

Article Info

Received: 11 Jan 2020 | Revised Submission: 29 May 2020 | Accepted: 30 Jul 2020 | Available Online: 15 Sept 2020

Expeditor Versus Inspector in the Battle of Sourcing – The Indian Valve Sourcing and Expediting Series

Paul Gregory F.*

ABSTRACT

Despotism in valve sourcing office ensnares abysmal operations. Wearing a cardigan of good judgment, it is the role of every sourcing manager to obliterate every attempt of moral depredation. The conundrum of the superiority of the expediting team versus the inspection team where one team stages a coup with the other remains an impasse. This article explicitly delineates this enigmatic scenario and also attempts to provide recommendations to the sourcing manager to handle this scenario. The sourcing manager is recommended to be a person of pragmatic wisdom and will need to critically analyze both the technical part and the non-technical part. Every sourcing manager must solve such indisposed situations. For a sourcing manager should leverage the conundrums to take a stance in initiating diplomatic truce and extenuate any kind of Machiavellian scheming. This article brings to light certain covert strategies that shall be applied to bring back the camaraderie. The resistance-based approach will hold good for such kinds of the feud.

Keywords: Conundrum; Despotism; Depredation; Impasse.

1.0 Introduction

This insurmountable question belies the true concept of valve sourcing human resource management. In a world full of jealousy, hypocrisy, slander, it is every individual who looks at his career with consternation. Several types of research have already brought to light the disparate nature of the valve sourcing and expediting office[1]–[5]. The inspector versus expeditor feud has been a traditional one in the valve sourcing industry, but of course, imbued with irrefutable corporate behavior.

The major question is, who is superior? Are expeditors better than inspectors, or, is it the other way around? But essentially, it is the responsibility of the sourcing manager that this feud does not result in any renegades. A few companies even take it to a different level assuming the expeditors and inspectors as disparate components of the valve sourcing office. This situation, if not handled with care will ramshackle the valve sourcing office. A daunting battle between the expeditors and inspectors arises when any one of them assume themselves to be titanic and disdain their other counterpart. But, to be explicit, expeditors and inspectors are both an integral part of the system and both the expeditors

and inspectors must not perform attrition over the other.

Expeditors, accentuates, an expeditor is a person who is employed specifically to assure the work to progress on time. As stated in the previous episode, expeditors must not treat inspectors as an emissary on their behalf. If things do not go as planned, certain processes need to proceed at breakneck speed and to make things functional, and expeditors must facilitate speedy recuperation rather than being a despot. The purpose of this article is not to judge expeditors or inspectors but to expunge situations like press-ganging and attrition.

2.0 Role of Expeditors in Valve Sourcing Offices

Expeditors are unique professionals who imbue the sourcing offices with the key responsibility of monitoring and reporting the progress. However, the major key responsibilities include,

1. To monitor the progress of various fabrication activities at the supplier facilities on the Purchase Order issued. However, expeditors are responsible for track monitoring.
2. To schedule and conduct review meetings at the supplier base and detect any cantankerous

*School of Energy, Department of Mechanical Engineering, PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India
(E-mail: meetwritergregory@aol.com)

incidents that are happening or that would likely happen.

3. Perform supplier appraisals and send out emissaries for field appraisals, if necessary. However, the inspectors shall not be the only ones who are to consider as emissaries. This is incontrovertible.
4. To coordinate with the inspection team thereby scheming out fathomable schedules.
5. In general, expeditors will have a drop of responsibilities related to office administration. However, additional finance staff is also suggested to be recruited, assisting expeditors with their daily expenses during a field visit.
6. To conduct frequent review meetings with the inspection team and to learn from their inspection about the ongoing activities at the fabrication facility.
7. To act as a counselor during the time of discombobulating in terms of applicable testing standards and other conforming standards.

3.0 Are Expeditors Superior?

There is this controversial topic, always acting as an experge-factor for sourcing offices. However, there is a general notion that expeditors are superior to inspectors as expeditors always plunge themselves into review meetings, discussion and inspectors involve in a lot of physical work such as inspections, monitoring Non-Destructive Testing processes. This article will break every general notion and will specifically address the issue in each sourcing office.

Sourcing offices must clearly understand that there are two wings for every bird to steer forward. Explicitly explaining the metaphor, the two wings are the sourcing team and the inspection team. The concept of steering a bird with one wing is highly inconceivable. Contemplating this metaphor to the next level, the sourcing managers should ruminate that the office cannot move forward without both wings i.e., without both teams. And, it will be loathsome for any sourcing manager to confide any particular matter of importance only with either of the teams.

Discussing back on who is superior, it is highly asserted that both teams are equally important. Sourcing team houses expeditors and the quality team houses inspectors and additional associates related to quality control. From hindsight, it is

recommended that sourcing managers must ensure that both teams are treated with absolute equality morally. Of course, offices must assert their stand on this issue, but must try to avoid any kind of malarkey. Expeditors are people of management and must focus on how to get work done on time and on the other hand inspectors must be men of veracity and veracity should be their prime motto. It is veracity combined with an expeditor's candor will take a sourcing office forward.

