

Wyatt Hopper

35085629

Leadership Assignment

Introduction:

The leader is one of the most important roles within a team. This member makes sure that the project is on time for completion, guarantees success, keeps in contact with sponsors, and makes sure that everyone can perform the tasks assigned to them. For me, however, team leader should have a different definition as the current definition is someone who leads and manages the team working collectively on the project. This definition should be changed to someone who provides insight for the sections of the project the team is currently working on as that is the true importance and duty of the leader to provide insight, information, and leadership to a specific section of the project. In this report I will discuss the responsibilities that I had as official team leader as well as the responsibilities I had as a team member put in charge of one section of the project working collectively with my team to see its completion. Additionally, I will discuss my overall contributions and overall success within each of the roles I was given these past two semesters.

Responsibilities:

The responsibilities I had as team leader of the group far outweighed the responsibilities I had as a leader of the specified section of the project. When I was team leader I had to set schedules, make sure work was being completed by the group as a whole, I had to keep contact with the sponsors and send updates of the project, I had to keep in contact with the academic advisor for the project and send him updates, I had to plan meetings for the group, and finally I had to make sure that the quality of work and the work itself was accurate and was to the level the professor wanted. As a leader for the specific part of the project my duties were to assist the team where necessary, do research and calculations for the subsystem I was in charge of, make sure that my work was accurate and qualitative, and finally I had to assist in making sure that the work we were turning in was adequate enough for the professor. In both of these roles making sure that work was adequate is the only similarity between the roles. That and giving help where it is necessary was the only similarity. The differences in responsibility however are great as stated with the group leader position it was more professional communication and scheduling, whereas the role of being a member was making sure to show up to meetings and fulfill the level of work I was assigned.

Contributions and Success:

The contributions I made to my team were substantial in both roles whoever I would say the contributions I made as a team leader far outweigh the contributions I made as a team member. As team leader I contributed in terms of overall assistance with the project and gave assistance in scheduling and resolving any conflicts within the team. In addition to this I also contributed more information to my team about what the sponsors wanted and the advice I received from academic advisors. My contributions as a team member were to provide information and insight on my specific section of the project and assist others in other sections of

the project when it was asked of me. I would say that the role that a leader can make the biggest impact in is the team member role as this role works hard to make sure that the information that they provide to the project and to others they are assisting is accurate and fits within the scope of the project. The reason I state this is because as team leader I was having to jump from person to person trying to give assistance for the project and trying to make sure that everyone's needs were met which became hard for me to create a large impact in the overall project, whereas as the team member I was able to provide further insight into the specifics of the project and make a bigger impact towards the completion of the project for example I was able to provide extensive research on grinders and on guards for grinders as a team member, but when I was team lead I was trying to provide information to all of the subsystems to give assistance and some of the information I gave was incorrect and needed to be looked over again and correct the mistakes I had made. In terms of what role, I felt more productive in I would say I was more productive as a team leader than as a team member. The reason I say this is due to the fact that when I was a team leader I knew the importance of my role and I knew that making sure the project needed to be completed on time was my ultimate goal so I would spend more time trying to guarantee overall success for this project than compared to other projects, whereas for this semester where I was a team member I wasn't as productive as my goal was to provide information and calculations which did not require as much work as I would contribute small amounts of data that would end up being successful, but I would also spend some of my time trying to study for other classes which made my overall production less than normal.

Conclusion:

All in all, contributing in both roles has taught me a lot about what it takes to make a team strong. As a leader your role is to help guarantee the success of the project and make sure that all conflicts are resolved and as a team member your role is to provide key information that can lead to the success of the overall team. Being in these roles showed me how to be humble and taught me how to step back and trust the people I work with, and I could not be more thankful for such an opportunity.