

2013 Prediction From Working Simply: The American Workforce Moves From “Survive to Thrive”

Reuters 12/3/12

2013 Prediction From Working Simply: The American Workforce Moves From “Survive to Thrive”

Managing Partner Carson Tate provides expert insights on how to work smarter, not harder this year

As the country begins to emerge from a series of economic crises, American workers are reevaluating the meaning of work: that a job needs to do more than just pay the bills, it should also provide meaning and purpose in their lives. Carson Tate, Founder and Managing Partner of Working Simply, a management consultancy whose mission is to bring productivity with passion back to the American workplace, sees a reawakening happening. She predicts that in 2013 American workers will begin to move from survival mode to a mindset of thriving. But it will take some bold thinking and action to get there.

“There is opportunity for everyone in this rapidly changing, often chaotic environment. However, it is up to each of us to push past our fears of disrupting traditional hierarchies and of failure if we are to find our own opportunities,” said Carson Tate. “Being bogged down in busy work, looking to ‘busyness’ to demonstrate our value will no longer serve us. The most successful people will find a way to embrace efficiency, identify their individual strengths, and move past ‘busyness’ to a more productive way of working.”

In 2013, Working Simply predicts the following:

Continual Upending of Traditional Business Practices

Face time or seat time will continue to diminish in importance as organizations focus more on results and less on the amount of time spent at the office. The number of people working in traditional office spaces will continue to decrease. A one size fits all approach to time management and productivity will be overturned in favor of one that suits each individual’s cognitive style, i.e. how

they think, learn and communicate. Meeting cultures will be replaced with collaborative, “get the work done” work groups.

We Will Stop Fighting Nature

Our brains are hardwired to function in very specific ways. Recent advances in neuroscience have shed light on how the brain operates. 2013 is the year that we will embrace these insights and stop fighting the natural functioning of our brains as we perform our work.

24/7 Connectivity Will Transform from Albatross to Opportunity

In 2013, 24/7 connectivity will actually liberate us and free us to work, connect and play anywhere – when we want to. We will establish a new relationship with our technology, fully exploring its potential so that it enables us to create the life we want.

In Ms. Tate’s work with companies such as the Coca-Cola Bottling Company Consolidated, Lend Lease, VF Imagewear and multiple divisions of Wells Fargo, the American workplace is moving in a positive direction. She firmly believes that workers can “have it all” in 2013 through working smarter, not harder and has advice on how to get there, including:

Flex your Unique Ability Muscles

Do you know your strengths and unique abilities? We all have them. When are you in that place of effortless flow? Notice what people compliment you on professionally for clues. Find a way to “work out” those innate skills, to incorporate them more into your work. The most successful people in your organization are consistently flexing their unique ability muscles.

Move Beyond Busy

Just being busy won’t serve American workers well in 2013. Being busy is not the same thing as being productive. Busy is running on a treadmill going nowhere. Being productive is working on tasks and projects that enable you to reach your and your organization’s goals. Move beyond busy and watch your productivity soar.

Make Technology Work for You

Today’s technology is powerful – very powerful. However, we often abdicate our own power when we are working with technology. We let it guide and direct us. What if, in 2013, you made your technology actually work for you? Fully explore all the abilities your technology (email system, mobile device, etc.) has to make

your life easier. Figure out what aspects make your work more complex and stressful. What can you start using, and almost more importantly what can you discard?

Notes Ms. Tate: “To thrive in 2013, not just survive, American workers first must realize and then fully embrace that they are at choice. They have the power to make choices to work differently – more simply, more purposefully and more balanced. The smartest companies are those that will give their workers the tools and information they need to make those choices.”

To learn more about Working Simply, including program offerings for businesses and individuals, tips on how to incorporate the “work smarter, not harder” principal into your life, the background of Carson Tate, MS O.D. and more, please visit www.workingsimply.com.

About Working Simply, Inc.

Working Simply is a management consultancy whose mission is to bring productivity with passion back to the workplace. We do this by providing tailored solutions that help people to work smarter, not harder.

Based in Charlotte, North Carolina, Working Simply improves corporate agility, employee engagement, productivity and effectiveness by providing clients with behavioral learning and integration support systems (BLISS). The company provides a comprehensive suite of programs that reframe how businesses and individuals work and interact, leveraging their strengths and structuring their work so that it aligns with the strategic goals of the organization.

Created to address an underserved need, Working Simply has partnered successfully with numerous clients to improve efficiency and organization. Our clients range widely and include Amerisource-Bergen, Coca-Cola Bottling Company Consolidated, Duke Energy, Lend Lease, VF Imagewear, (multiple divisions of) Wells Fargo. Join Working Simply on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Flickr and Vimeo, and at www.workingsimply.com.

Warner Communications
Ariane Doud, 978-283-2674
ariane@warnerpr.com

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/03/idUS129861+03-Dec-2012+BW20121203>