

Philippines BPO: Ready for the Deluge

Presented by:

Richard Mills CFA Chairman, Chalré Associates

For:



This report is property of Chalré Associates. It may not be circulated, quoted, or reproduced for distribution without prior approval from Chalré Associates.

This material was used by Chalré Associates during an oral presentation; it is not intended to be a complete representation of all issues discussed.





Here is some data on what real decision makers are doing.

Later we will discuss the conclusion from their actions.







Accenture



Current Employment - 7,000

- Period of Commitment Early Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 9,000 employees by end of year
- Services Provided IT, BPO, call center, (broad range)
- Working Environment Low pay, long working hours
- Locations Downtown Core (just starting to move outside the core later this year)







IBM



Current Employment - 3,000

- Period of Commitment Early Locator but slow to start
- Growth Outlook Targeting 6,000 employees by end of year
- Services Provided IT, BPO, call center (Daksh)
- Working Environment Low pay, long working hours
- Locations Eastwood (Metro Manila), early plans to build campus facility







GXS (formerly GE Info. Sys.)



Current Employment - 600

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting fast growth from this point forward
- Services Provided IT, application maintenance, tech support
- Working Environment balanced
- Locations Downtown Core







Citigroup Citigroup

Current Employment – 1000

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting fast growth from this point forward
- Services Provided 3 separate facilities managed separately (IT, BPO)
- Working Environment balanced
- Locations Downtown Core









- Period of Commitment Recent Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting fast growth from this point forward
- Services Provided IT, application maintenance, tech support
- Working Environment balanced
- Locations Downtown Core, Alabang







Dell



Current Employment - ~4000

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator
- Growth Outlook fast growth
- Services Provided call center
- Working Environment Difficult
- Locations Captive Center in Mall of Asia









Current Employment - 2500

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator (less than 2 years)
- Growth Outlook Targeting 3000 by end of year
- Services Provided mainly call center, branching out
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations Started in core, Build custom facility









Current Employment - 330

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 400 by end of year
- Services Provided application support, development
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations Downtown Core







Deutsche Bank

A Passion to Perform.

Deutsche Bank



Current Employment - 200

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 500 by end of the year
- Services Provided Financial analysis support to world-wide CFO's
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations Downtown Core









Current Employment - 525

- Period of Commitment Early Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 560
- Services Provided Finance & accounting, SAP support, HR
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations Downtown Core







Telus International / Ambergris





Current Employment - 3300

- Period of Commitment Early Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 6000 by end of the year
- Services Provided call center (Ambergris), IT (Equicom)
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations various Metro Manila locations







Maersk Logistics



Current Employment - 700

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 900 by end of the year
- Services Provided BPO
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations Ortigas (Metro Manila)







Fluor Daniel

FLUOR.

Current Employment - 700

- Period of Commitment Early Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 1000 by end of the year
- Services Provided Engineering Design
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations Alabang (Metro Manila)







Hewlett-Packard



Current Employment - 700

- Period of Commitment Early Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 1000 by end of the year
- Services Provided IT, BPO
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations Downtown Core, Ortigas (Metro Manila)







Siemens



Current Employment - 400

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 700 by end of the year
- Services Provided call center, BPO
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations Eastwood









Current Employment - 6000

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 10,000 by end of the year
- Services Provided call center
- Working Environment call center
- Locations various throughout Philippines







ClientLogic CLiENTL@GIC

Current Employment - 3000

- Period of Commitment Recent Locator (through acquisition)
- Growth Outlook Targeting 6000 by end of the year
- Services Provided call center
- Working Environment call center
- Locations various throughout Philippines







Lear

Who is
Doing
What in
Philippines



Current Employment - 800

- Period of Commitment Early Locator
- Growth Outlook Targeting 800
- Services Provided automotive design
- Working Environment Balanced
- Locations Cebu (second major city)







Some others

Who is
Doing
What in
Philippines





















Some others

Who is
Doing
What in
Philippines



















Some others

Who is
Doing
What in
Philippines



















What Business Leaders Say: About BPO in Philippines

Let's look at some conclusions and trends using India for comparison.







What Business Leaders Say: About English

Better Communications Skills

- 1. Better English Communication Skills
- 2. Neutral accent
- 3. More Culturally Attuned to the West
- 4. Customer Service Mind-Set

Conclusion:

Anything with a customer interfacing component has good results in Philippines.







What Business Leaders Say: About Staff Availability

Good Supply of Labour

- 1. Good supply of junior level people
- 2. Supply of senior management talent is constrained
- 3. Better "take-up" in Philippines over India
- 4. Perceptions about Filipino workers are positive

Conclusion:

Keep your people longer in Philippines.







What Business Leaders Say: About Education

Better Liberal Arts, Not So for Technical Skills

- 1. Better at Liberal Arts
- 2. Not as Technically Skilled
- 3. Less Advanced Degree Holders

Conclusion:

Good "soft-skills." Alleged to be less able at hardcore technical professions.







