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#### **Host** Mimi Golding

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 Mimi Golding, is an experienced information management professional.

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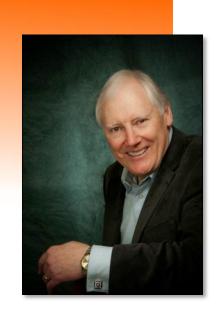
## Harnessing the Strengths Within Your Team Using Belbin Team Roles

Max Isaac, CEO, 3Circle Partners

October 21, 2014

#### Speaker Max Isaac

 Max is the CEO of 3Circle Partners, a global consulting firm that specializes in implementing team-based management systems in major corporations. He contributes over 30 years of general management and consulting experience in North America, England, Europe and Asia. He is a leading expert in the field of leadership and organizational behavior.

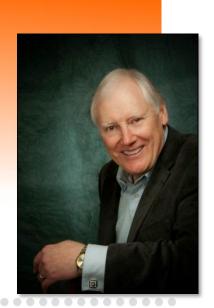


Co-author of The Third Circle – Interactions That Drive Results, Setting Teams Up for Success, and A Guide to Team Roles. He is also the contributing author of the "Team Leadership" sections of Mike George's books Lean Six Sigma published in May 2002 and Lean Six Sigma for Service published in June 2003.

#### **Question and Answer**

- Use the Question box to ask questions
- Selected questions will be answered at the end, but you can ask at any time.
- Short, specific questions, please!







## Harnessing the Strengths Within Your Team Using Belbin Team Roles



#### Goals

In this webinar we will be discussing the nine Team Roles and techniques that can be used to implement their use in your teams. The key learnings you will leave with are:



- A thorough understanding of Team Role Theory, explaining the nine roles and providing insights into their use in teams.
- A knowledge of how teams have used the report, aided by an examination of mini-case studies
- Actions you can take to implement Belbin Team Roles in your team



## High Performance Teams & Team Roles

The formation of effective teams is more by good fortune than good judgment....it doesn't have to be that way!

Rapid, high quality team performance is not an accident.

It requires discipline & effective interaction skills:

- Balanced, diverse team
- Effective process
- Relevant experience





#### **Belbin Team Roles**

Dr. Meredith Belbin from Cambridge University devoted over 10 years of research into team effectiveness. What emerged:



- 9 distinct and identifiable clusters of behavior (or areas of contribution).
- When all 9 of these areas of contribution were present in a balanced way, the team had higher predictability for success.
- These nine predictable behavior patterns became known as the Belbin Team Roles.

He demonstrated that with a careful balance of technical skills and the optimal behavior patterns, we can select and develop teams with a predictably higher degree of success.



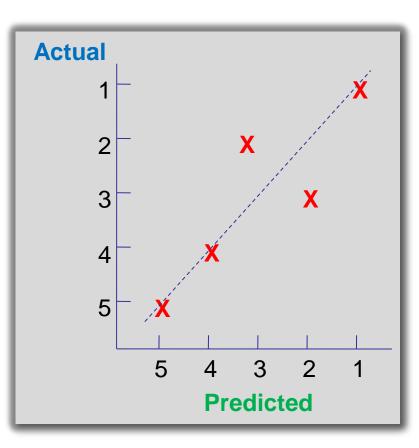
#### **Predicting Team Performance**

A typical example of Belbin's ability to predict the order of finish of teams in the Henley Management Simulations.	Predicted Order of Finish	Actual Order of Finish
	1	1
	2	3
	3	2
	4	4
	5	5



The **red X's** on the graph represent the different teams participating in the simulation.

**Red X's** on the diagonal line represent where Belbin's predictions and the team's performance matched exactly.





#### What is a Team Role?

A tendency to <u>behave</u>, <u>contribute</u>, and <u>interrelate</u> with others in a particular way -- when working in a team



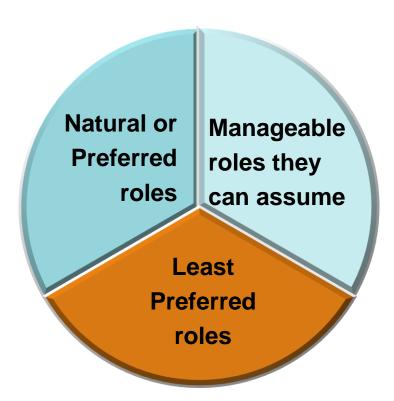
(versus a "Functional Role," which refers to the job demands that a person has to meet by supplying the requisite technical skills and operational knowledge)



