

Review the background story of the Morgan Family.



Ted and Sally Morgan have owned and operated a small beef operation for the last 40 years. The ranch consists of 200 beef cows, 40 acres of hay, and some pasture land. The Morgan's sell their calves through the local sale barn. Due to increasing expenses, the cow-calf enterprise has not been very profitable in recent years. The lack of profit has prevented Ted and Sally from saving much money for retirement.



Sally also owns another small business in their community. She does not take a salary, but simply uses money from the business to help pay family living expenses, as needed.

Sally and Ted raised three children. The children are grown and have families of their own. Their oldest daughter, Joyce, is married and has a son. Jim, the only son, is a single father. The youngest sibling, Jill, is married with two step sons.



Joyce, her husband, and son live in a large city about 70 miles away from the farm. Jim and his daughter live near the ranch. He works for Sally's business. Jim's managerial responsibilities have been increasing as Sally takes more time off. Jill and her family live in a modular home located on the ranch property. Jill has a job in town and her husband, George, is the only full-time employee of the ranch. Currently, Ted manages the ranch, while George does most of the physical work. Parttime employees are hired, as needed, to help harvest the hay and care for the cows.

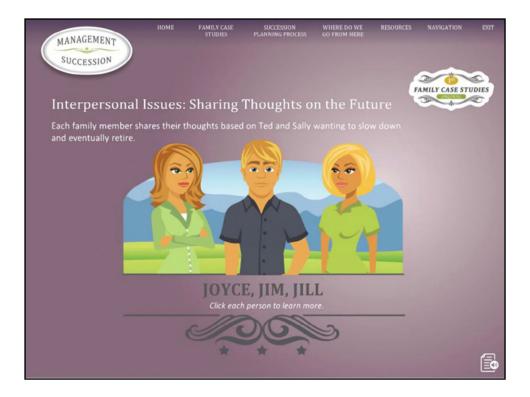


The Morgans want to figure out a way to pass the management of their business to the next generation and secure the resources needed to ensure that they can retire.



In order to complete a SWOB of the Morgan family, we need to examine their interpersonal, business, and succession planning issues. First, we will start with the interpersonal issues of the Morgan family.

At the suggestion of a business advisor, Ted called the entire family together to discuss the future of the ranch. Ted and Sally wanted to express their desires and hear what everyone else was thinking about the future of the business. Everyone was encouraged to express their thoughts, but they also had to be open to everyone else's comments.



Ted expressed an interest in slowing down or even retiring.

Sally wanted to have more time to spend with Ted, so she is interested in selling her business.

Joyce said that she likes living in the city. She is not interested in participating in the operation of the ranch, but wants to be sure her parents have enough money to be comfortable in their retirement.

Jim is interested in taking over Sally's business.

Jill and her husband enjoy ranch life. They would like to take over the business; however, they would like to make several changes to the operation to make it more profitable. They are concerned about Ted's willingness to relinquish managerial control.



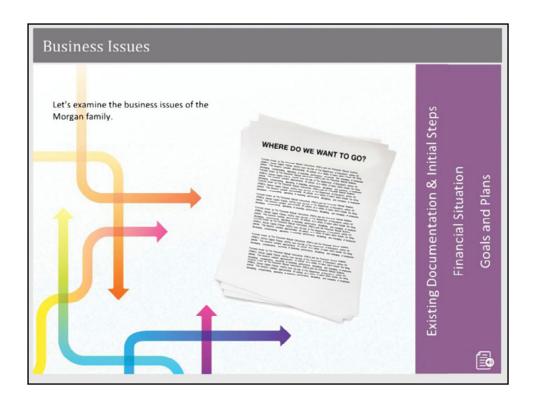
During the meeting, Sally revealed that her café business is worth somewhere between 225 and 250 thousand dollars. Since she and Ted have little savings, she would like to sell the business outright. The family agreed that while it would be nice to keep Sally's business in the family, it must be sold to help fund Ted and Sally's retirement.

Jim realized that while he would like to take over the café, it was not realistic since he did not have the funds to buy it. He agreed to help Sally find a buyer for the business.



