



Benchmark Description Report

Monday, October 04, 2010

**Sample Customer Service
Hiring Solutions**

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Part 1 – Report Introduction

Purpose of the Benchmark Description Report

This report is designed to provide management at Hiring Solutions with a better understanding of the characteristics of the preferred candidate for the Sample Customer Service position.

Part 2 of this report offers a graphic presentation of the abilities, interests and personality traits evident in top performers in the Sample Customer Service position. This graph appears in all Prevue Assessment reports to provide candidate information for screening, selection, coaching and succession planning activities.

Part 3 presents detailed descriptions of each of the benchmarks for the four Abilities scales, three Interests/Motivation scales, and thirteen Personality scales. The Prevue Assessment examines all of these scales with respect to the Sample Customer Service position.

What is a Prevue benchmark?

The Prevue Benchmark that will be developed for the Sample Customer Service position at Hiring Solutions is a profile of the work-related abilities, interests/motivation, and personality traits of top performers in the position. The benchmark provides data about the requirements of the job and can be used to supplement, organize, and analyze the information provided in résumés, background searches, or the interview. The Prevue Benchmark is customized to address the unique requirements of the job within a particular corporate culture.

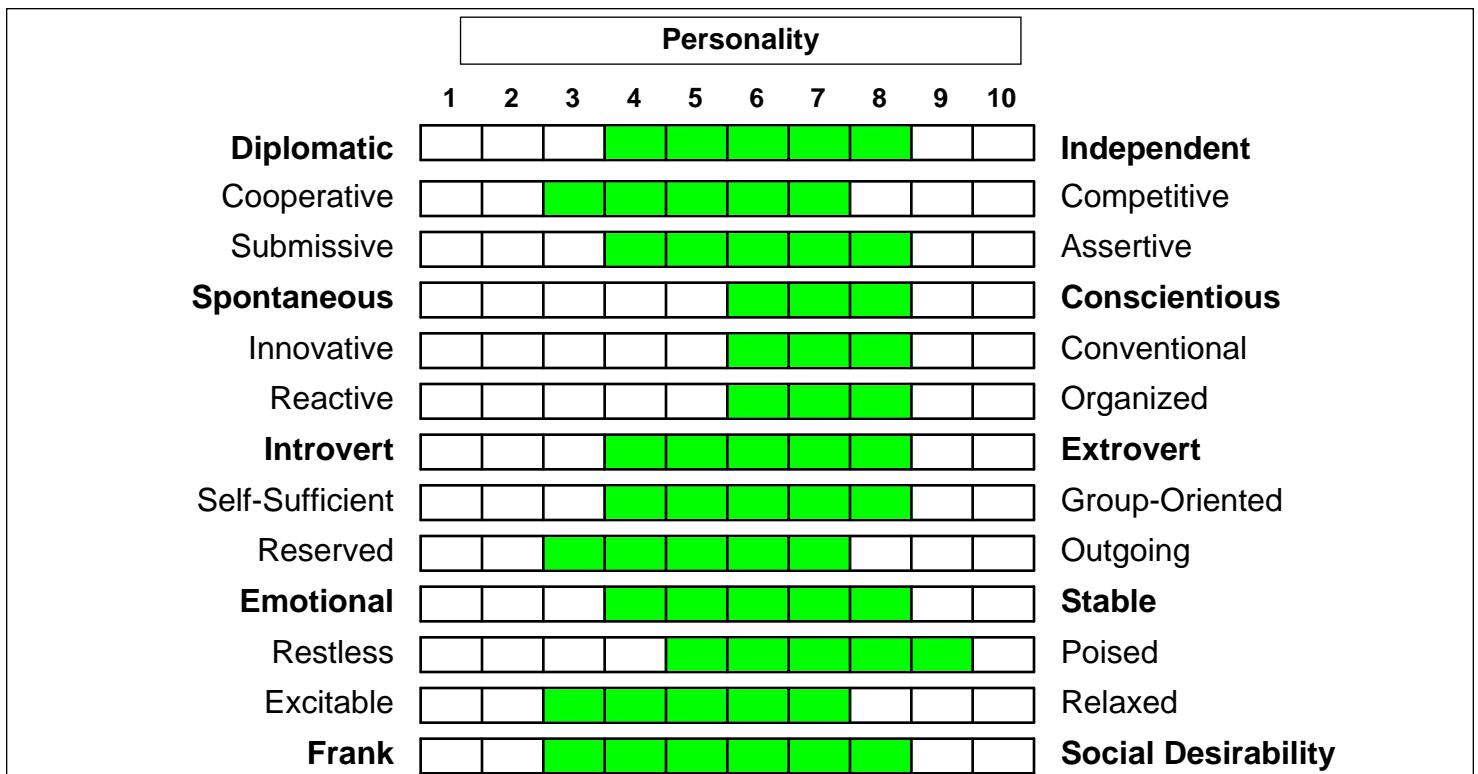
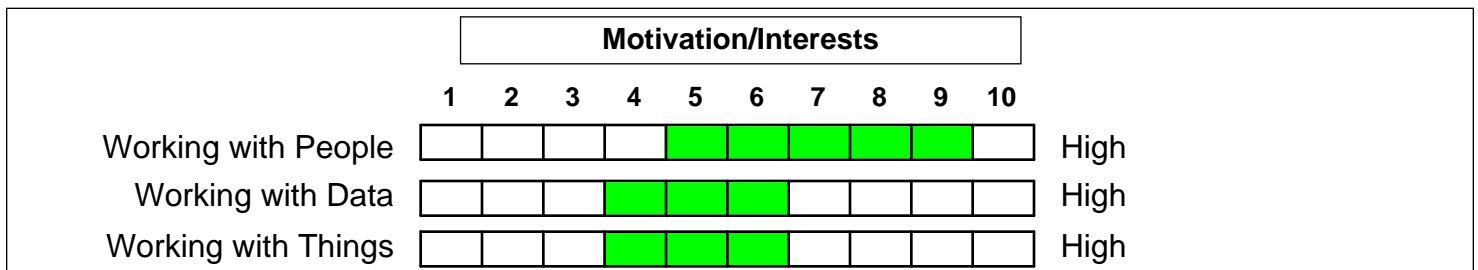
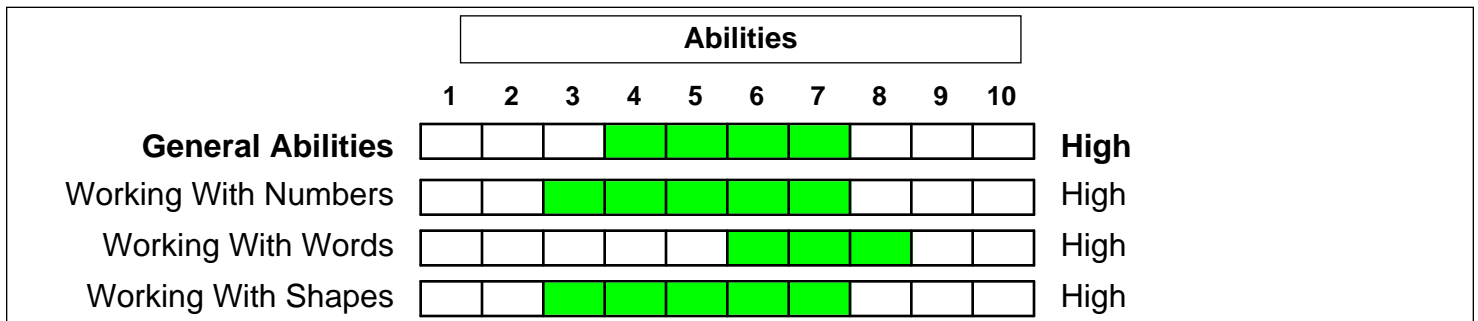
How is the Prevue Benchmark used?

