

# Rethinking Incentives

Adapting strategies for the next generation workforce – Millennials and Gen Z

In today's swiftly evolving business landscape, the design and execution of channel incentive programs face fresh challenges and opportunities, especially with the ascendance of younger generations in the workforce. This e-Guide delves into the fundamental query of whether traditional incentive programs still hold sway in motivating employees from these younger cohorts, or if companies should explore novel avenues to spur engagement and performance. Through a thorough examination of current research and industry trends, we aim to offer insights and recommendations for crafting effective incentive strategies that resonate with the values, preferences, and motivations of Millennials and Gen Z.

# Embracing change in workforce dynamics

The workforce makeup is undergoing a seismic shift, with Millennials and Gen Z progressively assuming pivotal roles in sales and channel partner networks. As these digital natives inject their unique perspectives and expectations into the workplace, organisations must reassess their methods for incentivising and galvanising employees. One pivotal question emerges: Do traditional incentive programs, long

reliant on monetary rewards and performance-based incentives, still hold water in engaging and inspiring younger workers? This paper sets out to tackle this question by scrutinising the relevance of incentive programs amidst the evolving workforce dynamics and exploring alternative strategies for igniting employee motivation and performance.



The workforce makeup is undergoing a seismic shift, with Millennials and Gen Z progressively assuming pivotal roles in sales and channel partner networks.

# The relevance of incentive programs for younger generations: navigating the expectations of Millennials and Gen Z

In the quest to captivate and motivate Millennials and Gen Z, a pressing question arises: Do traditional incentive programs retain their potency, or should organisations venture into uncharted territory to incentivise their workforce? While some will say that younger generations harbour disparate values and priorities compared to their predecessors, recent research offers a different perspective. It suggests that incentive programs, while necessitating adaptation, retain relevance.

Studies unveil that Millennials and Gen Z aren't inherently averse to incentives; instead, they place primacy on experiences, recognition, and personal growth over mere financial rewards.

Thus, while the traditional incentive model may require tweaking, the core principle of rewarding and acknowledging performance remains pertinent.

Here are the top 10 strategies to incentivise and motivate Millennials and Gen Z.

# Emphasize experiential rewards over material incentives

01

Recognising the growing importance of experiential rewards, they implemented a novel approach that emphasized unique experiences over material incentives.

## Case History

Creating meaningful experiences at Tech Innovators Inc



# Background

Traditionally, incentive programs have centred around tangible rewards like cash bonuses or gift cards. However, Tech Innovators Inc., a leading tech firm, sought to revitalise its incentive strategy to better resonate with its predominantly Millennial workforce. Recognising the growing importance of experiential rewards, they implemented a novel approach that emphasized unique experiences over material incentives.

## **Implementation**

Instead of offering conventional rewards, Tech Innovators Inc. introduced a range of experiential incentives tailored to employees' interests and aspirations. These included:

#### Travel opportunities:

Employees earned points redeemable for travel experiences, such as weekend getaways, adventure vacations, or cultural tours.

Event tickets: High-performing

employees received tickets to exclusive events, concerts, or sports games, providing them with memorable experiences outside the

Wellness experiences: Recognising the importance of work-life balance, Tech Innovators Inc. offered wellness retreats, spa days, or mindfulness workshops as rewards for meeting performance targets.

The shift towards experiential rewards yielded significant positive outcomes:

**Increased engagement:** Employees were more motivated to achieve their goals, driven by the prospect of enriching experiences rather than just financial rewards.

**Enhanced satisfaction:** Participants reported higher levels of satisfaction and well-being, attributing it to the meaningful experiences facilitated by the incentive program.

**Stronger bonds:** Experiences shared with colleagues fostered camaraderie and strengthened team cohesion, contributing to a positive work culture.

By prioritising experiential rewards, Tech Innovators Inc. tapped into the intrinsic motivations of its workforce, enhancing engagement, satisfaction, and social connection. This case highlights the efficacy of shifting towards experiential incentives in aligning with the values and preferences of modern employees, particularly Millennials and Gen Z.

Participants reported higher levels of satisfaction and well-being, attributing it to the meaningful experiences facilitated by the incentive program.

