The Role of Technology in Driving Business Initiatives in the Global Economy: Leadership, Culture, Change Management, and Practicalities of Implementation

Program Description

For the third year in a row, SIM New York Metro proudly presents a popular program offering of high energy successful business women. This year, a cross-industry panel will share their views, experiences, and challenges to achieve their organizations’ pursuit of seamless information technology and information management systems, while flourishing in a global economy.

Our panelists will address the need to drive process and implement technology changes in terms of corporate leadership, resistance to corporate change, cognizant of international cultural differences, and other practicalities which affect the ability to successfully impact their global organizations.

Topics will include:

- **Going Global**: Need for businesses to play and keep up with the pace in the global market
- **A New World**: Challenges of law and culture
- **Revenue generation**: Gaining competitive advantage and achieving customer satisfaction while protecting your trade secrets.
- **Implementing Change**: Leadership, politics and power at home and abroad
- **Locating Talent**: Attracting, motivating, and managing talent to meet staffing needs
including decisions about out-sourcing to the global human resource market or importing and retaining talent; culture, language and immigration obstacles

- Change Agents: What is the impact on the role of IT professionals, as the catalyst for organizational change?

Panel

About the Panel

Diane Butler is currently Vice President, Change Management and Implementation Manager for Project Gloria at Munich Reinsurance America. Prior to joining MRAm in 2002, Diane held a variety of executive roles in insurance and reinsurance, primarily focusing on workflow improvement, system implementations and Best Practices execution in claims, contracts, underwriting, run-off and client services.

Debra Dyleski-Najjar is a partner in the Wagner Law Group, P.C., a boutique firm which concentrates on ERISA, employment, benefits and executive compensation, with over 20 years. She has over twenty years of experience advising employers on a wide range of employment law issues regulating the workplace, and in representing clients before state and federal agencies and courts. Among her numerous honors are that she has been elected a Fellow of the prestigious College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. She is a member of the Greater Boston Visiting Nurse Association Hospice Care Board of Directors, among other professional organizations. Based on nomination of her peers and clients, she also was recognized as a Massachusetts Super Lawyer (2006) and as one of the Top-Ten Women Attorneys by Boston Women's Business Journal (March 2005).

Evelyn Fuhrer is a Managing Director at Promontory Financial Group, with expertise in risk evaluation, strategic technology advisory, and IT strategy management consulting for financial services firms. She specializes in analyzing and recommending technology solutions to support clients in the areas of business risk and compliance. Ms. Fuhrer is a former partner of IBM Business Consulting Services and PricewaterhouseCoopers Consulting, where she was responsible for the Financial Services Technology Practice. Earlier, she was Vice President, Trading Technology, at Merrill Lynch.

Donna Orlich is a Managing Director and Chief of Staff in the Information Technology division of Societe Generale. Donna has been in Societe Generale for the past 16 years and has held a number of different roles both in the Accounting and Finance Departments and Information Technology. Her most recent position prior to becoming Chief of Staff in Technology two years ago was manager of the Corporate Systems area. Previous experience includes Financial Control positions in Citibank.

Andrea Randolph is a Managing Director and the Chief Technology Officer of MBIA Inc., responsible for directing and implementing the company's global information management and technology strategies. In 2003, Ms. Randolph was named managing director, head of Infrastructure and Operations and Corporate Systems in the Information Technology (IT) Division, which included all domestic and international offices and engineering responsibility for 1838, a MBIA wholly-owned
subsidiary. Ms. Randolph significantly increased business value with the implementation of a
global private network connecting all offices, the development of the worldwide Disaster Response
and Recovery Plan, and the implementation of the company’s first automated trading system.

Atefeh (Atti) Riazi is Senior Partner and Chief Information Officer of Ogilvy and Mather Worldwide.
In her role as CIO, her focus is in driving the technology strategy to create efficient business
processes across the organization. Throughout her career, she has had a tremendous track
record of innovation and successful large-scale deployments allowing for productivity gains and
competitive advantage. Atti oversees the global systems and infrastructure network supporting an
integrated, cross-discipline organization providing marketing communications across all media.
Under Atti’s leadership Ogilvy and Mather has earned a place on InformationWeek’s 500 list of
innovative IT organizations and is viewed in the advertising sector as a leader in new and
innovative technologies

Sigal Zarmi is Managing Director & Chief Operating Officer of GE Energy Financial Services, a
unit of General Electric that provides financial products spanning the capital structure from debt to
equity and covering the global energy and water industries. Sigal is responsible for operational due
diligence, acquisition integration, and optimization of investment companies to realize the
maximum benefits from process improvements and technology solutions. In addition, she is
responsible for increasing the value delivered by Operations and Information Technology to further
drive growth, operational excellence, and simplicity.

Malka Treuhaft, the Moderator for this month's program, is a SIMNY member who serves as
President of Truiision, a global boutique consulting firm specializing in strategic technology and
business solutions, coupled with coaching and career counseling services. In her prior position,
Malka served as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of Centre-re, the insurance-based, finance arm
of the worldwide Zurich Financial Services Group.