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Process costing examples with answers

After watching a tearful ad from the ASPCA in which shelter dogs curl up in cages to the tune of Sarah McLachlan's Angel, it can be tempting to immediately run for cover and adopt the first dog you see. However, before you throw your shoes on and head out the door, it is important that you understand the cost and process of adopting a dog. In addition, it is crucial to take the time to assess whether you are really prepared to accept what can be an expensive long-term commitment. What to consider before adopting a dog 1. Adopting a dog is not free It is not cheap to adopt a dog. Adoption fees vary depending on the type of shelter or animal rescue, but typically range from \$100 to \$350. It may seem a lot like an organizational charge when shelters are full of dogs that need homes, but shelters use the funds to cover operating expenses as well as provide health care for dogs. Some organisations, especially those partly funded by the municipality, may offer lower adoption fees, but fewer services. For example, several years ago, when deciding where to go to adopt a dog, I compared municipal shelter to a shelter run by a local SPCA. Although municipal adoption rates were less than \$50, veterinary care was not provided and we would have been required to have the dog sterilized or castrated for our own penny. By contrast, the local SPCA charged \$85 for dogs weighing more than 25 kilograms and included all necessary shots, spay or neutrate, as well as a follow-up veterinary visit. This was especially helpful when we adopted our first dog because during our follow-up visit we chose to pay an extra \$12 for a blood heartworm test. The test was positive, and because they hadn't detected heartworms before adoption, the shelter covered all costs of heartworm treatment – which typically costs hundreds of dollars. Two more dogs from our positive experiences at the shelter have ended up adopting two more dogs from the facility in the next two years. Know what services the local shelter offers for an adoption fee. You have to decide whether you are willing to pay more for the dog if you get additional services in return, or do you prefer to pay less in advance for your new pet and take care of veterinary services on your own. 2. Dog adoption isn't always easy If you're going to do impulsive puppy purchases, you may have to rethink – many animal shelters require you to fill out an extensive application before taking the positivity home. The applications ask about your housing situation, your family life, whether you have other pets in your care, your overall activity level and if you have a veterinarian you intend to use. While the widespread nature of the app may seem like a temper, it's a smart move by adoption organizations. Sometimes an animal that the family wants to adopt does not get along well with other pets or young children Similarly, pet shelters know some apartment complexes or landlords do not allow animals on the property, so they need to check with the landlord that the dog has a permanent home waiting for it. Shelters and pet adoption organizations have one goal: to place dogs in suitable, permanent homes that reward families and dogs. The app itself is one way to protect families before putting a dog in their care, but they can also take the application process a step further. Some organizations require a home visit before adopting a dog. The home visit is arranged by shelter staff or their volunteers and involves someone visiting the applicant's permanent address to make sure it is a suitable environment for the pet. All in all, shelters try to make the adoption process as fast and painless as possible, but approval can take one day to several weeks. Check the local shelters to see what they require before you go and adopt the dog so you have the necessary information and paperwork. 3. It is important to create an inviting home Once your adoption has been approved, it is time to bring a new puppy home. After living in a shelter stress environment, it will probably take your dog several days to relax in your home. Make this process as easy as possible by purchasing the necessary dog accessories in advance. A few dog toys, a dog bed, quality dog food, food and water bowls, a collar, a leash, a tag and a box are all items. Expect to spend \$100 to \$200 on appets, depending in part on the size of your dog. Larger dogs need bigger beds, bigger boxes, sturdier supplies and more food, all of which cost more to buy. If you have small children or other pets in your home, understand that there is an adaptation period for everyone. Consider introducing your pet to each other in a neutral, non-life-threatening environment (such as a park) so they can know each other before bringing them to the same house. Warn your kids to crush your new dog at first. It is likely that your puppy will want to sleep more than usual in the first few days when he relaxes after leaving the shelter. Do what you can to accommodate this rest, slowly getting used to the dog to your family and vice versa. The last word Dog acceptance may be one of the most rewarding things you've ever done, but there are speed bumps on the adoption road that you have to cross. When you want a dog now, these obstacles may seem frustrating, but they are there for a good reason. Owning a dog is expensive, and it requires a committed, responsible owner. The ASPCA estimates that the first year of dog ownership costs between \$1,314 and \$1,843 (including the dog adoption fee) before falling to an annual cost of \$580 to \$875 for each of the following years. This means you can expect to spend between \$700 and \$1,000 on initial adoption, supplies and veterinary expenses that necessary when bringing in a new dog dog Home. It sounds a lot, but the cost and process of dog adoption helps ensure that approved families have the means and motivation to create a positive, loving and permanent home for their new pet. Have you adopted a dog? What was the process like for you? As an IT management consultant, I look at a lot of processes. They're everywhere. So are the misconceptions about what makes them useful. Over the years I've been in it, the process has become the default solution to most technical management issues. Are projects failing? We need a new process. Problems prioritizing work? It's the new process that solves it. Poor relationship with users and customers? You knew it was all a process at the same time. I think our appeal to processes is natural. They feel familiar, and a good process shares many of the advantages of good technical solutions. A good process, just like a good code, effectively solves seemingly complex problems conceptually with simple solutions. It has deterministic instructions. A good process is not just a random collection of good ideas, but a step-by-step approach that provides useful guidance. All common problems and options are foreseen, and specific instructions are available. And a good process looks like a code that gives instructions on what should be done, who and when. But the similarities between code and process can also mislead us. The code is executed by machines that have no feelings for the tasks they perform. They have no hopes, no anger, no pride, no ambition. 386 doesn't envy the quadride. Code branches to compulsive facts, while processes must take into account subjective experience. No matter how complex the calculation is, decisions about which steps the code will run will be derived from the data. This applies to some extent to processes, but more subjective measures related to the emotions of the people involved will also be included. At some point, the facts will not be enough. The code doesn't care about stakeholders. The processes must take into account the complexity of human policy and relationships. The successful completion of most processes requires building stakeholder consensus, anticipating and overthrowing resistance, and managing expectations. So whenever I am asked to review the process of fixing or replacing it, I ask a few key questions about it. They all crystallized in the fact that the processes are designed for humans and not machines. The first question, of course, is whether it will lead to the desired outcome? No matter how well the process handles people, if it doesn't control the work, it's worthless. Next, how does it balance competing goals? All work is subject to competing demands. Time, scope, cost and quality are a classic foursome. Rigid processes ignore this constant or assume permanent solutions. Fragile processes give balance to an individual, usually a sponsor or manager. More robust solid build a dynamic balance of stakeholders in the procedure itself. Thirdly, does that explain the human needs of the people who implemented it? Since working people, the processes that guide the division of labour must take into account the variability of people's emotional and personal needs. Fourthly, how does it anticipate and channel political concerns? Different stakeholders always have different views and feelings. Fragile processes ignore this. The robust reflect the likelihood and absurdity of building a coalition. Remember that an effective process is designed for human usability. Paul Glen is a consultant who helps technical organizations improve productivity through leadership, and author of the award-winning book Leading Geeks (Jossey-Bass, 2003). You can contact him at info@paulglen.com. Copyright © 2010 IDG Communications, Inc. Inc.

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