For information on travel and experience awards and how we can help you achieve results like this **click here** 



**REFERENCES:** GINO, F., & ZHANG, Y. (2019). THE IMPACT OF EXPERIENTIAL REWARDS ON EMPLOYEE MOTIVATION. DUNN, E. W., GILBERT, D. T., & WILSON, T. D. (2011). IF MONEY DOESN'T MAKE YOU HAPPY, THEN YOU PROBABLY AREN'T SPENDING IT RIGHT.

# With a diverse workforce spanning multiple generations, they embarked on a strategic initiative to leverage technology and gamification to revitalise their incentive

programs.

## Case History

Driving engagement with tech
Integration at Global Tech Solutions



## Background

Global Tech Solutions, a renowned leader in the tech industry, recognised the critical role of technology in shaping employee engagement and motivation. With a diverse workforce spanning multiple generations, they embarked on a strategic initiative to leverage technology and gamification to revitalise their incentive programs.

## **Implementation**

Global Tech Solutions implemented innovative solutions to integrate technology and gamification into their incentive programs:

#### Digital platforms:

They developed a state-of-theart mobile app and online portal, providing employees with easy access to incentive program details, progress tracking, and participation in gamified challenges.

Social media engagement: Leveraging popular social media platforms, Global Tech Solutions fostered a sense of community and competition among employees, encouraging them to share achievements, collaborate, and celebrate successes.

#### Gamified challenges:

Introducing elements such as points, badges, and leaderboards, Global Tech Solutions transformed routine tasks into engaging challenges, motivating employees to excel and earn rewards.

The adoption of technology and gamification yielded significant positive outcomes for Global Tech Solutions:

Increased engagement: Employees actively participated in the incentive programs, utilising digital platforms to monitor progress, compete in challenges, and engage with colleagues.

Enhanced motivation: Gamification elements injected excitement and purpose into daily tasks, driving employees to surpass targets and strive for continuous improvement.

Improved performance: The interactive and personalised nature of the programs fuelled productivity and collaboration, leading to tangible business results and customer satisfaction.



66 By embracing technology and gamification, Global Tech Solutions transformed their incentive programs into dynamic, immersive experiences that resonated with the diverse preferences and motivations of their workforce.

> By embracing technology and gamification, Global Tech Solutions transformed their incentive programs into dynamic, immersive experiences that resonated with the diverse preferences and motivations of their workforce. This case underscores the effectiveness of leveraging tech innovations to foster engagement, motivation, and success in a competitive industry landscape.

For information on technology and gamification solutions we offer that will achieve results like this in your organisation, click here



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A LITERATURE REVIEW OF EMPIRICAL STUDIES ON GAMIFICATION. KELLER, J., & BLESSING, L. (2013). DESIGNING EFFECTIVE GAMIFICATION: WHAT WORKS?

# Foster collaboration and peer recognition

03

# Case History



Building a culture of appreciation at Google

#### Background

Google, the global technology giant known for its innovative workplace culture, places a strong emphasis on fostering collaboration and peer recognition. Understanding the significance of these elements in driving employee engagement and performance, Google has implemented various initiatives to cultivate a culture of appreciation and support.

#### **Implementation**

Google has implemented several strategies to foster collaboration and peer recognition meeting the expectation of Millenials and Gen Z:

#### Collaborative projects:

Google encourages employees to collaborate on cross-functional projects and initiatives, leveraging diverse perspectives and expertise to drive innovation and problem-solving.

#### Peer recognition platforms:

Google has developed internal platforms and tools that enable employees to recognise and

celebrate each other's achievements publicly. Employees can give "kudos" or "props" to their colleagues for their contributions, fostering a culture of appreciation and acknowledgment.

#### Team-building activities:

Google organises team-building events, workshops, and retreats that facilitate social bonding and camaraderie among employees. These activities strengthen relationships and promote a sense of belonging within teams and across the organisation.

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Google's focus on collaboration and peer recognition has yielded significant benefits:

**Increased engagement:** Employees feel valued and appreciated for their contributions, leading to higher levels of engagement and job satisfaction.

**Enhanced teamwork:** Collaborative projects and peer recognition initiatives have fostered a culture of teamwork and mutual support, driving productivity and innovation.

**Positive work environment:** Google's emphasis on collaboration and peer recognition has created a positive work environment where employees feel supported, motivated, and empowered to succeed.