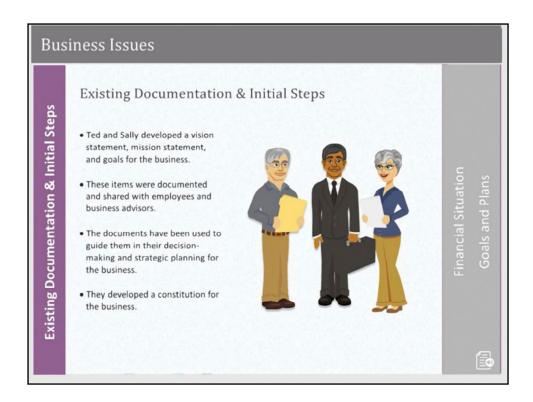
The family also agreed that Jill and George were the best successors to manage the business, but the other children should still retain an ownership interest in it. They agreed that Ted and Sally should set up a plan that would gradually transfer ownership of the business to the siblings with the greatest share and the management of the business going to Jill and George.

Everyone agreed to meet every year to evaluate their progress and discuss future strategies.

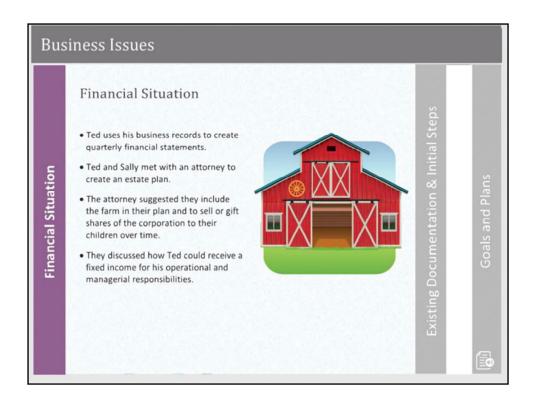


Next, we'll examine the business issues of the Morgan family by looking at their:

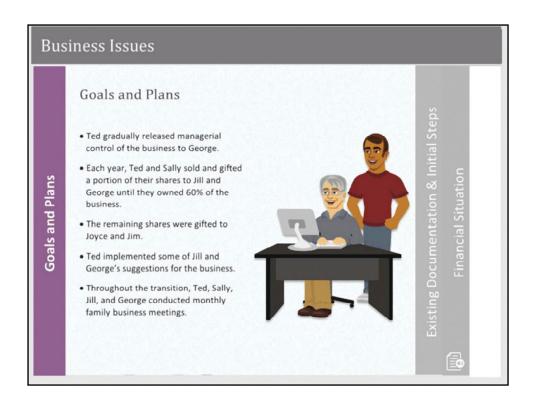
- Existing documentation and initial steps,
- Financial situation, and
- Goals and plans.



Years ago, Ted and Sally developed a vision statement, mission statement, and goals for the business. They documented them and shared them with the family and business advisors. They have used these documents to guide their decision-making and strategic planning for nearly a decade. Because they had such success with formalizing their vision, mission, and goals, Ted and Sally also developed a constitution for the business after learning about it in a local seminar.



Ted keeps meticulous business records and uses them to create quarterly financial statements. These came in very handy when he and Sally met with a lawyer last year to create an estate plan. Ted and Sally both updated their wills and living wills. The attorney also suggested that incorporating the farm would allow Ted and Sally to sell or gift shares of the corporation to their children over time. He suggested a five-year plan to do this. Further, Ted could receive a fixed income for his operational and managerial responsibilities. He also recommended that Ted and Sally gift each of their children enough cash to help pay for a life insurance policy on Ted.



During the five-year transition, Ted gradually released managerial control of the business to George. Each year, Ted and Sally sold and gifted a portion of their shares in the farm corporation to Jill and George until they owned 60 percent of the business. The remaining shares were gifted to Joyce and Jim. As Ted transferred management of the business to George, some of Jill and George's suggestions for the business were implemented. These changes helped to improve the profitability of the ranch. Throughout the transition, Ted, Sally, Jill, and George conducted monthly family business meetings to evaluate how things were going and determine next steps.



Finally, we'll examine the succession planning issues of the Morgan family. The result of Ted and Sally's meeting with their attorney was a documented five-year plan for transition of the ownership and management of the business. This plan was shared with everyone involved in the business so that everyone knew what to expect throughout the transition period.

