the Manager explained.

"This prescriptive method of assigning development requirements based on the roles employees fill standardizes the competencies employees must develop to be successful in their roles. So, once assignments are completed, gaps across every level of our organization are quickly and easily identified - which greatly simplifies our employee development planning."

Following is a breakdown of the 10-step program:

Step 1 Determine the competencies required to meet their customers' needs Determine the roles that must be filled Step 2 Determine best practices Step 3 Develop training for best practices or identify Step 4 existing training Develop training paths Step 5 Implement the program by assigning job roles and Step 6 training paths Conduct reporting and accountability Step 7 Ensure conformance Step 8 Review for improvement or sustainability Step 9 Develop programs for new job roles or edit existing Step 10 programs

About PeopleONE & ExpertusONE

PeopleONE delivers next-gen, cloud-based learning management system technology that represents a whole new way of thinking about learning. Based in Silicon Valley, PeopleONE serves customers from offices in the US, Europe and Asia, and provides a full range of LMS delivery and support services to ensure smooth transitions from legacy systems, rapid technology deployment and sustained learning success.

PeopleONE' flagship product, ExpertusONE, is an enterprise-class, cloud LMS that learners, admins and executives love. Built with simplicity of use in mind, only ExpertusONE leverages the heuristic design principles developed by today's most popular websites - Google, Facebook and Amazon - resulting in a:

- User interface that's incredibly easy to use
- Next-gen architecture that's exceptionally simple to run
- Highly productive learning ecosystem that rapidly builds learning value organization-wide

Rated the best LMS software of 2021, ExpertusONE's next-gen, best-in-breed features include: a native mobile app, advanced reporting, gamification, Salesforce.com integration and an "amazing" user interface.

Proactively Addressing Change

The top technology provider implemented another multi-tier process to proactively address change management:

Direct follow-up for job role assignment

Even though the company had a strong learning culture, some offices weren't using the training provided. So they had their Education Services department contact supervisors directly when they didn't assign job roles to their direct reports. Education Services personnel would also, in some cases, assign job roles and training paths directly.

Set standards on internal recommendations

Their Education Services organization used the recommendations of field managers to develop standardized methods for assessing the competency of long-term employees. And, because field managers were involved in the development of job roles and related tasks, most took ownership of the new program.

Reduce skills gaps with LMS-based reporting

With the reporting that was available immediately after job role assignment (which was a built-in module/feature of their ExpertusONE LMS), upper managers were able to focus on the offices that had the widest gaps between job roles and development. And, since these reports were part of their annual employee review process, field managers worked hard to reduce the gaps.

Ensure program success via virtual meetings

Their Education Services department held several online meetings to explain and discuss the Standardized Training Program with every supervisor and manager. This streamlined its rollout and maximized its success. Also, the standard operations and quality managers who implemented the standardized processes met in-person with Education Services' managers and supervisors. And this is why the managers and supervisors could not and cannot say today that they don't know the standards inside and out.

Resourceful Resources

A final set of challenges that green building provider overcame in their Standardized Training Program was finding creative ways to enlist extra resources to meet their new competency goals.

"We didn't have enough resources in our Education Services organization to develop new training. Instead, we hired external consultants to build this training and had our experienced internal training developers manage their work – to ensure our quality standards and content accuracy," Kuhn remarked. "We also needed to find people to design and implement our program successfully, while still maintaining our training department's normal day-to-day operations."

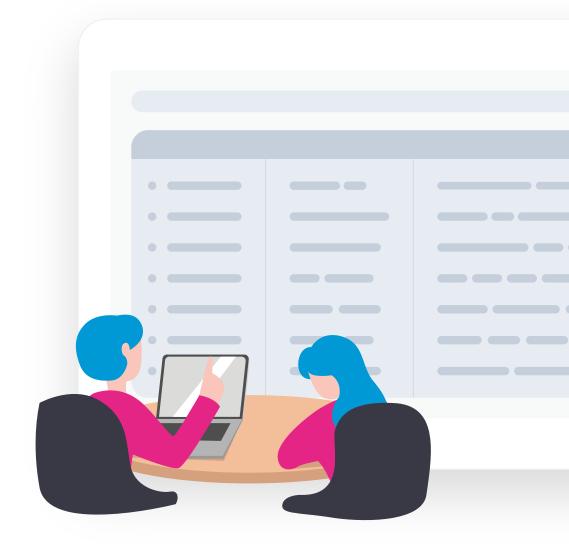
Lastly, their Standardized Training Program's project team had a "whatever it takes" attitude, which resulted in some extended work hours. "As in almost every project, our resources were stretched thin during peak periods of activity," the Manager explained. "To overcome this, department members not directly involved with the program took some work from the program's members – ensuring both the program's work and our training department's day-to-day tasks were completed."



RESULTS

Not only was the Standardized Training Program successfully implemented to over 90% of its employees, but it was also fully embraced by the vast majority of the organization's managers.

Even better... the global powerhouse's main goal was achieved! Their new competency program and LMS dramatically improved employee performance so that their combined overall slip is maintained at or below zero.