By prioritising collaboration and peer recognition, Google has cultivated a work-place culture that promotes engagement, teamwork, and mutual respect. 99

By prioritising collaboration and peer recognition, Google has cultivated a workplace culture that promotes engagement, teamwork, and mutual respect. This case underscores the importance of fostering a culture of appreciation and support in driving employee motivation and performance, particularly among younger generations.

For information on employee engagement and recognition products we offer that will achieve results like these **click here** 



REFERENCES: EDMONDSON, A. C. (2018). THE FEARLESS ORGANISATION: CREATING

PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE FOR LEARNING, INNOVATION, AND GROWTH. BERSIN, J. (2012). THE EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION MATURITY MODEL.

# Provide flexibility and choice in reward options

04

# Case History



Empowering employees at Microsoft



Microsoft offers customisation options within its incentive programs, allowing employees to personalise their rewards based on their individual preferences and goals.

#### Background

Microsoft, a global leader in technology, places a strong emphasis on providing flexibility and choice in reward options within its incentive programs. Recognising the diverse preferences and motivations of its workforce, particularly Millennials and Gen Z, Microsoft has implemented innovative strategies to empower employees to select rewards that align with their individual interests and aspirations.

## **Implementation**

Microsoft has implemented several initiatives to provide flexibility and choice in reward options:

#### Experiential rewards:

Employees have the option to choose from a variety of experiential rewards, including travel opportunities, tickets to events, wellness experiences, and professional development programs. These experiential rewards cater to individuals' desire for personal growth, adventure, and work-life balance.

Material rewards: In addition to experiential rewards, employees can also select from a range of material rewards, such as gift cards, merchandise, or cash bonuses. This flexibility allows employees to tailor their rewards to their specific preferences and circumstances, whether they prefer tangible items or financial incentives.

Customisation options: Microsoft offers customisation options within its incentive programs, allowing employees to personalise their rewards based on their individual preferences and goals. Whether it's choosing a specific travel destination, selecting a preferred gift card vendor, or allocating bonus funds towards professional development, employees have the autonomy to design their reward experience.

Microsoft's focus on flexibility and choice in reward options has resulted in numerous benefits:

By providing flexibility and freedom of choice in reward options within its incentive programs, Microsoft has created a culture of empowerment, engagement, and satisfaction.

**Increased engagement:** Employees feel empowered and motivated by the ability to select rewards that resonate with their interests and aspirations, leading to higher levels of engagement and satisfaction.

**Enhanced motivation:** The availability of diverse reward options motivates employees to perform at their best, knowing that their efforts will be rewarded in a way that is meaningful to them.

Improved retention: By offering flexibility and choice in reward options, Microsoft has been able to attract and retain top talent, as employees value the company's commitment to meeting their individual needs and preferences.

By providing flexibility and freedom of choice in reward options within its incentive programs, Microsoft has created a culture of empowerment, engagement, and satisfaction. This case exemplifies the importance of accommodating the diverse needs and preferences of employees, particularly Millennials and Gen Z, in driving motivation, performance, and retention.

For more information on reward products we offer and how we can achieve results like these in your organisation, click here



REFERENCES: BENTHAM, R., & MULLIGAN, K. (2018). THE IMPACT OF EMPLOYEE CHOICE IN REWARD SYSTEMS ON MOTIVATION, PERFORMANCE AND PERCEIVED ORGANISATIONAL SUPPORT: A FIELD EXPERIMENT. WORLDATWORK. (2019). 2019 TRENDS IN EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION.

# Align incentives with organisational values and goals

05

# Case History



Driving performance through alignment at Apple



Apple's incentive programs are designed to reinforce and promote behaviours that align with the company's core values, such as innovation, creativity, and customer focus.

# Background

Apple, a global technology powerhouse, places a strong emphasis on aligning incentives with its core values and strategic goals. Recognising the importance of reinforcing desired behaviours and fostering a culture of excellence, Apple has implemented innovative strategies to ensure that its incentive programs support the organisation's mission, vision and values fulfilling the aspirations and needs of Millenials and Gen Z.

## **Implementation**

Apple has implemented several initiatives to align incentives with organisational values and goals:

#### Value-based recognition:

Apple's incentive programs are designed to reinforce and promote behaviours that align with the company's core values, such as innovation, creativity, and customer focus. For example, employees who demonstrate exceptional creativity or customer-centricity may be recognised and rewarded through special incentives or awards.