Let us consider this scenario, with a well-known example. Remember the famous Spanish Netflix series, 'La casa de Papel (Money Heist)'. During the course of the series, one might disdain the Professor, as one might think that he remains inactive in the dominant course of the heist, but yet he remains the protagonist. But, if one would take a deeper look onto the series, the Professor would have done the deeper groundwork and every plan of his would-be from hindsight. Let's compare Money Heist to our sourcing office. One can juxtapose the Professor to the expediting team and all other heist members to the inspection team. If one would presume that the Professor is unimportant and can be disdained, the entire heist would collapse. On the other hand, if one considers all others are unimportant, then with the Professor alone, it will be impossible to complete the heist. This example does not throw a point at the readers that expeditors and inspectors must be great thespians, but this exemplification is asserted to discern the importance of both teams in restive offices.

Now, one would have clearly understood that both the inspection and the expediting team is equally important. Hence, any feud arising exacerbating the situation shall be dealt with by the sourcing manager with this same stand. Kudos to Team Netflix for the implications arising out of the series are positive! But this principle will be barraged by a plentiful of questions like Is fieldwork equal to desktop work?. This controversial question will be addressed in the next section.

4.0 The Inspector vs Expeditor Feud

A few offices are performing exceptionally well that they do not need this article. But there are a few offices that run the entire office in a beleaguered state. The situations must look exasperating, enigmatic, and the penultimate, out of control!

Firstly, an inspector is a person of technical caliber and an expeditor is a person responsible for both the technical part as well as relationship management. But generally, there will arise a feud, who is greater? This disparate composition of sourcing offices at times make the things go desperate! This is quite arduous as facts are strewn up haphazard in an abhorrent way. Adding fuel to fire, sourcing managers must be capable to erase the minuscule of thought that inspectors and expeditors are unequal. Sourcing managers must act as a purveyor of equality and good judgment. It is sourcing managers, who are responsible to maintain the house in decorum. Any oblique or disparaging comments regarding the equal functioning of both the teams must immediately be attended to and solved.

Secondly, if there is a feud, sourcing managers must unravel the feud. They may do so by following the steps unfolding. Sourcing managers must discern where the feud has its provenance. They must unravel as which team accentuates the origin of this grotesque feud. Upon investigation, stories, abhorrent and repugnant facts will automatically unfold which will aid the manager to source the provenance. Sourcing managers must not be in a stupor when handling such a fragile situation. Also, sourcing managers must not fickle sides and must be a person of good judgment. Unnerved and disconcerted sourcing managers will be weak in handling such unprecedented situations and hence the upper management is recommended to assess the quality of the sourcing manager during such situations. Provenance analysis must be the prime goal when the sourcing manager detects any sign of feud.

Next, sourcing managers must know well that the feud, when uncontrolled, will turn into an upheaval. Sourcing managers must manage so as there is no sign of convulsions. Pragmatic conclusions will need to be addressed by the sourcing manager. After assessing the provenance, the next step any sourcing manager needs to adopt is to take control of the team which is opposite to the provenance team. This is recommended because, as per Newton's Third Law, for every action, there will be an equal and opposite reaction. This not only applies to mechanics but human psychology also. The other team must be controlled and needs to be

diverted from the issue thereby defanging the situation. In an attempt to enthrall an intrepid course, sourcing managers are recommended not to take any risks. In hindsight, it is recommended, if sourcing managers try to take risks, it is they who will be eventually ambushed. Officially, we are into the 'Battle of sourcing'.

To avert this, it is recommended, the sourcing manager handles this situation by first isolating the opposite team to the provenance team. Then the isolated team must be provided with wisdom to defang the situation. On the other hand, the provenance team must be handled differently. The insinuating approach will have to be applied to the provenance team. This does not mean that the isolated team must be made to be obsequious in a servile manner. These are recommended to avert major feuds. The provenance team members will then have to be then insinuated. If insinuation does not work, then they will have to be strictly recommended to desist from such activities. The degree of disciplinary action depends upon the Parent Organization.

The Fox Television series '9-1-1' teaches us multiple things to defang excruciating situations. Specifically, there was an episode that taught its viewers to think about the situation in the opposite way. When the dispatcher Madeline Buckley Kendall could not send the first responder to a pregnant civilian in need due to an incontrovertibly beleaguered situation, she thought of the opposite. She connected the pregnant civilian to the nearest serving first responder, thereby saving her. Sometimes, sourcing managers must think like a "Maddie". The principal is this: Instead of trying to defang the provenance team members, the isolated team members shall be directed to be under control. Otherwise, there will be a situation where both teams will be in a war of words. Figuratively speaking, the entire office will run into a state of privation.

This insinuation approach will not completely obliterate the feud. There will be a 'Head of Operations' (HOO) for every feud. This person will be the incipient of the entire feud. A plan needs to be meticulously drafted to identify this person. But this action needs to be done at breakneck speed. This person is the 'resistance' and will try to induce an irrefutably grotesque state of 'dominancy'. If this resistance is not obliterated, then the entire office

will turn abysmal. Figuratively speaking, now is the time for the sourcing manager to release the 'dragon'.