Standardized Training Program – Goals Achieved

Goals	Results
Improve customer retention by increasing customer satisfaction	The program allowed them to develop and assign training that specifically addressed precise quality improvement and customer satisfaction goals. To date, over 20,000 Customer Services training activities have been assigned and completed - which helped to better support and bolster their high customer satisfaction rates.
Improve employee productivity	For offices with low productivity, they typically found a correlation to low training. After targeting these offices with National Operations Standards, their training consumption and performance are now on the rise.
Reduce cost overruns and rework	Thanks to this program, they have profoundly reduced cost overruns and rework because their employees are trained to better estimate jobs and correctly install and service the company's hardware and software. The world's largest technology provider's performance has also improved, so their combined overall slip is now at or below zero.
Determine best practices; implement standardized processes across 80+ offices	From the beginning, this program was designed to span/affect the entire organization TIt, along with their LMS technology, was able to efficiently standardize and implement the organization's work processes (accounting and finance, purchasing, project management, estimating, project design, installation/start-up and service methods) across all 80+ offices.

Faster, Easier Training Completion

Backed by their next-gen, simple-to-use ExpertusONE LMS, this global powerhouse's competency program made finding and taking required training easy as 1, 2, 3...

- They are now able to pinpoint, by office, any gaps between job roles and development
- It's easier and more efficient for supervisors and managers to find and assign their employees' training
- It's also easier and more efficient for employees to locate and complete their assigned training

"As a result of implementing our ExpertusONE solution, it became much faster, easier and more efficient to get people through their training," the Manager concluded. "In fact, we estimate that our learners' average training time was reduced from one year to only six months!"

Direct Savings of their Standardized Training Program and ExpertusONE LMS Solution

Productivity Benefits	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Time savings for supervisors when assigning paths	\$280,000	\$120,000	\$80,000
Time savings for employees when monitoring assigned training	\$280,000	\$120,000	\$80,000
Time savings for employees when locating and launching a WBT	\$99,600	\$99,600	\$99,600
Time savings for employees when locating and enrolling in an ILT	\$26,394	\$26,394	\$26,394
Productivity Benefits Annual Total	\$685,994	\$365,994	\$285,994
Three Year Productivity Benefits Grand Total			\$1,337,982

Program Wins Gold

The Technology Provider's Standardized
Training Program was so innovative and
impactful that it won a coveted 2014 Brandon
Hall Group Gold Award for excellence in the
"Best in Competencies and Skill Development"
category.

"We are incredibly honored to receive this prestigious Gold Award from the Brandon Hall Group," the Manager said. "In the end, our Standardized Training Program achieved our ultimate goal of providing a faster, better training program with very positive business results that helps to ensure our projects are delivered on time and at or under budget."

"We're so happy that the ExpertusONE LMS helped the company to achieve their learning goals and had such a strong impact on their business," Ramesh Ramani, PeopleONE' President and CEO, added. "It's also great to see that our award-winning software helps our customers, in turn, win industry acclaim."

Six Lessons Learned

Looking back, the Manager and his team have a few lessons learned that may be helpful to others preparing to launch a new competency training program:

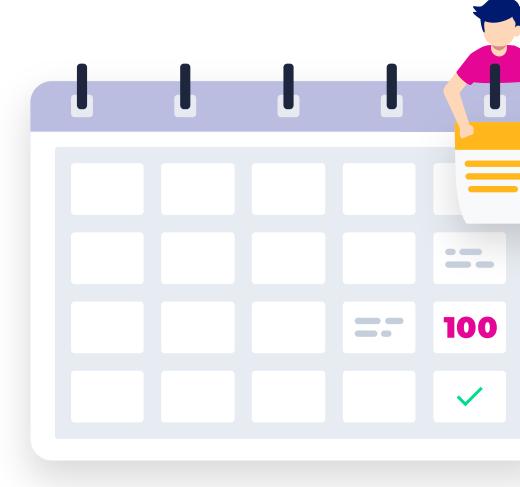
- It's much easier to do this type of program with a small core team who has worked together on previous projects and who participate in the new project from planning through implementation.
- 2. Your core team must understand data and reporting. Everything that's developed has to be viewed from the perspective of: "What data do we need and how will we use it?"
- **3.** It always takes longer than you've planned to develop and implement a new program.
- 4. Sometimes you should start a program with the LMS you have, so you'll gain a much better idea of what your new learning management system must deliver.
- **5.** Don't wait for job titles to become standardized throughout your organization. Instead, use related job roles to define the necessary development.
- **6.** Sometimes what seems completely impossible, is absolutely possible as long as the will and buy-in are there!

Future Plans

As for what the global powerhouse is going to do next, Tom Bronikowski, their PeopleONE Account Director, explains that...

"They're eager to expand the use and exploration of ExpertusONE's next-gen capabilities to further improve manager, supervisor and employee efficiency. Its industry-best features like gamification, mobile learning and two-way Salesforce.com integration will definitely up their learning engagement and time-to-competency rates."

The Manager also plans on offering their learned expertise to their other organizations – helping them to develop job roles and create development plans that optimally align with their global initiatives.





What Analysts Are Saying About ExpertusONE

"...represents a new breed of corporate training platform."

BERSIN & ASSOCIATES

"...achieved our #1 LMS ranking, again. It has every crucial component today's learning organizations need. From its future thinking approach and nextgen capabilities, it makes learning an easier, more successful endeavor."

E-LEARNING 24/7

"...is a state-of-the-art LMS, without the legacy issues faced by Saba, Plateau (SuccessFactors), SumTotal and others."

WAINHOUSE RESEARCH

"...propels the learning profession forward by letting customers make learning faster, better and easier."

BRANDON HALL GROUP

Learn more now

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