#### Goal alignment:

Apple links incentives to specific organisational goals and key performance indicators (KPIs), such

as product launches, customer satisfaction metrics, and revenue targets. By aligning incentives with these goals, Apple focuses employees' efforts and resources on activities that drive business success and growth.

#### Transparency and accountability:

Apple promotes transparency and accountability in its incentive programs by clearly communicating how performance is evaluated and rewards are determined. Employees understand how their contributions impact organisational success and how rewards are aligned with organisational goals, fostering a culture of fairness and accountability.

Apple's focus on aligning incentives with organisational values and goals has resulted in numerous benefits:

**Increased engagement:** Employees feel a strong sense of purpose and alignment with the organisation's mission and values, leading to higher levels of engagement and commitment.

**Enhanced performance:** By linking incentives to strategic goals and KPIs, Apple drives performance and achievement of key objectives, resulting in continued innovation and business success.

**Positive organisational culture:** Apple's emphasis on transparency, fairness, and accountability in its incentive programs fosters a positive organisational culture built on trust, integrity, and collaboration.

Employees feel a strong sense of purpose and alignment with the organisation's mission and values, leading to higher levels of engagement and commitment.

By aligning incentives with organisational values and goals, Apple has created a culture where employees are motivated to excel and contribute to the company's success. This case highlights the importance of reinforcing core values, promoting goal alignment, and fostering transparency and accountability in driving performance and achieving strategic objectives.

For more information on how we can achieve results like these in your organisation, click here



**REFERENCES:** LOCKE, E. A., & LATHAM, G. P. (2019). NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN AND DIRECTIONS FOR GOAL-SETTING RESEARCH. WORLDATWORK. (2018). INCENTIVE DESIGN AND NON-FINANCIAL REWARDS.

# Offer continuous learning and development opportunities

06

# Case History



Cultivating growth at Amazon



In the fastpaced and ever-changing landscape of e-commerce and technology, Amazon prioritises initiatives that empower employees to acquire new skills, expand their knowledge, and advance their careers.

## Background

Amazon, a global e-commerce and technology giant, recognises the importance of continuous learning and development in maintaining a skilled, engaged, and motivated workforce. In the fast-paced and ever-changing landscape of e-commerce and technology, Amazon prioritises initiatives that empower employees to acquire new skills, expand their knowledge, and advance their careers. Qualities and needs which resonate with Millenials and Gen Z.

## **Implementation**

Amazon has implemented various initiatives to offer continuous learning and development opportunities:

#### Training programs:

Amazon offers comprehensive training programs designed to equip employees with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in their roles. These programs cover a wide range of topics, from technical skills to leadership development, and are accessible to employees at all levels.

#### Online courses:

Amazon provides access to online learning platforms and courses, allowing employees to engage in self-paced learning and skill development. These platforms offer a diverse range of courses, enabling employees to tailor their learning experience to their specific interests and career goals.

Mentorship programs: Amazon facilitates mentorship programs that pair employees with experienced mentors who provide guidance, support, and career advice. These mentorship relationships foster professional growth and development, helping employees navigate their career paths within the organisation.

#### Tuition re-imbursement:

Amazon offers tuition
re-imbursement benefits to support
employees pursuing further education
and professional certifications.
This benefit enables employees
to continue their education while
working, enhancing their skills
and qualifications for future career
opportunities.

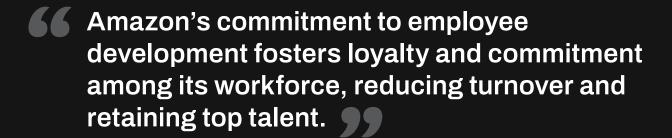
Amazon's focus on continuous learning and development has led to significant benefits:

Increased engagement: Employees feel valued and supported by Amazon's investment in their growth and development, leading to higher levels of engagement and job satisfaction.

**Enhanced skills:** Continuous learning initiatives have equipped employees with the skills and knowledge needed to adapt to changing job requirements and industry trends, driving individual and organisational success.

Improved Retention: Amazon's commitment to employee development fosters loyalty and commitment among its workforce, reducing turnover and retaining top talent.

By offering continuous learning and development opportunities, Amazon has created a culture of growth and innovation where employees are empowered to thrive. This case demonstrates the importance of investing in employee development to foster engagement, motivation, and success in a competitive business environment.