Managers can use the Prevue Benchmark to:

- Select the best candidate for the position
- Obtain essential information beyond résumés, background searches or interviews
- Compare candidates to a preferred standard
- Identify individual training and coaching requirements
- Provide succession planning for the position and career planning for employees

Part 2 – The Prevue Benchmark Graph

This graph illustrates the required characteristics for the Sample Customer Service position as determined by management at Hiring Solutions. Preferred candidates will produce scores within the shaded areas shown on the scales of the benchmark.



Part 3 –Prevue Scale and Benchmark Descriptions

The Prevue Benchmark is comprised of benchmarks for each of the Abilities, Interests/motivation and Personality scales measured by the Prevue Assessment. These characteristics should be evident in prospective top performers in the Sample Customer Service position. The preferred candidates for the position will produce scores on the Prevue Assessment that fall on or are very close to the benchmarks shown on each of the scales. The following pages provide both Scale and Benchmark Descriptions.

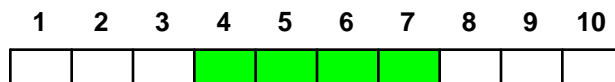
Abilities Scales

General Abilities

Scale Description

General Ability (based on **Working with numbers, words and shapes**) is an excellent predictor of performance in a wide range of occupations and training courses. Low to moderate levels are good for jobs requiring monotonous repetition and/or unskilled manual labour; mid-range is usually better for jobs requiring more training such as clerical work, administration, and/or skilled labour; and high levels are often important for decision-makers, managers, and advanced technical positions.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

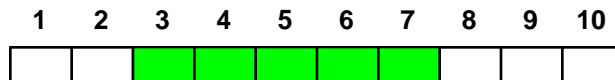
This benchmark indicates that below average to above average General Abilities are required for successful performance in the Sample Customer Service position. Depending on the specific ability required, a top performer might learn new procedures at a moderately slow to moderately fast pace. The best work situation could be fairly challenging with reasonable demands and an average rate of change. Candidates with extreme General Abilities, either low or high, may not be suitable for this position.

Working With Numbers

Scale Description

Working with numbers shows the ability to use numbers for abstract reasoning and problem-solving. In many occupations—clerical, accounting, technical, sales, and managerial—the ability to work with numbers is essential.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

Based on this wide benchmark, a top performer might have below to above average ability for working with numbers. The position probably requires simple arithmetic skills and competence for number recognition. There may also be some higher-level tasks such as statistical analysis. Candidates with low ability may have difficulty with some tasks. Candidates with high scores in numerical ability could also be a poor fit for this position.

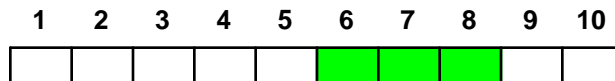
Working With Words

Scale Description

Working with words is the ability to use written language for reasoning and problem-solving. In many occupations—clerical, administrative, technical and managerial—the ability to work with written language is a fundamental requirement. While fluency or direct communication is different from verbal reasoning, there is a moderate correlation between scores on this scale and communication skill. People who score at the upper end of **Working with words** are more likely to be good communicators, but excellent fluency and good communication skills can occur irrespective of scores on this scale.

Note: Fluency can be assessed from the résumé and covering letter, and oral communication skills should be measured in the interview.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

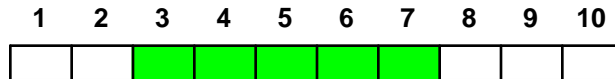
Based on this benchmark, a top performer could have average to above average ability with written language. Frequently, the position may require standard verbal skills for straightforward reading, writing, and recognition of spelling errors. Occasionally, the job probably demands verbal reasoning such as working with complex documents or following complicated written procedures. Candidates with below average ability might find this job overly challenging. Candidates with high ability with words might not reach their potential in this position.

Working With Shapes

Scale Description

Working with shapes involves a several facets of mental ability. Most important is the ability to imagine how something will look when it is moved in space or when its component parts are rearranged. Spatial visualization skills are important for tasks such as interpreting blueprints and diagrams, understanding graphs and charts, arranging objects for display or storage, and so on.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

Based on this wide benchmark, a top performer might have below to above average ability for Working with Shapes. The position may require shape recognition and organization tasks such as packing or arranging objects for storage, display, or delivery. There may also be some higher-level tasks such as work with flow charts or diagrams and spatial analysis. Candidates with low ability could have difficulty with these tasks. Candidates with high scores in spatial ability could also be a poor fit for this position.