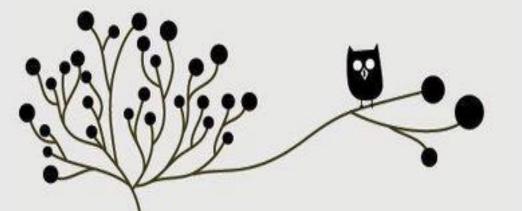
#### **Team Roles**

Nine Roles Identified

The team roles for fall into three categories for each person:



As individuals differ greatly in personality & behavior, so too will their team role compositions vary.



Everyone is a genius.

But if you judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree,

it will live its whole life believing it is stupid.

~ Albert Einstein





#### **The Nine Team Roles**

		Team Role Contribution	Allowable Weakness		
)	Plant	PL		Creative, imaginative, free-thinking. Generates ideas & solves hard problems.	Ignores incidentals. Too pre- occupied to fully communicate.
Thinking	Monitor Evaluator	ME	0	Sober, strategic and discerning. Sees all options and judges accurately.	Lacks drive and ability to inspire others. Can be overly critical.
Th	Specialist	SP	Can-	Single-minded, self-starting, dedicated. Provides rare knowledge and skills.	Contributes only on a narrow front. Dwells on technicalities.
,	Shaper	SH	autonio (	Challenging, dynamic, thrives on pressure. Has drive to overcome obstacles.	Prone to provocation. Offends people's feelings.
Action	Implementer	IMP		Practical, reliable, efficient. Turns ideas into actions and organizes tasks.	Somewhat inflexible. Slow to respond to new possibilities.
	Completer Finisher	CF		Painstaking, conscientious, anxious. Finds errors. Polishes and perfects.	Inclined to worry unduly. Reluctant to delegate.
e e	Coordinator	СО		Mature, confident, identifies talent. Clarifies goals. Delegates effectively.	Can be seen as manipulative. Offloads own share of the work.
People	Team Worker	TW		Co-operative, perceptive and diplomatic. Listens and averts friction.	Indecisive in crunch situations Avoids confrontation.
	Resource Investigator	RI		Outgoing, enthusiastic, communicative. Explores opportunities, develops contacts	Over-optimistic. Loses interest once initial enthusiasm expires.



#### PLANT (PL)

#### **Individual Characteristics**

#### Contribution to the Team



- ✓ Imaginative
- ✓ Unorthodox

- ✓ Problem solving
- ✓ Lateral thinking
- ✓ Innovation
- ✓ Generates new ideas







## PLANT (PL) WEAKNESSES

Allowable	Non-Allowable
<ul> <li>✓ Out of touch with reality</li> <li>✓ Ignores incidentals</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Strong ownership of ideas when cooperation would yield better results</li> <li>Discounts other peoples ideas</li> </ul>



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#### MONITOR EVALUATOR (ME)



#### **Individual Characteristics**

- ✓ Discerning, objective
- ✓ Questioning
- √ Sees all options

#### Contribution to the Team

- ✓ Defuses overenthusiasm
- ✓ Applies reason
- √ Identifies problems





## MONITOR EVALUATOR (ME) WEAKNESSES

Allowable	Non-Allowable
<ul><li>✓ Uninspiring</li><li>✓ Sceptical</li></ul>	<ul><li>Cynical without logic</li><li>Overly pessimistic</li></ul>



#### SPECIALIST (SP)

#### Individual Characteristics

#### Contribution to the Team



✓ Dedicated and professional

✓ Single-minded

- ✓ Ignores factors outside own areas of competence
- ✓ Keeps up to date
- ✓ Accurate information
- Aware of new developments







## SPECIALIST (SP) WEAKNESSES

Allowable	Non-Allowable
<ul> <li>✓ Contributes on only a limited front</li> <li>✓ Dwells on specialized personal interests</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ignores factors outside own areas of competence</li> <li>Doesn't acknowledge wider company objectives</li> </ul>