For more information on learning and development products we offer and how we can achieve results like these in your organisation, click here



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# Case History

Cultivating transparency at IBM





IBM has established feedback platforms that allow employees to receive constructive feedback on their performance and contributions to the incentive programs.

## Background

IBM, a global leader in technology and innovation, prioritises transparent communication and feedback mechanisms within its incentive programs. Recognising the importance of fostering clarity, trust, and accountability, IBM has implemented various initiatives to ensure open communication channels and effective feedback mechanisms which resonate deeply with the needs of Millenials and Gen Z.

# **Implementation**

IBM has implemented several strategies to ensure transparent communication and feedback mechanisms within its incentive programs:

Transparent communication:

IBM provides comprehensive communication regarding the purpose, objectives, and rules of its incentive programs to all participants. This includes clear explanations of eligibility criteria, reward structures, performance metrics, and evaluation processes, ensuring that employees understand program expectations.

Regular updates and progress reports: IBM regularly updates

participants throughout the duration of the incentive programs. These updates keep employees informed about their progress, achievements, and areas for improvement, maintaining engagement, motivation, and accountability.

Feedback platforms: IBM has established feedback platforms that allow employees to receive constructive feedback on their performance and contributions to the incentive programs. Feedback channels may include manager feedback, peer reviews, or customer feedback, providing employees with valuable insights to enhance their performance and development.

BM's focus on transparent communication and feedback mechanisms has led to numerous benefits:



#### **66** Employees feel informed, valued, and supported by IBM's transparent communication practices, leading to higher levels of engagement and commitment to the incentive programs.



Enhanced engagement: Employees feel informed, valued, and supported by IBM's transparent communication practices, leading to higher levels of engagement and commitment to the incentive programs.

Improved performance: Transparent feedback mechanisms enable employees to understand their role in achieving organisational goals and identify opportunities for growth and development, driving performance and success.

Cultivation of Trust: IBM's commitment to transparent communication fosters a culture of openness, trust, and continuous improvement within the organisation, strengthening relationships and fostering collaboration.

By ensuring transparent communication and feedback mechanisms within its incentive programs, IBM has built trust, accountability, and engagement among its employees. This case highlights the importance of transparent communication in promoting clarity, trust, and accountability within incentive programs, ultimately driving employee motivation and performance.

For more information on how we can achieve results like these in your organisation, click here



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# Personalise incentive programs to cater to individual preferences

08

# Case History

Implementing Personalization at Coca-Cola





By tailoring incentive programs to individual preferences, Coca-Cola aims to enhance engagement, motivation, and satisfaction, ultimately driving performance and success.

#### Background

Coca-Cola, a global beverage company, understands the importance of personalisation in designing effective incentive programs that resonate with the diverse preferences, motivations, and aspirations of its employees. By tailoring incentive programs to individual preferences, Coca-Cola aims to enhance engagement, motivation, and satisfaction, ultimately driving performance and success.

#### **Implementation**

Coca-Cola has implemented several strategies to personalise its incentive programs:

#### Customised reward options:

Coca-Cola offers a variety of reward options within its incentive programs, allowing employees to choose incentives that align with their interests and preferences. This includes options such as travel vouchers, wellness experiences, gift cards to popular retailers, and personalised merchandise from the Coca-Cola store.

#### Tailored recognition methods:

Coca-Cola incorporates personalised recognition methods into its incentive programs. This may include personalised messages of

appreciation, customised awards, or unique experiences tailored to each recipient's achievements and contributions. For example, topperforming employees may receive personalised thank-you notes from senior leadership or exclusive invitations to company events.

#### Data-driven personalisation:

Coca-Cola leverages data analytics, predictive modelling, and machine learning algorithms to analyse individual preferences, behaviours, and performance patterns. By understanding employee preferences and motivations, Coca-Cola can tailor incentives and rewards accordingly, ensuring that each participant receives targeted, relevant, and meaningful rewards.

The implementation of personalisation within Coca-Cola's incentive programs has led to numerous benefits:

Increased engagement: Employees feel valued and recognised by Coca-Cola's personalised incentive programs, leading to higher levels of engagement and commitment to achieving organisational goals.

