



turning managers into leaders

Merge's Monthly Mega Minute – November 2007

Welcome to **Merge's Monthly Mega-Minute** - a bite-sized, yet substantial and practical, nugget of information that you can use immediately to enhance your professional and personal success.

This issue of Merge's Monthly Mega-Minute may be **FREELY** distributed to friends, colleagues, and discussion groups, as long as the entire issue is included. You may use excerpts of it in your print, electronic, or other publications, as long as the following byline is also included:

Merge Gupta-Sunderji helps turn managers into leaders. Through engaging keynotes and facilitated workshops, she gives people specific and practical tools to achieve leadership and communication success. Contact her at www.mergespeaks.com or 403-605-4756

Three leadership lessons from my cat

As many of you know, my husband and I share our home with two furry feline friends. The other day, I watched one of our cats as she carefully gauged the distance between the sofa and the aquarium, strategically positioned herself, and then sprang with complete and absolute poise and self-assurance. There was no fear; just confidence in the belief that she would arrive at her intended destination. In a perfect world, she would have, but that day, she missed! Instead of landing on the top of the aquarium, she fell short by a few inches and landed on the floor, but firmly on her feet. I smiled as she nonchalantly walked away as if nothing had happened. About 30 minutes later, I looked up to see her trying once more. Again, she gauged the distance between start and target, repositioned herself and leapt forward. This time she made it, landing decisively on top of the aquarium (and probably freaking out all the fish). Cheering silently, I jumped up quickly to rescue the fish she was about to terrorize.

Our congenial cat had just demonstrated three important principles in leadership. One, make the leap. Don't let the fear of failure stop you from soaring to success. Two, have the confidence to know that even if you miss, you'll land on your feet. And three, be purr-sistent. When you miss, stand up and walk away with dignity, and don't be afraid to try again!