

## ANALYSIS OF DIFFERENCES IN TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP BETWEEN GENERATIONS X AND Y AND THE EFFECT ON POWER PLANT COMPANY PERFORMANCE

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### ABSTRACT

*This study analyzes the differences in transformational leadership between generation X and generation Y and its effect on company performance in two power generation companies in North Sumatra Province. The number of samples was 50 people in each group of generations X and Y. Data analysis using SPSS included F-test, T-test, the coefficient of determination, and independent sample T-test. The F-test shows that charismatic variables, inspirational motivation, intellectual stimulation, and individual considerations simultaneously affect the performance of each group of generation X and generation Y. The results of the T-test in generation X show that the variables of inspirational motivation and individual considerations are partially has a positive and significant effect on company performance, meanwhile in generation Y only charismatic variables have a positive and significant influence on company performance. The results of the coefficient of determination said that the transformational leadership of generation X contributed 70.2% to the company performance, while the transformational leadership of the Y generation contributed 22.3% to the company performance. Independent sample T-test said that there was a significant difference between the transformational leadership of the generation X and generation Y.*

**Keywords:** Company Performance, Generation X, Generation Y, Transformational Leadership

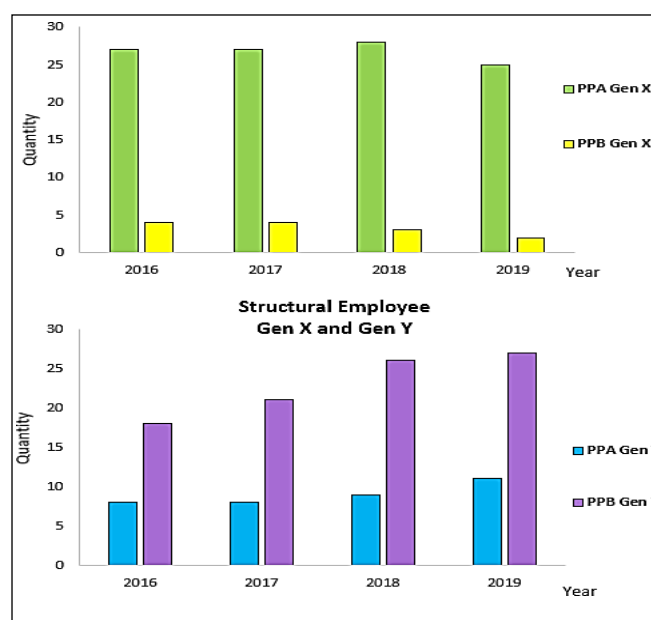
### 1. INTRODUCTION

North Sumatra has several power generation companies. Two of them are Power Plant A (PPA) and Power Plant B (PPB). PPA is a power generation company that has a power capacity of 1000 Megawatts, which in its operations uses gas fuel. Meanwhile, PPB is a power plant that uses coal fuel, which in its capacity of 140 Megawatts. PPA has the type of Gas and steam power plant, and diesel power plant. While PPB has only the steam power plant. Based on the data obtained and interviews in the PPA and PPB companies, the results of leadership perspective and company performance between PPA and PPB differs in the range of 2016 to 2019.



**Figure 1** Performance and Leadership Perspective

It is explained in Figure 1 that the achievements of PPA and PPB have differences. Based on the PPA leadership perspective has a trend of higher values than PPB in the range of 2016 to 2019. Likewise, the comparison of company performance between PPA and PPB in the same year. Figure 1 shows that leadership indirectly affects the achievement of the company performance value of the two power generation companies. Another phenomenon between PPA and PPB companies is the composition of structural employees.



**Figure 2** Structural Employee Gen X and Gen Y

Figure 2 explains that from 2016 to 2019 shows that the ratio of structural employees from generations X and Y in PPA and PPB companies. In the span of 2016 to 2019, PPA was dominated by Generation X, in contrast to PPB in the same year, structural employees at PPB were dominated by Generation Y. In these two generations, they mostly occupy the low managerial level or often called the supervisor.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1. Transformational Leadership

Bass & Avolio, 1994 and Northouse, 2004 mean that transformational leadership is a collaborative leadership style that produces change through involvement, connection, and motivation. The attributes that make up transformational leadership are idealized influence, individual judgment, inspirational motivation, and intellectual stimulation. Transformational leadership is a leadership theory that is effective in any situation or culture (Yukl, 2006). The components of transformational leadership, as defined by Bass and Avolio (1994), consist of idealized influence, individualized consideration, inspirational motivation, and intellectual stimulation.