#### SHAPER (SH)

#### Individual Characteristics

#### Contribution to the Team



- √ Challenging
- ✓ Driving and dynamic
- √ Thrives on pressure
  - Effective delegator

- ✓ Leads in difficult situations
- ✓ Takes hard decisions
- ✓ Overcomes obstacles

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## SHAPER (SH) WEAKNESSES

Allowable	Non-Allowable
<ul><li>✓ Provocative</li><li>✓ Aggressive</li><li>✓ Too task-focused</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Inability to recover situation through humor or apology</li> <li>Always think they're right!</li> </ul>



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#### IMPLEMENTER (IMP)

#### Individual Characteristics

#### Contribution to the Team



- ✓ Efficient and organised
- ✓ Reliable

- ✓ Practical solutions from ideas
- √ Follows procedures
- ✓ Turns concept into reality







## IMPLEMENTER (IMP) WEAKNESSES

# Allowable ✓ Slow to see possibilities ✓ Somewhat inflexible X Obstructs change for no good reason X A barrier to progress



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## COMPLETER FINISHER (CF)

#### **Individual Characteristics**

#### Contribution to the Team



- ✓ Attention to detail
- ✓ Delivers results

- ✓ Perfects existing systems
- ✓ Eradicates errors
- ✓ Crosses the t's, dots the i's







## COMPLETER FINISHER (CF) WEAKNESSES

Allowable	Non-Allowable
<ul><li>✓ Anxious</li><li>✓ Reluctant to delegate</li></ul>	<ul><li>Unreasonably obsessive behavior</li><li>Produces a Rolls-Royce instead of a Mini</li></ul>

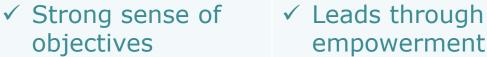


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#### COORDINATOR (CO)

#### Characteristics

#### Individual Contribution to the **Team**



- ✓ Promotes decision✓ Chairs meetings making
- ✓ Delegates readily
- Good chairman

- empowerment
- ✓ Promotes team contribution







## COORDINATOR (CO) WEAKNESSES

Allowable	Non-Allowable
<ul> <li>✓ Manipulates within reason</li> <li>✓ Delegates personal workload</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Takes credit for the efforts of others</li><li>Over-reliance on team work</li></ul>



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#### TEAMWORKER (TW)

#### **Individual Characteristics**

#### Contribution to the Team



✓ Diplomatic

✓ Averts friction

Good listener

- ✓ Promotes team spirit
- ✓ Builds peer relationships
- ✓ Facilitates communications







## TEAMWORKER (TW) WEAKNESSES

Allowable	Non-Allowable
<ul><li>✓ Indecisive</li><li>✓ Discourages conflict</li></ul>	<ul><li>Avoids pressure situations</li><li>No focus on task</li></ul>



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## RESOURCE INVESTIGATOR (RI)

#### **Individual Characteristics**

#### Contribution to the Team



- ✓ Excellent communicator
- ✓ Recognises opportunities
- ✓ Extroverted
- ✓ Enthusiastic

- ✓ Develops contacts
- ✓ Explores opportunities
- ✓ Negotiates
- ✓ Makes external links





## RESOURCE INVESTIGATOR (RI) WEAKNESSES

#### **Allowable** Non-Allowable ✓ Can be over-optimistic Lets clients down by not following through ✓ Loses interest after initial Too externally focused stages



## **Belbin Team Roles Key Concepts**

#### Focus on what you do best

- Understand and excel in your natural, preferred roles
- Be aware of and manage your Allowable Weaknesses





## Team Roles Key Concepts – Individual

#### Be aware of and manage your Allowable Weaknesses

- This is the price to be paid for being good in your preferred roles, e.g., a strong Shaper is going to hurt some peoples feelings as they forge ahead
- Ensure that Allowable Weakness does not become "Disallowable":
  - ➤ Lose a Plant's attention during a meeting because they are dreaming up a creative solution = OK
  - Plant forgets to come to meeting because they are thinking about something else = NOT OK!





