## RESILIENT TEAMS IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

**10 Lessons For Leaders** 

## AGENDA

- Introduction
- Change
- The Brain And Change
- Leadership, Innovation, Creativity and Change
- Q&A

# WHO AM I?

- Output 22 Years in Development and Support
- Manage Supportability for Microsoft's Online Consumer Services (500 m customers)
- GPGP Award Winner
- ③ 3-Time Quality of Service Award Winner
- Top 4%
- Output Certified Giant Impact Facilitator (Maxwell)

# WHY ARE WE HERE AND WHAT ARE THE RULES?

- Why are you here?
- Why am I here?
  - Meet My Friends: Uncertainty and Complexity
  - Multiplication Is Magic
  - Challenge Yourself
- What are the rules?

## EXERCISE I

It's the summer of 2010 – ONE YEAR FROM NOW. A reporter from the Olympian has called to tell you that you and your team have been chosen for the Sunday cover story on the State's Great Heroes.

What is the headline for the story?

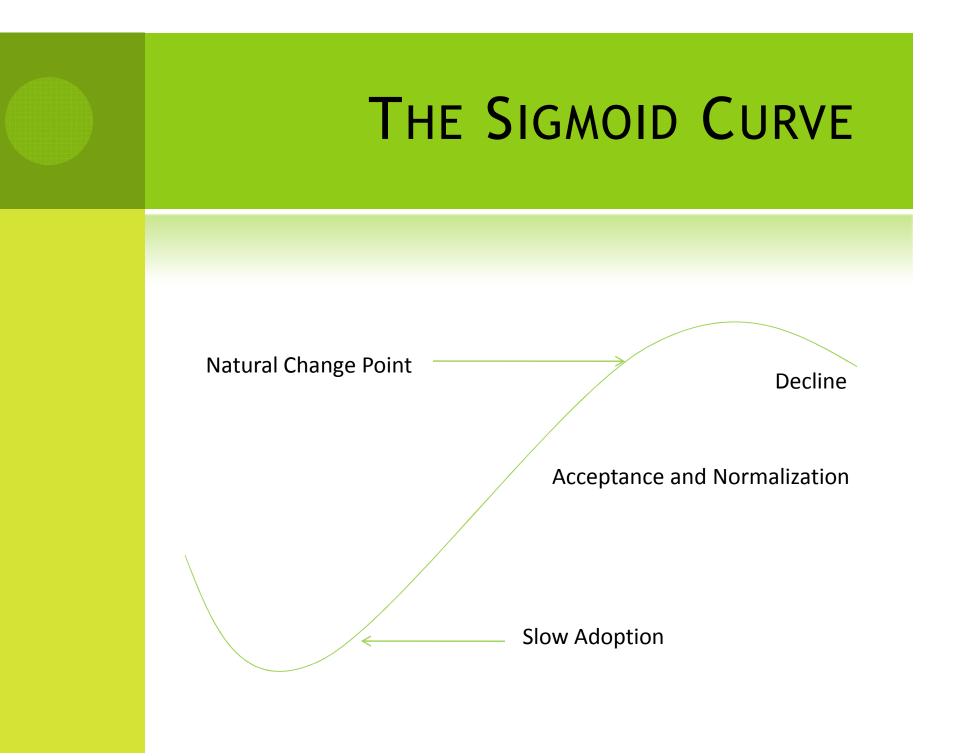
What major milestone, metric or goal would you include in the first paragraph?

What hurdles did you have to overcome in order to achieve this success?

What thinking or behaviors did you have to change in order to be successful?

How did you go about creating this change?





# MANAGING THE S CURVE

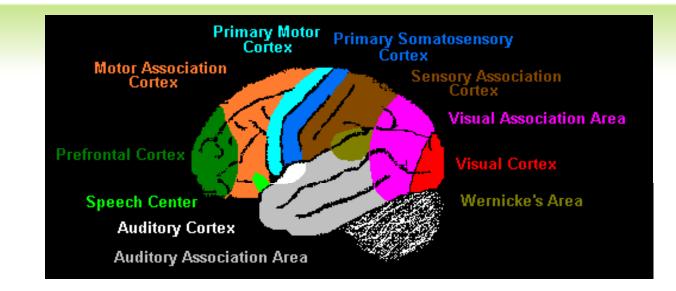
Unnatural change point

Major opportunities exist when individuals, systems and organizations change before they have to





# THE BRAIN: A QUICK PRIMER



- Pre-Fontal Cortex/Active Memory
- Symbic System
- Basal Ganglia

# STEP 1. THE BRAIN AND CHANGE

- When approaching change, the brain needs a SCARF:
  - Sympathy
  - Certainty
  - Autonomy/Choice
  - Relatedness
  - Fairness

