Learn How to Level Up Your Orthopedic Suppliers

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Session Purpose

Objective:

• Create a collaborative discussion on how to elevate suppliers from "Approved" to "Strategic Partner" level, assuming you are on the customer's ASL.



Key Themes:

- Shared expectations between OEMs and suppliers
- Challenges and opportunities in supplier development
- Practical pathways to strategic partnership



What Makes a Strategic Supplier?





Willingness to invest in continuous improvement



What additional characteristics do you look for in a strategic partner?



From Approved to Strategic – The Gap

Common Barriers:

- Quality issues or a reactive approach
- Limited capacity or scalability
- Poor communication/collaboration
- No alignment with OEM on long-term roadmap, cost increases
- Inconsistent execution
- What are some supplier red flags that prevent strategic growth?





Enablers for Supplier Growth

OEM-Side Actions:

- Transparent feedback and performance metrics
- Involving suppliers early in NPI When the opportunity comes, execute flawlessly
- Joint investment in capabilities
- Consistent engagement and supplier summits
- Long-term agreement with clear expectations on performance and cost

Supplier-Side Actions:

- Proactive quality improvements
- Building technical depth
- Continuous investment in technology
- Understanding OEMs' business and goals
- Cost control
- Execution of OEMs' demand plan flexibility
- Qualifications and validations to OEM's requirements

From a supplier perspective, what other actions would you expect from your customers to be more involved in a strategic relationship?





Roadmap to Strategic Partnership







Thank You for Attending!

We value your feedback. Please fill out a session evaluation before you leave.

