Level B2 Business English

Lesson 7

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Unfortunately, we're at a standstill.

不幸なことに、私たちの状況は停滞している。

2 SITUATION

Mark is reporting negative project results in a meeting. マークはミーティングでプロジェクトの思わしくない結果報告をしています。



3 DIALOGUE

Directions: First repeat after your tutor and then practice each role.

Cathy: Where do we stand Mark?

Mark: Unfortunately, we're at a standstill and won't roll out the new advertising campaign as scheduled.

Cathy: That's not good. What are the issues that are holding us up?

Mark: Sadly, Yuta left the team. Another issue is Jack's having a hard time getting necessary approval from legal to move forward. There are several other minor issues, but these are the two big ones that are causing all the headaches regarding project progression.

Cathy: Any word on a replacement for Yuta then?

Mark: HR will start screening candidates as soon as they get some applicants. Regrettably, it'll take at least a few weeks to replace Yuta.

4 VOCABULARY

Directions: First repeat after your tutor and then read aloud by yourself.

standstill 停滞している approval 承認 move forward 前進する

hold ~ up 引き止める legal 法的 cause a headache 頭痛の種となる

Lesson 7

5 LANGUAGE FOCUS

Unfortunately, we're at a standstill.

不幸なことに、私たちの状況は停滞している。

Meeting - Stating Negative Progress

Directions: First repeat after your tutor and then read aloud again by yourself.

Unfortunately, we've fallen behind schedule.

Things are not moving ahead as planned.

We've run into a few hiccups.

We've gotten a bit off track in regards to our initial project schedule.

There have been some unforeseeable delays.

We've hit a wall that has stopped us dead in our tracks.

Project progress isn't looking so good at the moment.

6 ACTIVITY

Activity 1: What was the worst news you have ever had to give in a business setting? How did you go about giving it? Discuss this with your tutor, give as many details as possible.

Activity 2: Using the language learned, play the "Good News, Bad News Game." The tutor starts by reading the sentence below. Then you continue by changing the bad news to good news, but also adding some more bad news. The game should continue until neither of you can quickly think of more bad news.

"We've approved the creation of the new designs, but we've had some trouble finding a designer."

Hints

breakdown 内訳 bottleneck 問題点 frustrated いらいらした interruption 中断 a slow down 減速する