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Innovation & Entrepreneurs

A Litmus Test for Entrepreneurs by Walter Kuemmerle

A few years ago anyone could become an entrepreneur. All you needed was a half-baked idea and a phone to hear offers from salivating venture capitalists. Now the environment is much more difficult. Question: Do you have what it takes to be an entrepreneur in this new era? [more>>](#)

NPD & Process Improvement

The Accidental Innovator Author: Sarah Jane Gilbert

Many important innovations are the by-product of accidents. The key is to be prepared for the unexpected. Professor Robert D. Austin discusses his research and practical implications on the concept of accidental innovation. [more>>](#)

Web Links

Associations and Assistance

Economic Development Association of New Zealand (EDANZ)
www.edanz.org.nz

Ministry of Economic Development
www.med.govt.nz

New Zealand Software Association
www.nzsa.org.nz

New Zealand Trade & Enterprise
www.nzte.govt.nz

New Zealand Venture Capital Association
www.nzvca.co.nz

Foundation for Research Science and Technology
www.frst.govt.nz

The Hi Growth Project
www.higrowth.co.nz

Partners

John Robertson and Associates
www.johnrobertson.co.nz

Export New Zealand
www.exportnewzealand.org.nz

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Innovation News

July 2006

Increasing Your Organisational Performance...

It never ceases to amaze me how many people do not understand systemic thinking. As with the word 'innovation', 'systems' have been overused and bandied about for years.

Every time we send an email, it reaches and affects other people, sometimes just a few, sometimes thousands of people. These people react in some way; they may tell others, pass the email on, or it may have a repercussion for them as individuals later that day or in years to come.

The consequences from this reaction are often delayed and are often never known by the original author of the action. As a result we affect our environment in ways we never imagined.

Who was to know that years of driving cars would lead to global warming? Who was to know that just being around smokers could cause you to develop lung cancer? Have you ever noticed that every time something major happens in our lives, the world seems to change too, that our lives become different in many ways not in just one way. Often the people around us change and the world we live in feels and acts like a different place.

To improve our organisational performance we need to treat our organisations as a system. We need to move away from departmentalising our teams, people and thinking. This is silo and hierarchy building and does not maximise and utilise resources to their potential.

We need to acknowledge and gain contributions from everyone and everything within the system and we need to communicate the actions and behaviours that we want the organisation to reflect.

This will bring about change; if the right actions and behaviours are displayed then increased business performance will result. This is Innovation.

I hope you enjoy this month's newsletter!

Kind Regards,

Louise Webster – Managing Director, Ideas Accelerator

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- benchmark your results against a measure of best practice innovation performance
- form a plan / strategy for improving innovation performance

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