Enhanced motivation: Personalised incentives and recognition methods motivate employees to perform at their best, as they feel that their individual contributions are acknowledged and rewarded.

Improved satisfaction: Employees report higher levels of satisfaction with Coca-Cola's incentive programs, as they appreciate the flexibility and choice offered by personalised reward options.

By personalising its incentive programs to cater to individual preferences, Coca-Cola has successfully enhanced engagement, motivation, and satisfaction among its employees. This case highlights the importance of personalisation in driving employee engagement and performance within incentive programs, ultimately contributing to Coca-Cola's success.



66 Employees feel valued and recognised by Coca-Cola's personalised incentive programs, leading to higher levels of engagement and commitment to achieving organisational goals.

> For more information on how we can achieve results like these in your organisation, click here



REFERENCES: BERSIN, J. (2015). WHY PERSONALIZATION IS THE KEY TO EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT, MERCER, (2020), PERSONALISATION IN REWARDS AND RECOGNITION. WORLDATWORK. (2020). PERSONALIZING RECOGNITION ProgramS FOR GREATER IMPACT. GARTNER. (2019). USE DATA AND ANALYTICS TO DRIVE PERSONALISED EMPLOYEE REWARDS. FORBES. (2018). HOW PERSONALISED INCENTIVES CAN DRIVE EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

# Promote work-life balance and well-being initiatives

09

# Case History

Johnson&Johnson

Supporting employee well-being at Johnson & Johnson

## Background

Johnson & Johnson, a renowned multinational corporation in the healthcare industry, prioritises promoting work-life balance and well-being initiatives within its incentive programs, qualities actively sought after by Millenials and Gen Z. Recognising the importance of supporting the holistic health and happiness of its employees, Johnson & Johnson has implemented various initiatives to enhance work-life balance and promote well-being.

# **Implementation**

Johnson & Johnson has implemented several strategies to promote work-life balance and well-being initiatives:

#### Flexible Work Arrangements:

Johnson & Johnson offers flexible work arrangements, including remote work options, flexible scheduling, and compressed workweeks. These arrangements allow employees to better manage their work and personal commitments, promoting a healthier work-life balance.

#### Well-being initiatives:

Johnson & Johnson provides a range of well-being initiatives aimed at supporting employees' physical,

mental, and emotional health.

This includes access to health and wellness resources, mental health support services, stress management programs, and employee assistance programs.

#### Incentives for participation:

Johnson & Johnson incentivises employees to participate in well-being initiatives by offering rewards, recognition, or incentives for engaging in activities such as mindfulness programs, fitness challenges, wellness workshops, and health screenings.

Johnson
S Johnson
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and emotional
health.

The implementation of work-life balance and well-being initiatives at Johnson & Johnson has led to numerous benefits:

Improved employee satisfaction: Employees report higher levels of satisfaction with their jobs and overall well-being due to Johnson & Johnson's support for work-life balance and well-being initiatives.

**Enhanced engagement and productivity:** Employees who experience a healthier work-life balance and participate in well-being initiatives are more engaged, motivated, and productive in their roles.

**Reduced turnover:** Johnson & Johnson experiences lower turnover rates as employees feel valued, supported, and cared for by the organisation's commitment to their holistic health and happiness.

By prioritising work-life balance and well-being initiatives within its incentive programs, Johnson & Johnson has created a supportive and caring work environment that enhances employee satisfaction, engagement, and productivity.

By prioritising work-life balance and well-being initiatives within its incentive programs, Johnson & Johnson has created a supportive and caring work environment that enhances employee satisfaction, engagement, and productivity. This case highlights the importance of promoting work-life balance and well-being to drive organisational success and matches the aspirations of Millenniums and Gen Z.

For more information on how we can achieve results like these in your organisation, click here



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WELL-BEING SURVEY. PWC. (2020). PWC'S WELL-BEING SURVEY.

# Evaluate and iterate incentive strategies regularly to optimise performance

10

# Case History

Continuous improvement at Walmart





Based on the insights gleaned from data analysis and employee feedback, Walmart iterates and refines its incentive strategies on an ongoing basis.

## **Background**

Walmart, a multinational retail corporation, places a strong emphasis on evaluating and iterating its incentive strategies regularly to optimise performance and enhance employee engagement. Recognising the importance of adapting to changing employee needs and market dynamics, Walmart has implemented a systematic approach to evaluating and refining its incentive programs.