In the first two years, George took over the day-to-day management of the ranch. In addition to his wages, he received a 500 dollar per month management fee. Ted maintained control of the finances and kept all the records for the corporation. In accordance with their estate plan, Ted and Sally gifted five percent of their shares in the farm corporation to each of the children. They sold an additional five percent of their shares to Jill and George in year two.

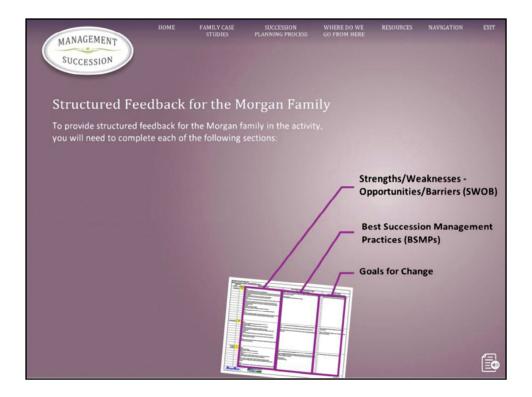


In year three, George increased his managerial responsibilities and received an additional 250 dollars per month. Although Ted maintained control of the farm's finances and records, he began to share the information and decision-making with George. Ted and Sally each sold ten percent of their shares in the farm corporation to Jill. At Jill and George's suggestion, the farm purchased 10 dairy goats and the necessary milking equipment. The goat milk was sold to the local goat milk cooperative



In year four, George began keeping all the ranch's records with Ted providing oversight. George's management fee increased to 1,000 dollars per month with his salary remaining the same. The changes made to the business allowed it to continue being profitable. To make room for the purchase of 20 additional dairy goats, half of the beef cows were sold and needed adjustments were made to fencing for the goats. Jill began making cheese from the goat milk for family and friends. George thought the ranch could increase its profits by selling the cheese at roadside vegetable stands and at a local store owned by a friend of Sally. In accordance with the estate plan, Ted and Sally sold 15 percent of their stock in the farm corporation to Jill.

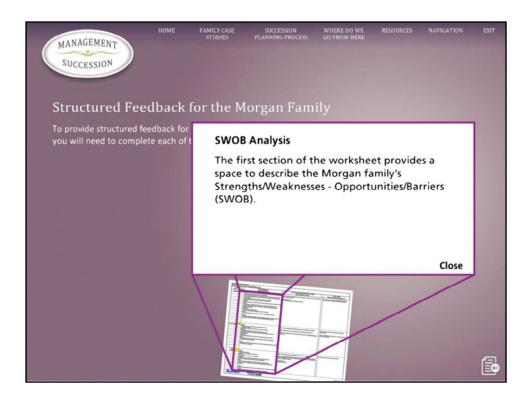
At the end of year five, the entire family gathered together for another Family Council meeting. They learned that Ted was able to retire and that George assumed all managerial responsibilities of the farm. Since selling her business, Sally was able to travel with Ted and play with the grandchildren.



Now that you have some additional insights into the Morgan family, their history, business issues, and perspectives on family and business, we would like you to provide them some structured feedback.

The course provides more detail on completing the worksheets in the Succession Planning Process module. However, we believe you already have enough information to provide some suggestions to the Morgans.

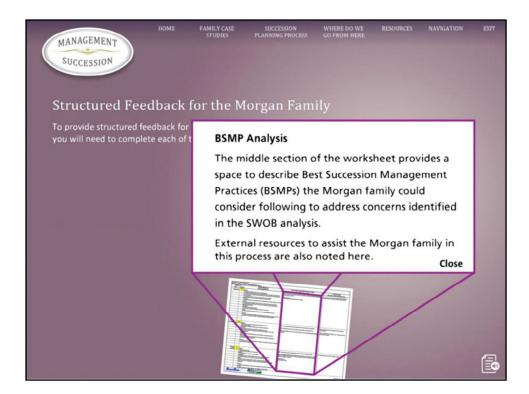
This activity follows the main sections included in the succession planning worksheets.



At the far left side of the worksheet the experts have provided an assessment score and corresponding color to indicate whether any interpersonal, business, or succession planning issues are of concern for the Morgan family.

Keeping this assessment score in mind, you will note strengths you believe the Morgans can build on, weaknesses they should shore-up, opportunities they should carefully consider, and barriers they may need to break down in order to move their succession planning forward.

The SWOB analysis completed by the experts for the Morgan family may be found in the Resources section for comparison with your suggestions.

