

COLLABORANT

THE 2014 HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

Business News Items Around the Globe



PRODUCTIVE MEETING HELD

Jakarta—An Indonesian man reports having a “very productive” meeting. Among his claims: No time was spent on frivolous details; everyone was punctual and prepared; the pace was brisk; and everyone left with a clear notion of what they were supposed to do, and when and how it was supposed to do it. Officials are investigating.

SYNERGY IMPOSSIBLE

Palo Alto—Researchers at Stanford have demonstrated mathematically that there is no such thing as synergy. “We ran 100,000 simulations and ‘1+1’ always equaled ‘2.’ The data were perfectly consistent,” said Dr. Jan Gilbert. Asked for a reply, Deron Jones of Consultants’ Professional Association replied, “Nuh uh.”

ALL AGREE: TEMPERATURE OK

Salt Lake—It’s not business as usual at Butler Insurance, where this week every employee agreed that the office’s temperature was acceptable. “It’s fine,” said bookkeeper Sara Miller. Ed Vargas agreed: “Yeah, it’s okay, I guess.” With this long-time dispute finally laid to rest, employees have moved onto arguing whether or not it’s appropriate to leave dishes on the break room counter to dry.



Man Hangs Poster & Productivity Soars

Channelview, TX—Robert Hastings, an evening-shift manager at a call center, seems to have discovered what countless CEOs and gurus before him could not: the secret of success. “My boss said [my team] needed to do better,” Hastings explained. “Then it hit me: What if I put up a poster?”

Hastings drove to an office supply store and found just what he was looking for. “There was this poster that said, ‘SUCCESS’ and had a guy or a bird flying. Five dollars later and things would never be the same.

For the first few minutes nothing changed. “I’m not sure people noticed it right away,” said Hastings. Then an employee, Shauna Oaks, looked up. “Success had never dawned on me before,” she said. “But once I saw that sign, everything made sense.” Shauna took off her headset, stood high on the cubicle walls, and pointed to the poster yelling, “Eureka!” over and over again until everyone saw the poster.

What happened next was an orgy of work on a Caligula-scale. The hum of people talking was electric. Everyone refused to take breaks, many saying they preferred the “taste of success” to food. Call-handle times plummeted as workers made a super computer that could sense when clients would be having trouble and would dial out to intervene.

By Friday the evening shift had managed HelpLinz’s successful IPO. Two days later, it was the highest-valued company in the world.

What’s next for Hastings? “I was thinking about running for the senate,” he said. “While I was at the office store, I also saw a poster that said, ‘TEAMWORK.’” It’s not just talk. Financial disclosures reveal his Super PAC, Rainbow Skydivers Holding Hands, has already raised \$100 million.

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SINCERELY WISHING YOU A HAPPY HOLIDAY YOU CELEBRATE OR NOT

CATCHING UP WITH COLLABORANT



Neil Staker

Neil has been more cheerful this holiday season after spending time with three spirits: vodka, whisky, and gin. His plans for the coming year include buying a senator and hunting human beings “just because.”

Daniel Staker

During the day Daniel has been spending a lot of time “surfing the internets” at the public library. At night he’s been busy riding public transportation, where he enjoys telling strangers about things the government doesn’t want them to know.



Joe Staker

Joe Staker doesn’t really exist. He’s a brother entirely made up by Neil and Daniel for tax purposes. Although fictional, he still enjoys taxidermy, T-top Trans Ams, and the works of Foreigner, and likes to spend time with his twelve dependents.

Quin Campell

Quin was busy in 2014 earning all of his merit badges and making baking soda-and-vinegar volcanos in his parent’s basement. In the coming year he hopes to speak to a woman, buy pants with a crease, and spend more time with his pigeons.



THE SERIOUS PART

If you get this letter it means we don’t think of you as a client. We think of you as a friend. We are glad to know you and look forward to partnering with you in the future.

Neil Staker *Daniel Staker* *Joe Staker* *Quin Campell*

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