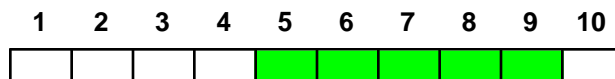
Interests/Motivation Scales

Working With People

Scale Description

Working with people indicates the preferred frequency, quality, and intensity of social contact for optimal job satisfaction. This satisfaction influences performance, especially in the long term.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

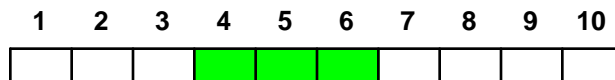
This benchmark denotes that the Sample Customer Service position requires a candidate with average to high interest in social contact. The preferred employee likely performs well with moderate to intense interaction with others and probably enjoys some tasks needing more advanced people skills. Top performers may choose telephone calls or face-to-face meetings (rather than e-mail) as contact methods. Candidates with below average motivation for Working with People would need to exert themselves in this position.

Working With Data

Scale Description

Working with data measures interest in information and analytical processes as well as overall motivation to work with facts and figures.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

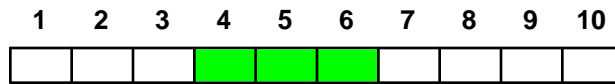
This benchmark denotes that the Sample Customer Service position requires candidates with below average to average scores on Working with Data. The preferred employee likely wants some tasks involving figures, statistics, or accounts. Candidates with above average interest in information could be less suitable for this position. Candidates with low interest could also be a poor fit.

Working With Things

Scale Description

Working with things measures willingness to manipulate tools and machines and to operate equipment, computers, and other inanimate objects.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

This benchmark denotes that the Sample Customer Service position requires a candidate with a below average to average score on Working with Things. The preferred employee likely performs reasonably well with simple, reliable equipment and may infrequently operate more complex machinery. Candidates with either low or above average motivation for hands-on tasks with tools and objects could be less suitable for this position.

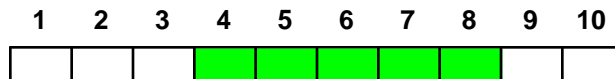
Personality Scales

Diplomatic / Independent

Scale Description

Diplomatic to Independent major scale measures willingness to compromise self-interest to be diplomatic in establishing relationships with others. It is based on a person's competitive instincts and assertiveness.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

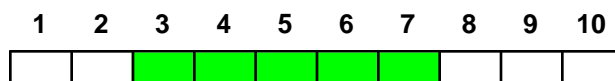
This broad benchmark signifies that moderately diplomatic to moderately independent candidates could all be suitable for the Sample Customer Service position. Future concurrent studies might identify a narrower range of tact and self-reliance. Current data indicate that only extremely diplomatic or highly independent candidates could be less successful in this position.

Cooperative / Competitive

Scale Description

Cooperative to Competitive minor scale measures a person's need to win. Some people are eager to be cooperative and refuse to engage in any form of competition. Conversely, others are driven to compete for high achievement but to the detriment of all other considerations.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

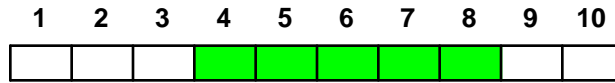
This wide benchmark shows that moderately cooperative to moderately competitive candidates could all become top performers in this position. Future concurrent studies might suggest a narrower benchmark. The present benchmark indicates that only candidates with extreme traits could be less suitable for the Sample Customer Service position. This means that extremely cooperative people, with little or no concern about winning or losing, may be less effective. Similarly, highly competitive candidates, with total concentration on personal achievement and little concern for relationships, could also be a poor fit.