### 2.2. Idealized/Charismatic Influence

Bass and Avolio (1994) and Bass and Riggio (2006) argue that leaders become role models for change, exhibit charismatic, high moral standards, and ethical practices. Furthermore, Bell and Narz (2007) found that leaders do not have false pride and are loyal to ethics, goals, and personal principles. Bass and Riggio explain that role models are admired, trusted, and respected; on the other hand, followers want to imitate the leader's behavior. According to Bass and Avolio (1994) leaders who exhibit idealized influence embrace integrity and principles-based behavior.



### 2.3. Inspirational Motivation

Leaders with the ability to inspire others to join in on a shared vision are considered to use inspirational motivation. Bass and Riggio (2006) assert that this type of leader imagines the future and, through motivation and inspiration, followers join in imagining the future. According to Bass and Avolio (1994) leaders create an enthusiastic and enthusiastic environment. Tichy and Devanna (1990) agree that motivation and role modeling are key behaviors for inspirational motivation.

### 2.4. Intellectual Stimulation

Intellectual stimulation is a leadership style that energizes followers by challenging their imagination and expanding their creative ability to solve problems (Bass & Avolio, 1994; Bass & Riggio, 2006; Northouse, 2004). These leaders do not criticize followers openly, instead they encourage the identification of new ideas. Bass adds that these leaders challenge followers to use intelligence to identify new solutions.

### 2.5. Individual Considerations

An important factor for transformational leaders is knowing the needs of followers. Bass and Riggio (2006) and Northouse (2004) state this is provided through coaching, advising, and mentoring. Furthermore, Bass and Riggio state that followers are developed through the recognition of individual needs by the leader.

### 2.6. Performance

Castka, Bamber, Sharp and Belohoubek (2001) mention performance as the goal of teamwork and they state that team performance has become a very important aspect in the field of research. Performance characteristics according to leadership style (Zaccaro, Rittman & Marks, 2001). In the article Zaccaro et al. (2001) they argue that the leadership process is perhaps the most critical for influencing the performance outcomes of members of different generations. Fiedler (1996) researched that the effective leadership of a leader is a major determinant of the performance of members, groups or organizations.

### 2.7. Generation X

Generation X people were born between 1965-1980. Generation X people will not stay in the same workplace for more than five years and in many cases may move within three years (Chatzky, 2002). Generation X works for life and balance of life is the hallmark of this generation (Conger, 2006). Generation X tends to be more independent, motivated, and independent. Furthermore, Kopperschmidt (2000) describes generation X as information technology and is very comfortable with diversity, change, and competition.

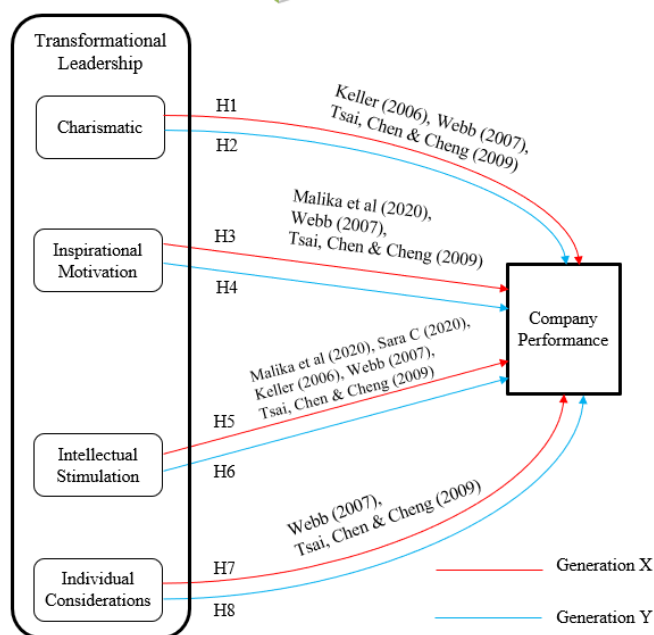
### 2.8. Generation Y

Often referred to as Generation Y, Echo Boom, Net Generation or Millennials. This group was born between 1981 and 2000 (Lancaster & Stillman, 2002). The first wave of Millennials entered the workforce in 2004. Millennials have been described as selfish, unmotivated and highly narcissistic (Twenge, J. M., Campbell, W. K., & Freeman, E. C., 2012). They prefer a group work environment with less formal leadership, a strong focus on results, and collaboration (Crumpacker & Crumpacker, 2007).

## 3. PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Keller (2006) analyzed companies in the R&D field, from the results of the analysis that the charismatic dimensions and intellectual stimulation had an impact on team performance. Studies conducted by Webb (2007) and Tsai, Chen, Cheng (2009) stated that the four dimensions of transformational leadership such as charismatic, inspirational motivation, intellectual stimulation and individual considerations positively affect performance. The research group Malika J, Kristina

P and Sara C (2020) examined 42 CEOs of US and European public companies. The results showed a significant relationship between intellectual stimulation and inspirational motivation had a positive effect on company performance. Mecca M. Salahuddin (2010) conveyed that different generations practice different ways of leading. Huichun Yu and Peter Miller (2005) in their research show that the characteristics of leadership styles differ between generations in different industries.



