

Creative Strategic IT Leadership





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#### Introduction:

This program is designed to provide IT leaders and professionals with a set of transformational tools and techniques to help them maximize their own and their team s creative potential. The starting point for this conference is self-discovery; participants will work on the inside first and then focus outwards onto the world of business

# Course Objectives:

At the end of this course the participants will be able to:

- Set out their leadership brand
- Demonstrate innovative methods for harnessing others creative potential
- Articulate a vision using multiple sensory representations
- Communicate their vision in refreshing and engaging ways
- · Identify critical components of a strategically-aligned IT department
- Apply value and performance measurement techniques
- Develop meaningful recruitment and retention policies
- · Evaluate technology solutions, vendor selection, and outsourcing

# **Targeted Audience:**

- IT Team Leaders
- IT Managers
- IT Professionals from both Technical and Management Backgrounds
- IT Operations Staff,
- Networks/Systems and IT Projects staff
- Technical Professionals

#### **Course Outlines:**

#### Unit 1: Creative Problem-Solving:

- Leadership Reality Assessment
- Leadership VS Management
- Understanding Our Brain Function
- · Myths of Creativity
- The limitations of the rational
- · Divergent approaches to problem-solving
- · Letting go of logic
- Analogous thinking modes
- · Convergent and divergent modes



# Unit 2: Overcoming Personal Blockers to Creativity:

- Sigmoid Curve
- · Lifecycle Model
- Continuous Improvement
- Breakthrough step change
- · Self-awareness and the nature of the ego
- · Personal goal alignment
- · Adaption and innovation: personal preferences for creating meaning
- Exploring attitudes to risk
- · Left- and right-brain thinking

# Unit 3: Developing Vision Creatively:

- Six thinking hats
- · Using differing thinking styles
- Johari's window
- The business plan process & creating a vision
- Harnessing the power of the team
- Organizational culture and its influence on innovation
- · Letting go of the ego
- Working with different creative preferences

#### Unit 4: Communicating the Vision Creatively:

- The 7 Step Creative Process
- Models of communication
- Viral visioning
- · Authenticity and trust
- · Creativity tools, techniques & strategy
- Letting go of the vision
- · Leading without directing
- Possible leadership beliefs

# Unit 5: From Ideas to Action: Creativity and Change:

- Motivation
- · Hierarchy of Needs
- · Overcoming organizational barriers to creativity and change
- Nurturing a learning environment
- Is Money a motivator?
- · Personality Profiling
- Building a creative consensus
- Engaging stakeholders creatively
- Influencing and motivating through change



## Unit 6: Leading and Managing the IT Department:

- Understand the challenges of the IT manager
- · How to value IT services
- Communicate IT value to upper management, peers, and end-users.
- Understand the responsibilities of the IT team leader.

# Unit 7: Managing Technology:

- Understand the Strategy for Managing Existing Technology
- · Know when to develop and adopt New Technologies
- Be Aware of how to manage assets effectively.

## Unit 8: Using Influence:

- Understand the different types of influential power.
- Be aware of the various influence strategies
- Select the most effective influence strategy for the situation
- Understanding negotiations, tactics, and techniques.
- Use influence effectively to thrive as an IT manager

# Unit 9: Strategic Decision Making:

- · Apply strategic decision making
- Recognizing strategic decisions and initiatives.
- Apply strategic decision making to vendor selection
- · Understand when to outsource

## Unit 10: Developing the IT Strategic Plan and Budget:

- Using the mission as an IT driver
- Defining the customer profile
- understanding the partnership model
- · Creating a strategic plan
- Planning and budgeting issues

#### Unit 11: Managing IT Quality:

- Understanding the importance of managing by process
- Understand the definitions of quality
- Applying maturity models
- · Using process management
- · Applying international standards

#### Unit 12: Building the IT Management Team:

- Evaluating IT performance and metrics
- Understanding delegation and motivation
- Team building
- Managing the management team and stakeholders.



# Unit 13: IT Project Management:

- The Importance of Project Management
- Defining Project Manager talents and skills
- Understanding the principles of Project Management

#### Unit 14: IT Performance Metrics:

- Developing a measurement strategy
- Creating a Best Practices based organization
- Deploy metrics
- Managing by facts and results
- Integrate metrics into the strategic plan

#### Unit 15: Common Pitfalls and Lessons Learned:

- Balancing technical and corporate requirements
- Balancing tactical and strategic decisions
- Evaluating new and existing technologies
- · Balancing management styles and culture