

Creativity- A Facilitator of Success

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Over the last few months, I've been introducing the facilitators of success according to my Enlightened Leadership paradigm. My emphasis in March was to engage the heart as well as your head. In April, I focused on knowing how to use your own power appropriately. This month, I concentrate on one of the most important facilitators to not only being successful as a leader, *understanding how to use your inner creativity.*

Based on my flawless track record of bringing in projects, I believe that knowing how to access and use one's inner creativity is **the secret to project success.** And the best part is everyone has it! It's just a matter of learning of to reprogram ourselves to get access, and start gaining the benefits that our right brain can bring to us. Most of us in the knowledge professions know how to use our data side – that's the left brain – but we shy away from depending on the right brain – that's where our creativity resides. There have been lots of studies done on how we actually make up our minds and then use data to back it up. I can tell you that it's been the right brain that:

- Helped me come up with out of the box solutions to problems to route around trouble before it became a serious risk. My famous weather story is the best. How did I know way before Katrina, that a hurricane would impact our project? I allowed two extra weeks and we were the only team that wasn't late on our timeline.
- To know how to work with team members or customers to satisfy the situation without impact to the project. Negotiations should be win win. Sure! But how do you know what to do to facilitate that happening? It's your creative mind that provides the answers. When I had a problem team and determined that international conference calls were necessary to aid interaction, I negated \$25,000 worth of travel that management was convinced was necessary. It wasn't a technical problem, but a communications one. A different perspective was the answer.
- Comes up with a winning presentation. I came up with a tactic that provided the team a position that management couldn't refuse. By hitting a certain metric, showing it on a chart, the team established their position and even won an award. I gave them the idea.
- With people, with situations, with vendors, with forecasts/plans, with risks... with all aspects of the projects, it's your creativity that makes the difference.
- Learning to balance your left brain data side with your right brain intuitive side will lead to the best of both worlds. A balanced brain incorporates logic and intuition and is the key to fast, on your toes thinking that can put out fires and keep those projects moving on target.

Not sure how to slow down and get access to your right brain creativity, your inspirational flashes or combine the best of your left and right brain? Take my one-day workshop on Maximizing Creativity on June 22 in Reston, VA. Learn the secret to project success and apply the ideas to your personal life as well!