**Figure 3** Conceptual Framework

#### 4. HYPOTHESIS

As the conceptual framework in Figure 3, the research hypotheses are formulated :

- H1: There is a positive and significant influence between the Charismatic of Generation X leaders on company performance
- H2: There is a positive and significant influence between the Charismatic of Generation Y leaders on company performance
- H3: There is a positive and significant influence between the inspirational motivation of Generation X leaders on company performance
- H4: There is a positive and significant influence between the inspirational motivation of Generation Y leaders on company performance
- H5: There is a positive and significant influence between the intellectual stimulation of Generation X leaders on company performance
- H6: There is a positive and significant influence between the intellectual stimulation of Generation Y leaders on company performance
- H7: There is a positive and significant influence between the individual considerations of Generation X leaders on company performance
- H8: There is a positive and significant influence between the individual considerations of Generation Y leaders on company performance
- H9: There are transformational leadership differences between generations X and generation Y





## 5. PARTICIPANTS

In both power generation companies, the population of Generation X is 56 employees and Generation Y is 290 employees. The research sample for the X generation is 50 employees and the Y generation group is 50 employees.

## 6. DATA COLLECTION AND QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN

Data collection was done by using a questionnaire. Questionnaire is a structured questionnaire in order to obtain accurate data in the form of direct responses from respondents. This instrument identifies the components of transformational leadership (charismatic, inspirational motivation, intellectual stimulation, and individual consideration) and identifies the company performance. The research instrument was first tested for validity and reliability. The sample data were also tested for normality, multicollinearity, heteroscedasticity to provide certainty that the data have accuracy in estimation, are unbiased and consistent. Data analysis using SPSS includes F-test, T-test, Coefficient of Determination test and Independent Sample T-test

## 7. EMPIRICAL RESULTS

The SPSS data analysis is presented in Table 1. The results of the F-test for the X generation group have a calculated F value of 26,484 and for the Y generation the calculated F value of 3,225. It is known that the F table is 2.56 so that based on decision making in the F-test it can be concluded that the variables of Charismatic, Inspirational Motivation, Intellectual Stimulation, Individual Consideration simultaneously affect performance in the X and Y generation. In the generation X, variable inspirational motivation and individual considerations partially have a positive and significant effect on company performance, meanwhile in the Y generation group only charismatic variables partially have a positive and significant impact on company performance. The results of the coefficient of determination said that the transformational leadership of generation X contributed 70.2% to the company performance, while the transformational leadership of the Y generation contributed 22.3% to the company performance. The independent sample T-test said that there was a significant difference between the transformational leadership of the generation X and generation Y.

Analysis	Generation X		Generation Y		
	Sig.	Hypothesis	Sig.	Hypothesis	
T-test	Charismatic	0,805	H1 rejected	0,039	H2 accepted
	Inspirational Motivation	0,000	H3 accepted	0,827	H4 rejected
	Intellectual Stimulation	0,793	H5 rejected	0,951	H6 rejected
	Individual Consideration	0,038	H7 accepted	0,381	H8 rejected
F-test	F table = 2,56	Gen X transformational leadership affects company performance F count = 26,484	Gen Y transformational leadership affects company performance F count = 3,225		
Coefficient of Determination		70,2 %		22,3 %	
Independent Sample T-test		Sig 0,000 = H9 accepted			

**Table 1** Data Analysis

## 8. CONCLUSION

For the Generation X group, the dimensions of transformational leadership that have a positive effect on company performance are the variables of inspirational motivation and individual considerations. According to Bass, B. M., & Riggio, R. E. (2006) transformational leaders who have an inspiring motivational dimension behave in ways that motivate and inspire those around them by providing meaning and challenges in their work. Meanwhile, transformational leaders who have dimensions of individual consideration pay more attention to the individual needs of followers to develop. Leaders position themselves as coaches or mentors. Leaders delegate tasks as a means of developing followers. Delegated tasks are monitored to see if followers need additional support and to assess progress but followers do not feel they are being checked. Meanwhile, Generation Y needs transformational leaders who have charisma to influence the company's performance. Charismatic transformational leaders behave by being role models for followers. Followers identify with the leader and tend to want to emulate. sample items of transformational leaders with charismatic dimensions as described by Avolio, B., & Bass, BM (1995) leaders emphasize the importance of having a collective sense of mission, leaders talk about values and beliefs, leaders act in a way that builds respect for those around them, leaders considering the moral and ethical consequences of decisions, leaders go beyond self-interest for the good of the group.

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