

LEADERSHIP AT THE EDGE®

Program Overview

The Leadership at the Edge® presentation uses the Metaventure® approach for teaching strategies for effective leadership and teamwork, especially under conditions of adversity and change. This approach uses the power of adventure story and metaphor to help participants go beyond traditional learning to experience concepts in a way that allows for deeper understanding, better retention and immediate application to their work. The central story for the program is the 1914-1916 Trans-Antarctic expedition led by Sir Ernest Shackleton.



THE SAGA

Shackleton and his crew of 27 set out in December 1914 aboard the Endurance, and quickly encountered ice conditions that were unusually harsh. Only 60 miles from Antarctica, Endurance became trapped in pack ice. For 10 months they drifted, locked in the grip of the ice, until the enormous pressure crushed the ship. With limited supplies, the crew was forced to survive on the ice floes, where they were stranded for five more months. When they finally reached open water, they took to three small lifeboats in a hazardous "open water" journey amidst the jostling icebergs. Five days later, they landed on Elephant Island: A bleak, rocky and uninhabited place, due to its remote position, there was no hope of rescue. Shackleton and five others immediately set out in one of the life boats on an incredible 800-mile journey through the world's worst seas to reach South Georgia Island. Upon reaching their destination, as a final challenge, they had to trek over near impassable terrain to reach the whaling station on the other side of the island. After four separate attempts, Shackleton subsequently rescued all crew members—miraculously, after the 634 day ordeal, no one perished.

How did this group overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles?

How did Shackleton inspire his crew to such extraordinary levels of courage, unity and commitment?

How did he create the teamwork and dedication so crucial to success in such extreme circumstances?

More and more business leaders are discovering that Shackleton's saga provides an exciting and powerful case study against which they can examine today's business challenges. The Leadership at the Edge® presentation explores and applies the Ten Strategies for Success—strategies that our research shows make all the difference between leaders and teams that succeed and those that fail:

Now is the time for you to decide on the actions you will take to move your team to achieve their ultimate objectives. We can help the leaders in your organisation to focus their energy on immediate activity and shift their attention from apathy and frustration to clearly defined tasks ahead. These programs offer real and practical strategies for modern organisational leadership through the extraordinary saga of the Shackleton Antarctic expedition.

The 90 minute presentation includes the following:

- An introduction and overview of the Leadership at The Edge® concept as a way to promote teamwork and organizational effectiveness;
- A detailed presentation of the story of Sir Ernest Shackleton's Trans-Antarctic Expedition, using a variety of media;
- An extensive review of the Ten Strategies for Success, drawn from our research on leaders and teams that have performed at The Edge;
- If appropriate, group discussions that explore the essence of leadership and teamwork required in today's organizations, particularly in demanding conditions;

Further enquiries on the number below.

THE SYNCRETICS GROUP
Consultants in Leadership and Change

THE SALES SCIENCE GROUP

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