What Business Leaders Say: About Staff Turn Over

Better Retention

- 1. Less Competition for Employees
- 2. Retention Agreements Deemed Enforceable

Conclusion:

Keep your people longer in Philippines.







What Business Leaders Say: About Training

Unrealized Opportunity

- 1. Focus on training is just beginning
- 2. Successful BPO's have aligned with universities for training
- 3. On-the-job-training (OJT) for university students is a good method of hiring new graduates

Conclusion:

Training partnerships work and they are there for the taking.







What Business Leaders Say: About Salaries

Rates Are Holding (for Now)

- 1. Industry agreements are in place that no one will compete on price.
- 2. There is starting to be stronger competition on incentives.
- 3. BPO salaries lower than call center.

Conclusion:

Let's pray for smart competitors rather than stupid ones.







What Business Leaders Say: About Real Estate

Core Locations

- 1. Makati City downtown core
- 2. Fort Bonifacio extension of core
- 3. Alabang south of Manila
- 4. Ortigas east along EDSA
- 5. Eastwood outside the downtown core

Who's There?

highest density of IT, BPO, call center attracting call centers and BPO AIG, Fluor, HSBC, Convergys Ambergris, HP, Emerson, Maersk IBM, call centers







What Business Leaders Say: About Real Estate

Moving Out

- 1. BPO/Call Center Sector is the main driver of demand
- 2. Supply of large blocks is now limited in the core
- 3. Innovative solutions Build-To-Suit, malls, warehouses
- 4. Increasing rates but still the cheapest in Asia

Conclusion:

Need to work with a real estate agent to figure out a solution.







What Business Leaders Say: About Government

PEZA (Philippine Economic Zone Authority)



KEY INCENTIVES FOR IT LOCATORS

- 1. Income Tax Holiday (ITH) or Exemption from Corporate Income Tax for four years, extendable to a maximum of eight years; After the ITH period, the option to pay a special 5% Tax on Gross Income, in lieu of all national and local taxes.
- 2. Exemption from duties and taxes on imported capital equipment, spare parts, supplies, raw materials.
- 3. Domestic sales allowance equivalent to 30% of total sales.
- 4. Exemption from wharfage dues and export taxes, imposts and fees.
- 5. Permanent resident status for foreign investors and immediate family members.
- 6. Employment of foreign nationals.







What Business Leaders Say: About Government

Government is no worse than others

- 1. Concern about unclear regulations.
- 2. Get to know the influential people.
- Get involved in CSR.

Conclusion:

Worry more about your business rather than red-tape.







What Business Leaders Say: About Infrastructure

Competitive & Reliable

- 1. Ruthless Competition between Telecom Providers
- 2. No Issue with Electricity, Water
- 3. Traffic is no worse than India and somewhat better

Conclusion:

Infrastructure is a non-issue.







What Business Leaders Say: About Lifestyle

More Comfortable for Expatriates

- 1. Gentler society
- 2. Weekend recreational activities
- 3. Night-Life Entertainment, restaurants, shopping, spas, live music, etc.

Conclusion:

Most expatriates feel Philippines is a step up from India. Repatriation is often problematic after 3 – 4 years.







What Business Leaders Say: About the Industry

Proven Viability, Early Stage of Maturity

- 1. Direct Industry Employment is only 100,000
- Most companies are small
- 3. Broad range of services but voice dominates
- 4. New Entrants.

Conclusion:

Worthwhile opportunity over the next 2-3 years.







What Business Leaders Say: About the Industry

Less Dynamic Business Environment

- 1. Fewer Local Competitors (no InfoSys, TCS, Wipro)
- 2. Service Providers not as well developed
- 3. Less Competition Between Locations

Conclusion:

Early stage opportunity.







Regional Managers say:

Philippines is poised to grow the strongest of any outsourcing destination in Asia.

Reasons:

- 1. India and China are too competitive (retention problems, increasing costs, quality of new hires, etc.).
- 2. Philippines can grow faster because pioneering work has been done by India.
- 3. People are discovering Philippines







What Business Leaders Say

Compared with alternatives, Philippines is a Better Option Today

Better People
Better Infrastructure
Better Expatriate Lifestyle







Philippines as an Outsource Destination: What CEO's Really Think

Presented by: Richard Mills CFA Chairman, Chalré Associates

For:

Business Processing Association of Philippines (BPA/P)





Executive Search & Management Consulting in the Developing Countries of Asia.





Richard Mills CFA

Chairman, Chalré Associates

Background Information of the Presenter

Expert Panel Member:





Featured Columnist & Contributor:









Quoted as:

- -"the Asia Pacific expert" by CallCenter Magazine.
- "Offshore Outsourcing Expert" ComputerWorld USA
- "guru on outsourcing" by Dr. Michael Clancy, President of Philippine Business Leader's Forum, Economist Intelligence Unit.