#### **Implementation**

Walmart employs various strategies to evaluate and iterate its incentive strategies regularly:

#### Comprehensive data analysis:

Walmart utilises advanced data analytics tools to collect and analyse a wide range of data points related to its incentive programs. This includes metrics such as participation rates, goal achievement, reward utilisation, and employee feedback. By leveraging data-driven insights, Walmart can identify trends, patterns, and areas for improvement in its incentive programs.

#### Employee feedback mechanisms:

Walmart actively solicits feedback from employees through surveys, focus groups, town hall meetings, and one-on-one discussions. This feedback provides valuable insights into employees' experiences, preferences, and suggestions for enhancing incentive programs. Walmart values employee input and incorporates it into the decisionmaking process for refining incentive strategies.

#### Continuous refinement:

Based on the insights gleaned from data analysis and employee feedback, Walmart iterates and refines its incentive strategies on an ongoing basis. This may involve making adjustments to reward structures, revising eligibility criteria, introducing new incentives, or enhancing communication channels. By continuously refining its incentive programs, Walmart aims to ensure that they remain aligned with organisational goals and employee preferences.

The continuous evaluation and iteration of incentive strategies at Walmart have yielded significant benefits:

Increased employee engagement: Employees at Walmart feel empowered and motivated by the organisation's commitment to continuously improving its incentive programs based on their feedback and data analysis.

Enhanced performance: By optimising its incentive strategies over time, Walmart has been able to drive higher levels of employee engagement, motivation, and performance. This, in turn, has contributed to improved customer satisfaction and business outcomes.

Agility and adaptability: Walmart's culture of continuous improvement fosters agility and adaptability within the organisation. By staying responsive to employee feedback and market trends, Walmart can quickly adjust its incentive programs to address emerging challenges and opportunities.



Through its dedication to evaluating and iterating its incentive strategies regularly, Walmart has created a culture of continuous improvement and innovation that drives employee engagement, motivation, and performance.

> Through its dedication to evaluating and iterating its incentive strategies regularly, Walmart has created a culture of continuous improvement and innovation that drives employee engagement, motivation and performance. This case underscores the importance of staying agile and responsive in optimising incentive programs to achieve organisational success.

For more information on our data analytics capabilities and how we can achieve results like these in your organisation, click here



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WORLDATWORK. (2021). MEASURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE ProgramS. MCKINSEY. (2020). USING ADVANCED ANALYTICS TO DRIVE PERFORMANCE. DELOITTE. (2018). THE FUTURE OF PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT. BERSIN, J. (2016). WHY YOU SHOULD TREAT YOUR EMPLOYEES AS YOUR BEST CUSTOMERS. GALLUP. (2021). CULTIVATING AN AGILE CULTURE FOR EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE

In conclusion, the landscape of workforce and channel partner incentives is undergoing a profound transformation driven by the evolving preferences and expectations of the Millennial and Gen Z workforce. As outlined in this document, traditional incentive strategies must be re-evaluated and adapted to effectively engage these generations. From prioritising purpose-driven incentives to embracing digital platforms and fostering authentic connections, the strategies presented here provide a roadmap for organisations to navigate this shifting terrain successfully.

It is evident that the key to unlocking the full potential of workforce and channel-partner (dealer) incentives lies in understanding and catering to the unique motivations and values of Millennials and Gen Z. By embracing innovation, flexibility, and inclusivity, organisations can cultivate loyalty, drive performance, and foster a culture of continuous improvement among their channel partners and employees.



#### 66 By embracing innovation, flexibility, and inclusivity, organisations can cultivate loyalty, drive performance, and foster a culture of continuous improvement among their channel partners and employees. 99

As we move forward, it is imperative for organisations to remain agile and responsive, continuously reassessing and refining their incentive programs to align with the evolving needs and preferences of the workforce. By doing so, they can not only stay ahead of the curve but also position themselves as employers and partners of choice in an increasingly competitive landscape.

In essence, the future of channel incentives hinges on the ability of organisations to embrace change, harness technology, and cultivate meaningful relationships with their stakeholders. By adopting a forward-thinking mindset and leveraging the insights shared in this document, organisations can seize the opportunities presented by the new generation workforce and drive sustainable growth and success in the years to come.