The same war strategy applied during the 'Battle of Winterfell' in the Game of Thrones (HBO series) is recommended to be applied in the Valve Sourcing Office. In this notable battle, Jon Snow and his Queen Daenerys Targaryen will leave the main battle and will search for the Night King to isolate him and defeat him. Because, when the 'Head of Operations' is defeated, eventually every other retinue will be defeated. Figuratively speaking, if the dragon does not defeat the resistance, a Valyrian sword will. This will hold good for any excruciating situation arising during the inspector versus expeditor feud.

To identify the resistance, one strategy will hold good. The key to identify is: the HOO will not directly involve in conceiving the feud, but his ideas will. So, whichever inspector or expeditor is actively participating in the feud, then the person is not the resistance. That person is just a tool. But this person will be the same person whom the sourcing manager can turn into a dragon to fire the resistance to ash. The 'dragon' shall be allowed to voice out his claims. The sourcing manager must be neutral and must identify whether the dragon's claims are true. If the accusations made by the dragon holds wise, then the isolation team members must be called for an investigation. If, on the other hand, if the accusation made by the provenance team dragon is found to be untrue, then that will be the perfect time to identify the resistance through the dragon. Explicitly stating, the sourcing manager will need to explain to the dragon about the equality in the line of work of both the sourcing team and the quality team. This needs irrefutably gargantuan efforts from the sourcing manager and once the dragon is convinced of the principles, then the resistance can be identified. Once identified, the resistance can be allowed to voice his views on the scenario and suitable disciplinary actions are recommended based on the company's disciplinary policy. Finally, "ring the bells".

5.0 The Responsibility Tympanum

A responsibility tympanum needs to be built in the valve sourcing office, once a feud is over. The tympanum needs to be built upon the following principles. When an inspector is provided with a duty to carry out the on-site inspection process, the order

for the duty shall be assigned by the expediting team. The expediting team members must possess sufficient knowledge of resource management. When a person is well versed with Non-Destructive Testing but not with foundry principles, then it is the responsibility of the expediting team to take note of this.

On the other hand, if the expediting team learns that any member of the inspection team needs industrial training, then the expediting team shall recommend this confidentially to the sourcing manager. There should not be any direct disparaging comments made from the expediting team towards the inspection team member. The inspection team shall have a Head and so shall the expediting team. Both the Heads need to present a weekly progress review of their members directly to the Sourcing Manager. If necessary, there shall be a combined review meeting housing both the teams. The sourcing manager must imbue an essence of brotherhood within his office, such that both teams remain at peace and not at each other's throats. This will turn the Sourcing Manager's psychology from a spirit of trepidation to a spirit of hope.

The sourcing manager must be a booster in hamstrung situations. When undergoing such excruciating feuds, there will be situations that will need to depose some people, a few will attempt technical apostasy, there will be several impasses, there will be several predicaments. The whole situation sometimes will even turn abominable. Despite the scaremongering situation, the sourcing manager must forage peace and brotherhood. When a spirit of brotherhood barges in, several feuds fall asunder.

Inspectors must be provided the freedom to propose any additional investigations required to assess the quality of the situation. They may do so with the permission of the sourcing manager and after obtaining permission, they shall inform the Head of the expediting team. The expediting team will also need to respect that it is the inspection team's prerogative to do so.

6.0 Conclusion

From the above war of facts, it can be concluded that the expediting team and the inspection team are equally important, hence, any bickering is strictly to be prohibited. Also, when there arises a feud between

the provenance team and the isolation team, the sourcing manager shall apply the resistance approach methodology. The resistance identification strategy will defang the dilemma. Also, the divide and conquer technique recommended in the episode will eventually create a realm of brotherhood between both the expediting and sourcing teams and will eliminate any kind of resistance that will exacerbate any excruciating situations. The principles recommended in this episode are often covert and this article has explicitly stated those principles. The motive of this article is not to pass derogatory remarks on any industry or any team, but to provide solutions to existing feuds in a few sourcing offices.

7.0 Acknowledgment

The author would also like to thank his parents and friends for the successful release of the series.

References

- [1] F Paul Gregory. Applicability of Quality Principles for Valve Sourcing and Expediting – The Indian Valve Sourcing and Expediting

Series, Int. J. Adv. Res. Innov., 7(1), 2019, 26–30, 2

- [2] F Paul Gregory, S Swathini. Applicability of Optimization Principles for Valve Sourcing and Expediting –The Indian Valve Sourcing and Expediting Series, Int. J. Adv. Res. Innov., 7(1), 2019, 51–57.
- [3] F Paul Gregory, S Sivasakthi VelanRole of Sourcing g Managers in enhancing the economic and technical scenario of sourcing from Indian Valve Industries, Int. J. Adv. Res. Innov., 6(3), 2018, 185–189,
- [4] F Paul Gregory. Work Culture Management for Valve Sourcing Offices – The Indian Valve Sourcing and Expediting Series, Int. J. Emerg. Trends Technol., 6(3), 2019, 14001–14007.
- [5] F Paul Gregory, R Gokul. Potential Strategies to prepare a unique RFQ – The Indian Valve Sourcing and Expediting Series, 7(3), 2019, 270–273.