

Mastering the FISO Factor

Fit In Stand Out

The Key to Leadership Effectiveness in Business and Life

BLYTHE MCGARVIE

Volume 5, Issue 5
by Blythe McGarvie

CEO Accountability (Part 1)

Ten days ago, I wrote a rebuttal to the desirability of living in an age of government intervention rather than economics creating corporate health. The General Motors bailout discussions led me to research and develop a point-of-view about the “Detroit Three”; whether G.M. needed a government rescue and as a result, whether the American economy would be stronger. To read the analysis, visit http://www.forbes.com/opinions/2008/11/19/gm-economy-autos-oped-cx_bm_1119mcgarvie.html. It’s been interesting to read the comments from the Forbes.com blog that agree and disagree with the analysis. EMOTIONS are driving those who disagree, not analysis of the data.

LIF’s Lessons

As you enter positions of trust and power,
dream a little before you think.

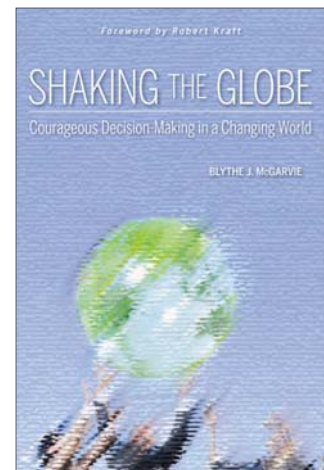
—Toni Morrison

Decision-makers and Congress must make a distinction between a company’s hopeful desires and cold brutal facts in order to establish the path for financial stability. Unfortunately, the “Detroit Three” CEOs testified to Congress that they deserve a free cash infusion above and beyond the \$25 billion they received last month. The CEOs of GM, Ford and Chrysler run companies that sold less than 50% of autos sold in October in the U.S., yet they act like they are running the show. Why aren’t the CEOs of Toyota, BMW and Honda asking for a handout?

My research for and writing of *Shaking the Globe* has led to a surprising number of inquiries, including a request from Carl Icahn to be a contracted and regular contributor to his blog (www.Icahnreport.com) to discuss CEO accountability and corporate governance.



Blythe McGarvie with GM Vice-Chairman Bob Lutz.



Shaking the Globe: Courageous Decision-Making in a Changing World, by Blythe J. McGarvie, with a foreword by Robert Kraft, will be available from Wiley publishers in January 2009.



My question to the thousands of readers of Mastering the FISO Factor newsletter is:

Should I accept Carl Icahn's invitation to blog?

Let me know your thoughts by replying to this email. In next month's newsletter, we will let you know the results. In fact, we will post it on Blythe's Blog on www.BlytheMcGarvie.com. We welcome and encourage you to link to this site where we discuss how we exercise our leadership responsibilities in the interconnected world. Do you want to be a Globe Shaker or have the world shake you? ♦♦♦

LIF's Lessons

A gentleman can live through anything.
—William Faulkner

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Items of Note

Directorship Boardroom & Economic Forum: There is a discounted VIP rate for anyone who would like to come to the corporate governance day and dinner in NYC on December 2. To register, [click on this link](#) and use the code LIF-GROUPVIP.

Laura Martin of Capital Knowledge releases an updated media company research report on **Yahoo** and a special report entitled **Repricing Risk: The Ascendancy of the Balance Sheet**.



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