# INDIVIDUAL BELBIN REPORTS



Accelerating results

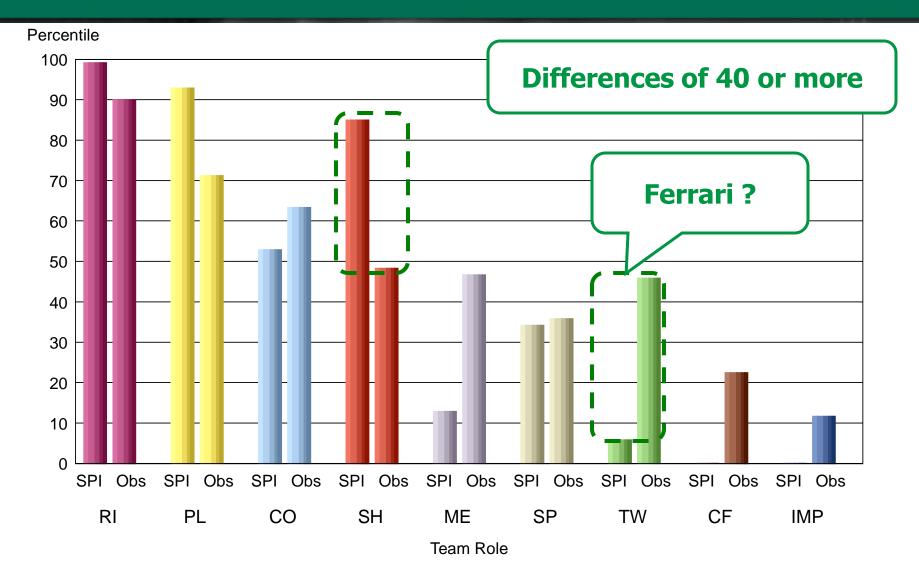


# Analysis of your Team Role Composition

This report is based on your Self-Perception plus 6 Observer Assessments. 8 9 Anton McBurnie's Self-Perception RΙ SH SP CO ME TW **IMP** Observers: PLRΙ SH ME TW CO CF **IMP** CF ME PLSH SP CO **IMP** TW RΙ PLSH ME CO TW SP CF **IMP** RΙ SH CO ME PLSP TW CF **IMP** What are CO TW RΙ PL SP CF ME **IMP** SH my Top CO RΙ TW ME PL SP **IMP** CF SH Roles? Observers' Overall Views RΙ PLCO SH ME TW SP CF **IMP** SP TW SH ME Your Overall Team Role Composition RΙ PLCO



