

Strengths and Weaknesses of **Divisional Organization Structure**

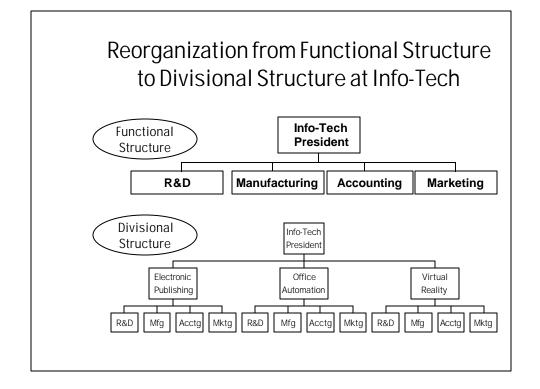
െ STRENGTHS:

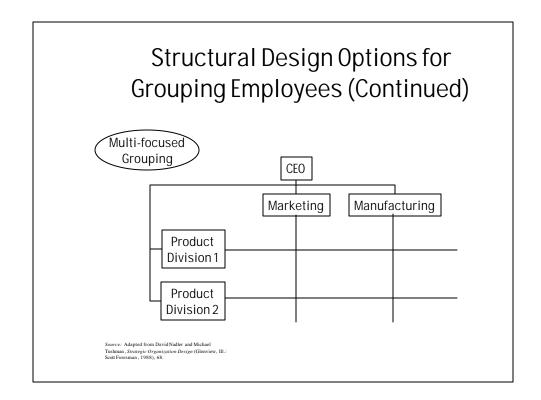
- Suited to fast change in unstable environment
- · Leads to client satisfaction because product responsibility and contact points are clear
- Involves high coordination across • functions
- Allows units to adapt to differences in products, regions, clients
- Best in large organizations with several products
- Decentralizes decision-making

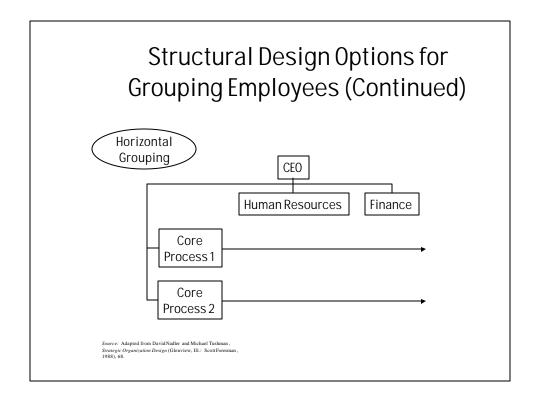
Source: Adapted from Robert Duncan, "What Is the Right Organization Structure? Decision Tree Analysis Provides the Answer," Organizational Dynamics (Winter 1979): 431.

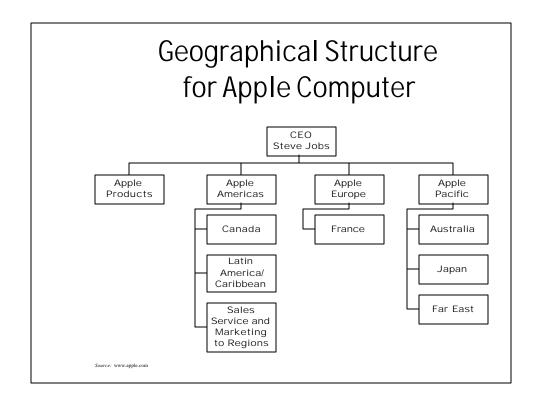
ิ WEAKNESSES:

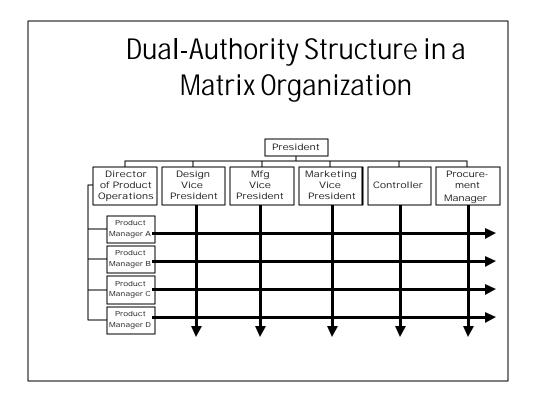
- · Eliminates economies of scale in functional departments
- Leads to poor coordination across product lines
- Eliminates in-depth • competence and technical specialization
- Makes integration and standardization across product lines difficult











Strengths and Weaknesses of Matrix Organization Structure

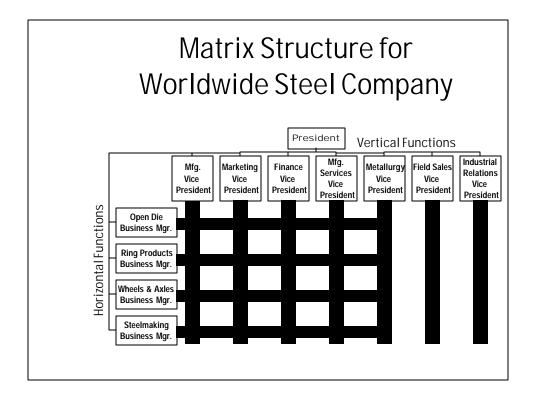
ര STRENGTHS:

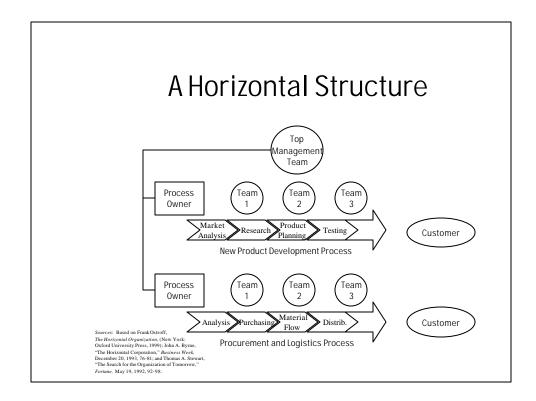
- Achieves coordination necessary to meet dual demands from customers
- Flexible sharing of human
 resources across products
- Suited to complex decisions and frequent changes in unstable environment
- Provides opportunity for both functional and product skill development
- Best in medium-sized
 organizations with multiple
 products

Source: Adapted from Robert Duncan, "What Is the Right Organization Structure? Decision Tree Analysis Provides the Answer,"Organizational Dynamics (Winter 1979): 429.

ຈ WEAKNESSES:

- Causes participants to experience dual authority, which can be frustrating and confusing
- Means participants need good interpersonal skills and extensive training
- Is time consuming; involves frequent meetings and conflict resolution sessions
- Will not work unless participants understand it and adopt collegial rather than vertical-type relationships
- Requires great effort to maintain power balance





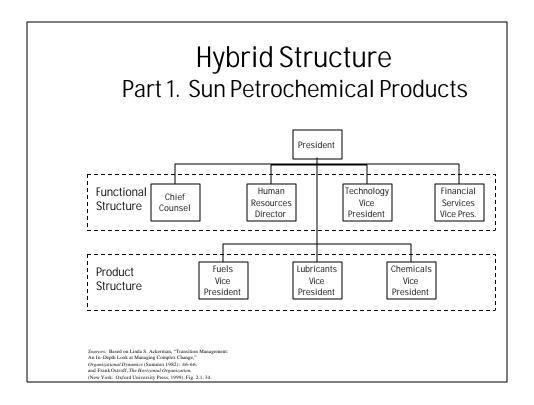
Strengths and Weaknesses of Horizontal Structure

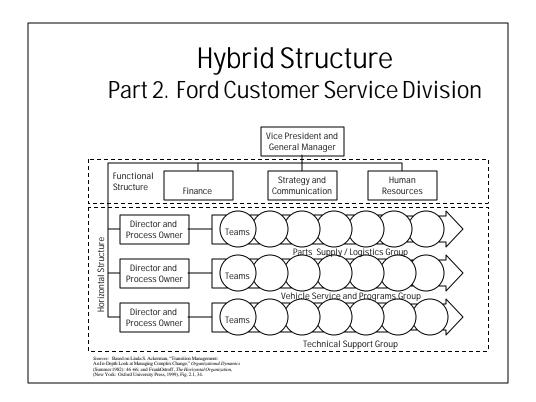
- Flexibility and rapid response to changes in customer needs
- Directs the attention of everyone toward the production and delivery of value to the customer
- Each employee has a broader view of organizational goals
- Promotes a focus on teamwork and collaboration—common commitment to meeting objectives
- Improves quality of life for employees by offering them the opportunity to share responsibility, make decisions, and be accountable for outcomes

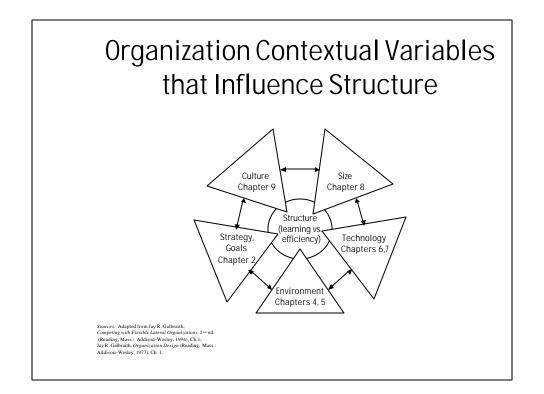
Sources: Based on Frank Ostroff, *The Horizontal Organization: What th* Organization of the Future Looks Like and How It Delivers Value to Customers, (New York: 'Oxford University Press, 1999): and Richard L. Daft, Organization Theory and Design, 6 ed., (Cincinnati, Ohio: South-Western College Publishing, 1998) 253.

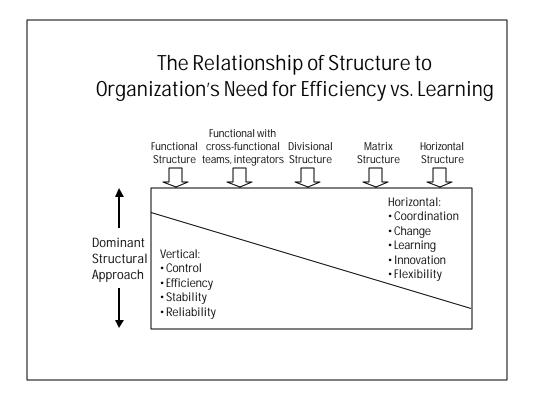
ຈ WEAKNESSES:

- Determining core processed to organize around is difficult and time-consuming
- Requires changes in culture, job design, management philosophy, and information and reward systems
- Traditional managers may balk when they have to give up power and authority
- Requires significant training of employees to work effectively in a horizontal team environment
- Can limit in-depth skill development









Symptoms of Structural Deficiency

- ର Decision making is delayed or lacking in quality
- ∂ The organization does not respond innovatively to a changing environment
- a Too much conflict from departments being at cross purposes is evident