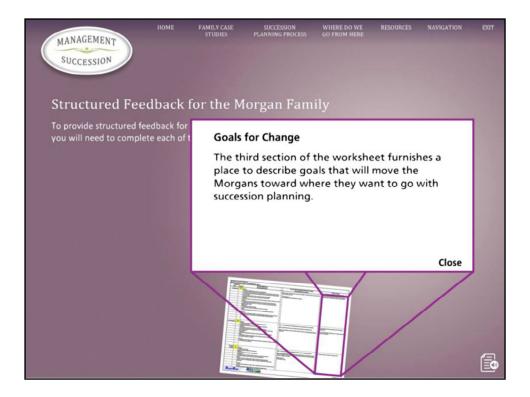


Best succession management practices are specific activities or practices the Morgan family may need to adopt to move their succession management process to the next stage.

Typically, a family will adopt these strategies for better management in a step-wise fashion, not all at once.

A list of BSMPs has been provided under the Resources section of the course for your reference.

The experts have suggested a number of BSMPs for the Morgan family to consider. Those are provided in the activity.



Under this third section write two or three goals for change. These should be written with the intent of helping to improve the Morgan family's chance of success with their succession process.

These goals, taken together across all issue areas, become a description of where the Morgans want to go as they move forward with their succession transition. Recommended goals for change completed by the experts are provided for you to consider once you have entered your suggestions for the Morgan family.



This activity will provide you with the Morgan family's assessment scores for all areas of concern for interpersonal, business, and succession planning issues. It will allow you to create the SWOB analysis of each area and help the family develop goals for succession based on your analysis and BSMPs.



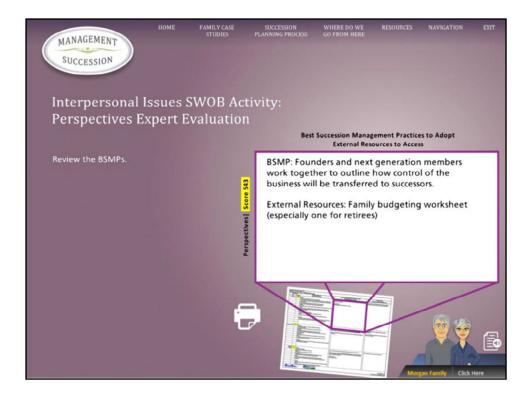
Using the interpersonal issues assessment score shown for Perspectives, record your SWOB evaluation of the Morgan family on the worksheet.

Remember from the "Management Succession: Where Are We?" course, the scoring for each issue area is arranged using a Red-Yellow-Green approach.

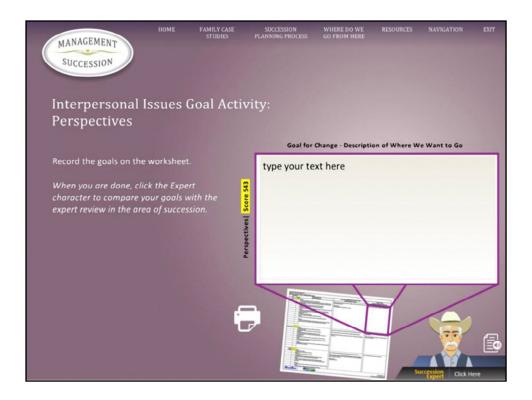
RED indicates an area that should raise an alert.

YELLOW indicates an area that you should be cautious about.

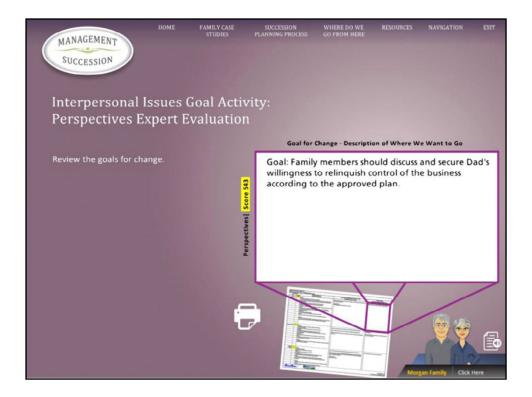
GREEN indicates an area of strength.



When you are done reviewing the BSMPs, move on to the next slide to continue.