# Anton McBurnie Comparing Self & Observer Perceptions



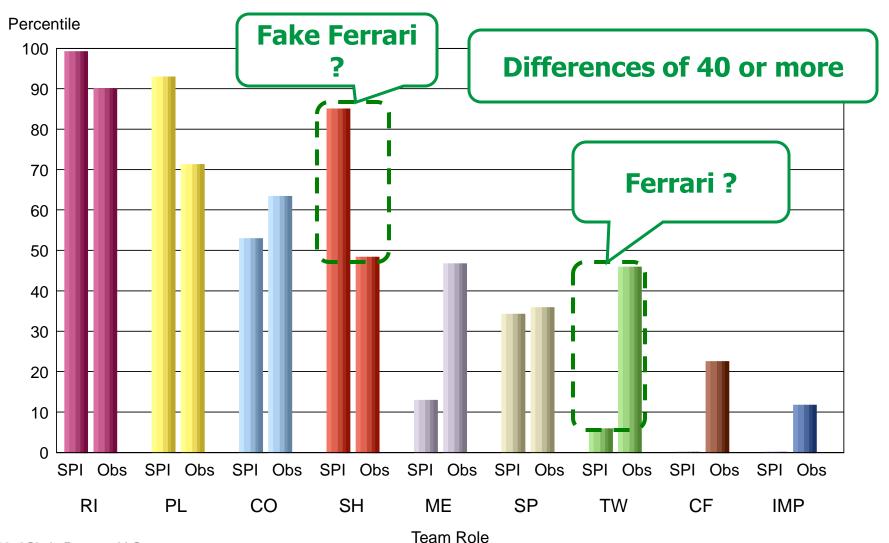


### A FERRARI IN MY GARAGE?





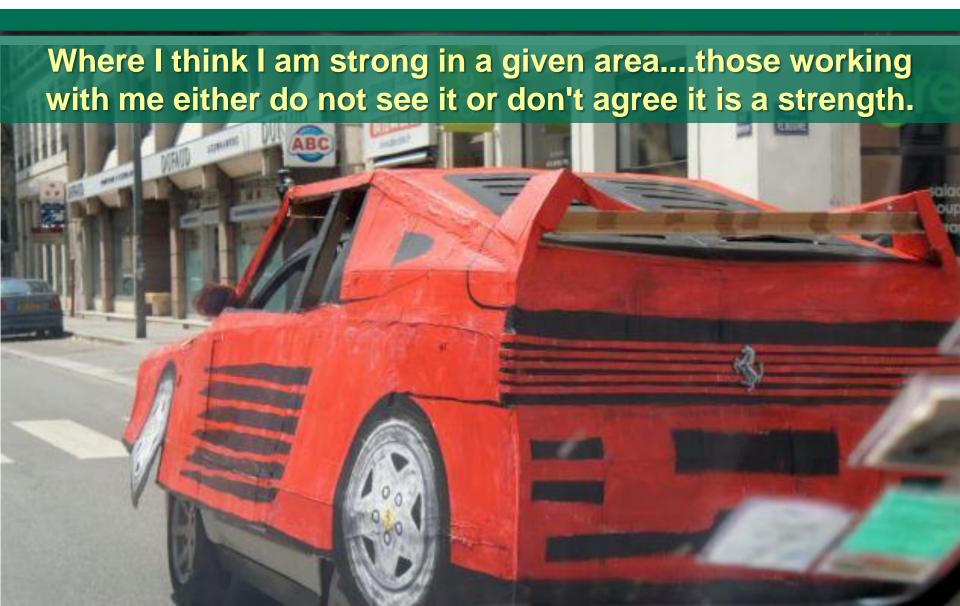
# An Example Comparing Self & Observer Perceptions



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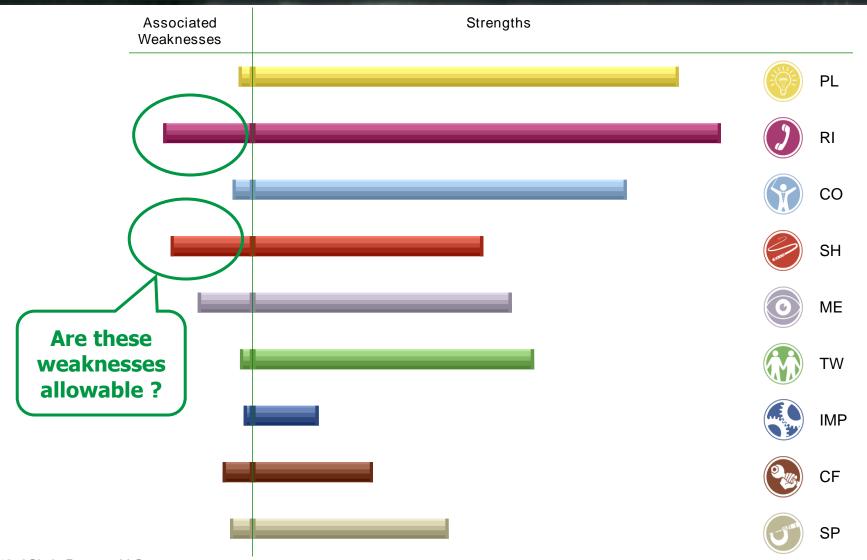


#### OR A FAKE FERRARI?





# An Example Observed Team Role Strengths and Weaknesses



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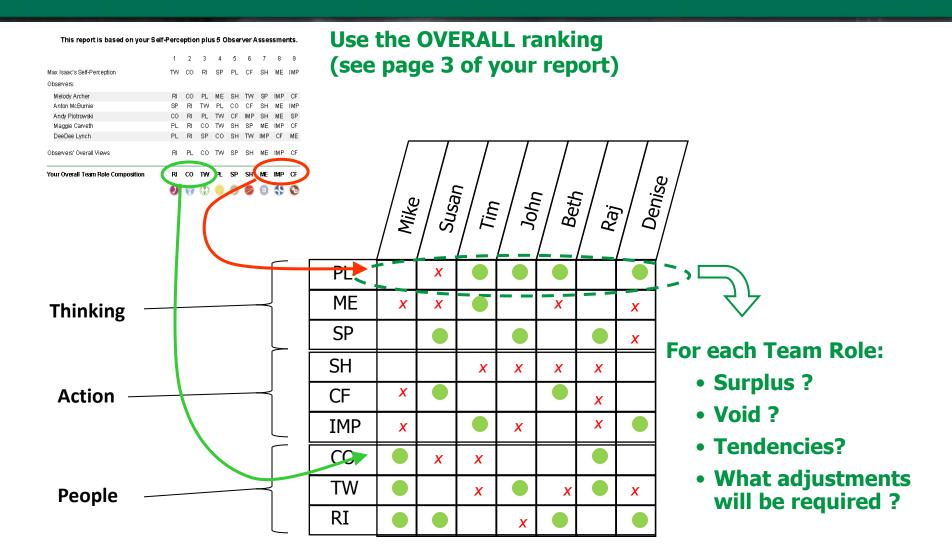