Submissive / Assertive

Scale Description

Submissive to Assertive minor scale measures willingness to dominate people and events.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

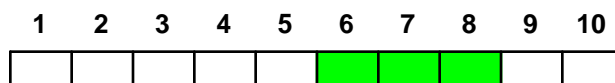
The broad benchmark indicates that moderately submissive to moderately assertive candidates could all be effective in this position. More extensive data might reveal a smaller range of compliance and dominance. Currently, only candidates exhibiting extreme traits are less likely to be successful. This means extremely submissive people, who avoid all confrontation and are very reluctant to express their own views, might be a poor fit. Similarly, highly assertive candidates, with singular zeal to express their own views and willingness to engage in head-on confrontation, could also be less suitable for this position.

Spontaneous / Conscientious

Scale Description

Spontaneous to Conscientious major scale describes the actions of those who seldom plan anything and whose responses are almost always spontaneous versus those who tend to display consistent, planned and predictable behavior. This scale is based on the minor scales relating to conventional and organized behavior.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

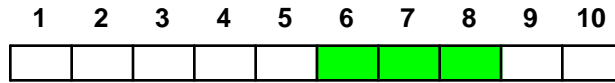
This benchmark signifies that a balanced to moderately conscientious person is required for the Sample Customer Service position. The top performer will tend to be dependable, well prepared though careful planning, and usually meticulous. The preferred candidate will balance doing things well with doing them as fast as possible. This position might be unsuitable for a spontaneous candidate who could lack necessary preparation skills. At the other end of the scale, a highly conscientious person could lack necessary flexibility.

Innovative / Conventional

Scale Description

Innovative to conventional minor scale measures the likelihood of creative thinking and reliable behavior.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

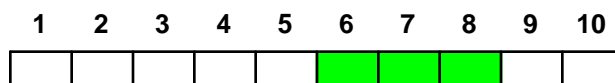
This benchmark denotes that a balanced to moderately conventional person is required. The top performer will likely have reliable work habits, a neutral approach to change and upgrading, and some flexibility regarding rules. The preferred candidate will be careful in problem-solving, able to invent or adapt as necessary, and should function productively in a reasonably predictable work environment with some irregularity in the pace of assignments. An innovative candidate, who likes a fast-moving, unpredictable environment with few rules, might be a poor fit. Similarly, a highly conventional worker, who resists change and adheres to traditional methods, could also be unsuitable for this job.

Reactive / Organized

Scale Description

Reactive to organized minor scale determines preference for planning, detail, schedules and order. Some people would rather innovate and improvise while engaging in "big picture" thinking but, for others, meticulous planning is essential for job satisfaction.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

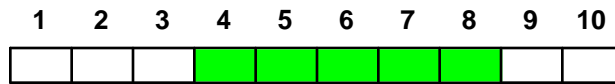
This benchmark indicates that a balanced to moderately organized person is required. The appropriate employee will likely have good planning skills, reasonable punctuality, and a tidy work area. The top performer will generally respond appropriately to change and will balance the long view with the work at hand. A reactive candidate, who is less inclined to plan or schedule and prefers to respond to new situations as they arise, might not be as effective in this position. At the other end of the scale, a highly organized candidate, who may be very cautious, reluctant to disrupt plans, and overly concerned with tight scheduling, could also be unsuitable for this job.

Introvert / Extrovert

Scale Description

Introvert to Extrovert major scale describes how a person interacts with others and measures the degree of social contact required. This scale is based on the minor scales for group-oriented and outgoing behavior.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

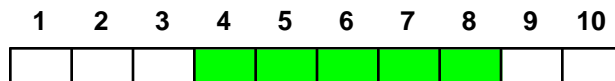
This benchmark signifies that moderately introverted to moderately extroverted candidates could all become top performers in the Sample Customer Service position. The ideal candidate will be neither exceedingly reticent and inward-looking nor excessively high-spirited and attention-getting. Future concurrent studies might reveal more about the required levels of introversion and extroversion. Current information suggests that only candidates with either low scores (very introverted) or high scores (very extroverted) might be less likely to succeed.