# FOUR PHASES OF ENCOUNTERING CHANGE

- Attention (even if it's fearful, you need to get their attention)
- Reaction (you need to make the case strong enough that it provokes some kind of motor response)
- Insight (they need to demonstrate that they can apply thought/modeling to the change
- Action (they should conclude with clear next steps to take, no matter how simple)

# RECOGNIZING AND OVERCOMING LEARNED HELPLESSNESS

- You need to recognize that many people have gotten them into a state of learned helplessness
- Learned Helplessness can be identified when individuals begin to express

# EXERCISE II

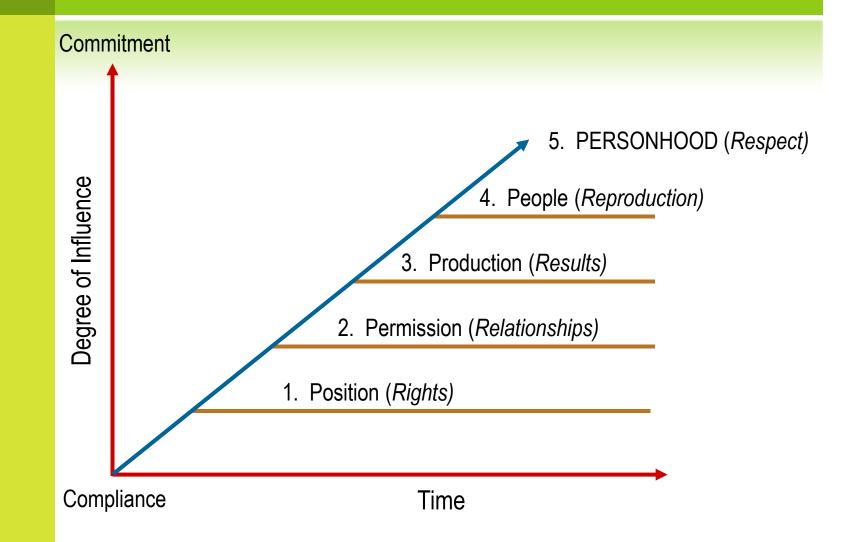
Exercise I.

Describe a challenge or change you need to lead your team through in the next 6 – 18 months.

List the names of three people you'll need to work closely with in order for this challenge or change to be successful.

For each person above, answer the following questions:		
This person knows and appreciates my communication style and approach to work		
(Yes or No)		
This person and I have a shared set of goals or commitments (Yes, No, Don't Know)		
I've spent non-work/social time getting to know this person (Yes, No)		
This person values above everything else (ie, honesty, hard work, having fun,		
family, etc.)		
If this person had the power to create a state holiday for a specific event it would		
be (ie, kid's birthday, anniversary, etc.)		

# LEADERSHIP, INNOVATION, CREATIVITY AND CHANGE



## LEADERSHIP IS CHARACTER

- Positional Authority will barely get you through the good times successfully
- Permission-Based Leadership is based on mutual trust and a relationship that transcends title
- When catastrophe strikes, titles are the first thing to be discarded
- Let's talk about some leadership examples in times of great crisis...
  - Tylenol
  - Exxon Valdez

## LISTEN TO UNDERSTAND

- Most people listen in order to prepare their response
- Practice actively listening, take notes, and seek to understand what the person is saying
- People want to be understood first



# FAILING BACKWARD V FAILING FORWARD

#### **Failing Backward**

**Blaming Others** 

**Repeating Mistakes** 

Expecting never to fail again

Expecting to continually fail

Accepting tradition blindly

Being limited by the past

Quitting

**Failing Forward** Taking Responsibility

Learning from each mistake

Knowing failure is part of progress

Maintaining a positive attitude

Challenging outdated assumptions

Taking new risks

# MAKE ROOM FOR NEW HABITS TO DRIVE TOWARD A VISION

- You can't stuff a new habit into an already full day
- Achieving a vision requires knowing what steps you have to take to get there
- I lost 150 lbs by making room for a 15-minute eliptical ride each morning. I didn't lose all 150 lbs that day, and that first ride *sucked*. But it was worth the journey
- If you need to make room for something new, ask yourself: "what breaks?"

# CREATE A CULTURE OF CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION

- © Creativity is personal. Innovation is cultural
- Managers focus on efficiency, consistency and goal-setting (Six Sigma = black belt = karate)
- Innovation is about DISRUPTION! (innovation = green thumb = garden)
- We don't know who discovered water, but we know it wasn't fish.

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