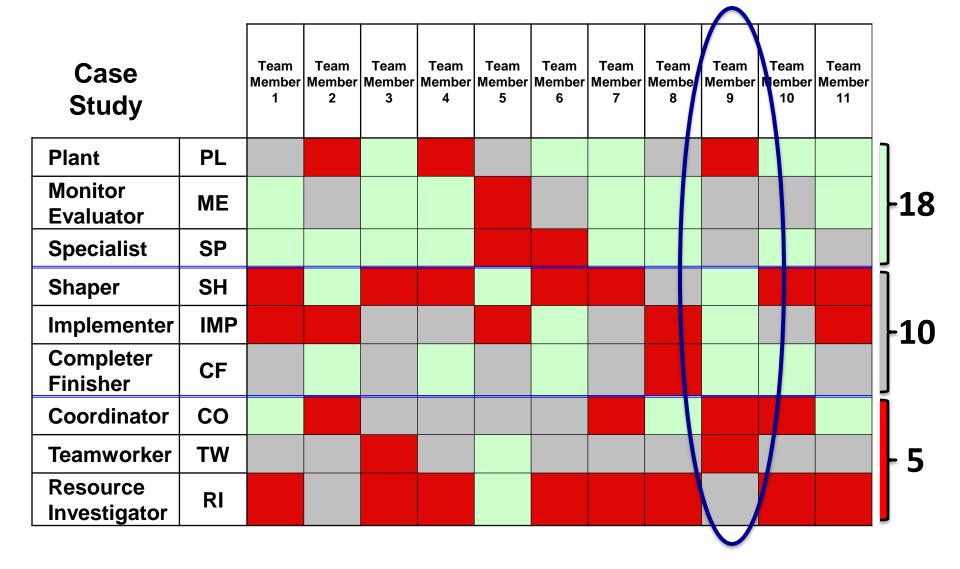
# TEAM ROLE MAPPING



## **Team Role Mapping Exercise**







Insight 1: The team had an overabundance of thinking skills.

Insight 2: The team was weak in the "people" skills.

Insight 3: The project manager was the most action-oriented team member.

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## THANK YOU!

For more information contact:

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Or, give me a call





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Max is the CEO of 3Circle Partners, a global consulting firm that specializes in implementing team-based management systems in major corporations. He contributes over 30 years of general management and consulting experience in North America, England, Europe and Asia. He is a leading expert in the field of leadership and organizational behavior.

He has assisted CEOs and senior leaders within client organizations with the design and implementation of team based organizational development programs, Six Sigma initiatives and high performance team development.

Max is the co-author of The Third Circle – Interactions That Drive Results, Setting Teams Up for Success and A Guide to Team Roles. He is also the contributing author of the Team Leadership sections of Mike George's books Lean Six Sigma published in May 2002 and Lean Six Sigma for Service published in June 2003.

Prior to moving into the field of organizational development, Max was the CFO for the Retail Division within The Molson's Organization, where he took a lead role in growing the business to over \$1 billion in revenues, doubling its size in four years through acquisitions and internal growth.

Max was educated at Witwatersrand University in South Africa where he earned a B.Com Degree and obtained a Chartered Accountant designation. He is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, Canada.





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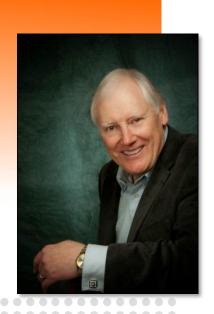
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