Self-Sufficient / Group-Oriented

Scale Description

Self-sufficient to Group-oriented minor scale measures whether a person prefers to generate ideas and stimulation in solitude or with a group.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

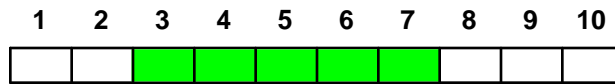
This broad benchmark denotes that moderately self-sufficient to moderately group-oriented candidates could all be successful in this position. The appropriate employee probably copes well with both semi-isolation and collaboration, but is unlikely to need total privacy or excessive social interaction. Future concurrent studies might reveal more about the required levels of resourcefulness and sociability. Current information suggests that only candidates with either low scores (very self-sufficient) or high scores (very group-oriented) might be less likely to succeed.

Reserved / Outgoing

Scale Description

Reserved to Outgoing minor scale measures whether a person's nature is to be somewhat detached from others or overtly friendly.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

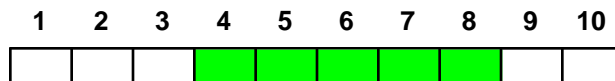
This benchmark indicates that moderately reserved to moderately outgoing candidates could all be successful in the Sample Customer Service position. Future concurrent studies might provide more details on the top performer's levels of detachment and friendliness. Current data suggest that this position may not be appropriate for candidates with extreme traits. Reserved candidates might be too detached to be effective. At the other end of the scale, highly outgoing candidates would most likely prefer more variety and excitement.

Emotional / Stable

Scale Description

Emotional to Stable major scale describes reactions to changing conditions and new people. This scale is based on the minor scales related to restlessness and excitability.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

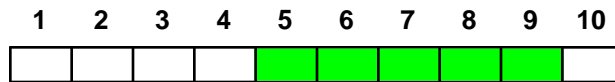
This wide benchmark signifies that moderately emotional to moderately stable candidates could all be effective in the Sample Customer Service position. A narrower range of sentiment and steadiness may be identified when more information becomes available. Current data indicate that only candidates with extreme traits could be less successful. Extremely emotional employees might be unduly stressed in this position and some steadiness is necessary for excellent performance. At the other end of the scale, highly stable candidates might be perceived as impassive and they, too, could be less effective.

Restless / Poised

Scale Description

Restless to Poised minor scale indicates of how people respond to stress such as adverse events and the negative things that other people say, think or do. Some people can be unduly sensitive to this stress while others may seem impervious.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

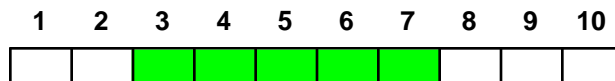
This benchmark denotes that balanced to highly poised candidates could all be successful in this position. The top performer will usually have an open mind and will demonstrate average to exceptional objectivity. This person will have fairly good coping skills for most embarrassments, setbacks, and personal criticism. A moderately to extremely restless candidate who is easily upset and irritated might not be as effective in this position.

Excitable / Relaxed

Scale Description

Excitable to Relaxed minor scale measures response to potentially stressful situations. Some people are visibly upset by unexpected circumstances while others manage their emotions well.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

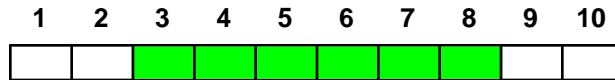
This wide benchmark indicates that moderately excitable to moderately relaxed candidates could all be effective in this position. Future concurrent studies might describe a smaller range of concern and constancy in the top performer. Currently, only candidates with extreme traits might be less suitable. At the low end of the scale, an extremely excitable person, who may be prone to marked worrying and distrust, could be a poor fit. Conversely, a highly relaxed candidate whose unwavering nonchalance could be misinterpreted as indifference, might also be less likely to be successful.

Social Desirability

Scale Description

Social desirability scale indicates how much the desire to present a good impression has influenced answers in the **Prevue Assessment™**. Most people will score in the middle range (4-5-6-7), but both high and low scores must be reviewed with care.

Benchmark Graph



Benchmark Description

This benchmark indicates that the preferred candidate should be neither extremely frank nor highly influenced by social desirability and what is socially acceptable. Any impression, from mildly frank and negative to potentially less frank and mildly positive, will be satisfactory.