Based on the assessment score, your SWOB analysis, and the BSMPs, what are your recommendations for the interpersonal goals for the future state of the Morgan family business?



When you are done reviewing the goals, move on to the next area of concern.



Using the interpersonal issues assessment score shown for Communication, record your SWOB evaluation of the Morgan family on the worksheet.



When you are done reviewing the BSMPs, move on to the next area of concern.



Based on the assessment score, your SWOB analysis, and the BSMPs, what are your recommendations for the interpersonal goals for the future state of the Morgan family business?



When you are done reviewing the goals, move on to the next area of concern.



Using the interpersonal issues assessment score shown for Managing Conflict, record your SWOB evaluation of the Morgan family on the worksheet.



When you are done reviewing the BSMPs, move on to the next area of concern.



Based on the assessment score, your SWOB analysis, and the BSMPs, what are your recommendations for the interpersonal goals for the future state of the Morgan family business?



When you are done reviewing the goals, move on to the next slide to return to the Activity Menu.



This activity will provide you with the Morgan family's assessment scores for all areas of concern for interpersonal, business, and succession planning issues. It will allow you to create the SWOB analysis of each area and help the family develop goals for succession based on your analysis and BSMPs.



Using the business issues assessment score shown for Formalized Management, record your SWOB evaluation of the Morgan family on the worksheet.



When you are done reviewing the BSMPs, move on to the next slide to continue.



Based on the assessment score, your SWOB analysis, and the BSMPs, what are your recommendations for the business goals for the future state of the Morgan family business?



When you are done reviewing the goals, move on to the next slide to continue.



Using the business issues assessment score shown for Business Communication, record your SWOB evaluation of the Morgan family on the worksheet.



When you are done reviewing the BSMPs, move on to the next slide to continue.



Based on the assessment score, your SWOB analysis, and the BSMPs, what are your recommendations for the business goals for the future state of the Morgan family business?



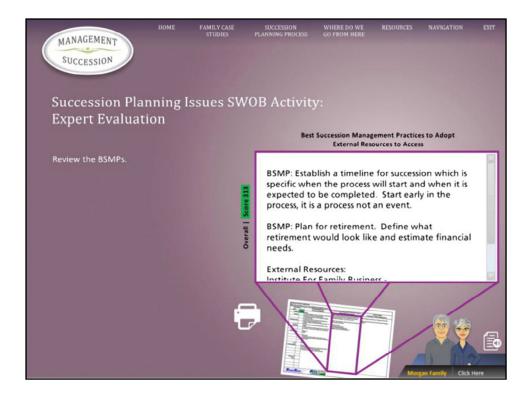
When you are done reviewing the goals, move on to the next slide to return to the Activity Menu.



This activity will provide you with the Morgan family's assessment scores for all areas of concern for interpersonal, business, and succession planning issues. It will allow you to create the SWOB analysis of each area and help the family develop goals for succession based on your analysis and BSMPs.



Using the overall succession planning issues assessment score shown, record your SWOB evaluation of the Morgan family on the worksheet.



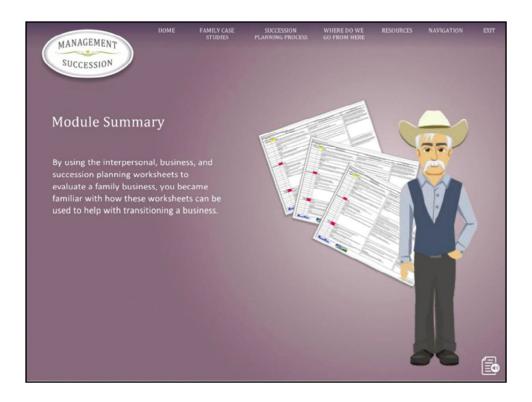
When you are done reviewing the BSMPs, move on to the next slide to continue.



Based on the assessment score, your SWOB analysis, and the BSMPs, what are your recommendations for the succession planning goals for the future state of the Morgan family business?



When you are done reviewing the goals, select another Family Case Study if you would like to assess another family business.



This is the end of the Family Case Studies module. The activity in this module provided you the opportunity to analyze a family business. By using the Interpersonal, Business, and Succession Planning Issues Worksheets, you were able to record your analysis and become familiar with how these worksheets can be used to help with transitioning a business.

Next, explore one of the other course modules to learn more about succession planning.