DIRECTIONS FOR MODEL ASSEMBLY

SEATING:
No table should have more than 8 people.

SET-UP:
- Each table has a bag of gears/parts to build your model.
- Each of these bags have the same pieces – i.e. one purple gear, 2 yellow gears, etc.

PARTS:

SELECT:
- Select one person to assemble your model. S/he will be wearing a blindfold and will not talk throughout this process.
- Other members at the table will be giving only verbal directions on how to assemble the model and cannot touch the assembler or parts.
- Once assembler removes blindfold, no other adjustments to the model may be made.

GOAL:
At the conclusion of this process, each table will have built the same model.
DIRECTIONS: ORIENTATION: Front = closest to the assembler; Back = furthest from the assembler.

1. Take Base and place it on table so pegs are facing up.
2. Position Base so the two knobs on the sides are facing left and back.
3. Place blue gear on left back peg of Base.
4. Place orange gear on top of blue gear and align.
5. Place purple gear on left front peg of Base.
6. Now you will build a column.
   a. Place Square Pillar on right front peg of Base.
   b. Place Six-Way Axle on Square Pillar with pegs facing front and back.
   c. Repeat steps A and B two more times.
   d. On the column you just created, place Square Pillar on top of Six-Way Axle.
   e. Place Pillar Extender on top of the Square Pillar.
   f. Place blue gear on front-facing peg of bottom Six-Way Axle.
   g. Place yellow gear on front-facing peg of middle Six-Way Axle of the column.
7. Turn Base so two pegs on the sides of the Base are facing back and right.
8. On the column you have created, place yellow gear on the right-facing peg of the bottom Six-Way Axle.
9. Continuing up this same column, place green gear on the right-facing peg of the middle Six-Way Axle.
10. Continuing up this same column, place red gear on the right-facing peg of the top Six-Way Axle.
11. Place red gear on front right peg on the base. You may need a bit of “finesse” placing this gear since it will need to line-up with the bottom gear on the column and the back right gear which have already been placed.

CONGRATULATIONS – YOU’VE DONE IT!

DISCUSSION:
1 - Look at the side of the tower that has two gears. Give examples of how this represents operations in your organization.

2 - Look at the side of the tower that has three gears. Give examples of how this represents operations in your organization.

3 – What were the thoughts/frustrations of the assembler and those giving directions? What can we do to improve communications?

The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place / If you can’t explain it simply, you don’t understand it well enough / The biggest communication problem is we do not listen to understand. We listen to reply / Effective communication is 20% what you know and 80% how you feel about what you know / If you can’t convince them, confuse them / Two monologues do not make a dialogue / Nothing is so simple that it cannot be misunderstood.