

MINDSET MONTHLY

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Asset or Liability?

By Chris Manatad

Each team member carries the responsibility to be mindful about how the company is doing and how resources can be maximised to contribute to the company's targets and goals.

In the quest to have more reliable and efficient methods of doing business, the basic understanding of why we are doing what we are doing is usually cast aside, thinking we just have to get our tasks done and all is good. We go about our everyday tasks - day in, day out. Operations will follow step 1 till the last step, Finance will find the last fraction of a cent that is still missing. Marketing will work to close the deal. Everyone will work to come up with their deliverables, but many may not be inclined to know how their tasks contribute to moving the team, department, or company forward.

If each one of us will take a minute to understand how we are contributing, we will be able to strategise more effectively in doing our tasks. Appraising ourselves as either Asset or Liability based on what we do may make us more mindful when we go about our daily business.

We are assets to the company if we are able to contribute positively to meeting targets with the least resources possible without compromising quality and teamwork – that includes time, manpower and equipment. Some of us may not be outright revenue generators but if we enable revenue generators, we are considered assets.

On the other hand, we are liabilities if we use resources in ways that do not benefit the company. Abortive work makes us a liability. So do

unnecessary long meetings. No difference is any activity that does not accomplish anything or get us any closer to the company goals.

Taking that conscious step to discern if we are being an asset or a liability is imperative of each one. Leaders, however, have both the power and responsibility of setting the example of this mindfulness. And there is no better way than to consistently have this conscious effort of determining where efforts are being placed, and re-aligning directions with the company's targets and goals.

Consider the tasks you have done today. Look at your team goals, look at your company vision and values. Then ask:

“Have I been an asset? Or have I been a liability?”

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