

## **Mike Richardson 6.0**

Succinct Headliner (per Ben's challenge ... e.g. Alex promotes weird brands ... X teaches teamwork through gaming)

**Mike coaches and facilitates agility in the C-Suite ...** and continuation to flesh out/color in a little more ...

- Sometimes it's a real wake-up call ... some organizations are asleep at the wheel
- Sometimes it's helping them grapple with the complexity of it all ... it can be a real struggle to be translating agile strategy and agile execution into traction on their desired trajectory of profitability and growth, avoiding wheelspin which can cost a fortune and potentially the future of the business.
- Agility is complex and most people over-simplify it. It's kind of like solving the 3D Rubik's cube of all that is involved in Enterprise Agility. Make the wrong simple moves and you will be lost in complexity forever. Make the right simple moves and you solve complexity quickly. Mike helps the C-Suite be sure they are a part of their agility solution not part of their agility problem, which they can easily and unconsciously be if they aren't careful.

### **My Why-Statement**

**To have eye-level accountability conversations with the C-Suite so that they take full ownership of future proofing their businesses, careers and lives, with the agility required for a sense of composed confidence.**

### **My Brand-Why-Story**

In 2002, aged 39, I arrived at a fork in the road professionally and personally.

- I had been pursuing my corporate career for nearly 20 years, having learned and grown so much. I was a Geophysicist, turned Petroleum Engineer, turned MBA, manager, executive, CEO and then divisional CEO of a public company. I was an "intrapreneur", running entrepreneurial technology businesses inside of a corporate environment with share price sensitive pressures. Initially from the UK and then the USA, serving a global market.
- I experienced a lot of consultants, coaches and trainers coming through my office offering to help me, but I always felt that they didn't really understand what it was like to sit in my seat. They seemed to only partially illuminate my whole challenge, being insufficiently holistic, pragmatic and dynamic enough to provide a whole solution to my whole problem. I had an accumulating sense of void that something was missing and I knew I might have to wait a long time for others to fill the void, so I decided to fill it myself.
- I had been using Dale Carnegie across my Division, won their International Leadership Award in 1999 and in December that year was invited to speak at their annual convention. That is the first time I presented an initial skeletal incarnation of what evolved over the next 20 years as my framework of C2C: Conversation-Flow to Cash-Flow, Agile Leadership and an Agility Operating System. I got such a great response that I knew I was on to something.
- Perhaps most importantly, I realized that I had been woefully absent in the first 10 years of my 2 boys, as a father and a husband, because I had been traveling relentlessly.
- Overall, I had a real sense that I had lost my bearings on where true north was with my sense of prosperity, as some harmonious integration of success and happiness, financially and non-financially. My climb of the corporate leadership ladder wasn't providing that anymore. I felt called in a different direction.

I was lucky that I had just managed to get my green card in June 2001, 3 months before 911, so I had options. In conversation with my wife, I asked myself whether we were ready to take another risk in a procession of courageous transitions in our lives. The answer was yes. I took the leap from my corporate career on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2002 to go independent and begin my portfolio career.

20 Years later it has been the most enriching phase of my career and life. I have dedicated myself to filling the void of support for CEOs with my agility body of work. Along the way I have coached many other professionals to be open to a portfolio career option. I have been lucky enough to have that feeling that everything I ever did was preparation to do this. Whether in a corporate career or a portfolio career, that is a feeling I wish for other professionals which is the focus of all of my work. Facilitating and coaching Boards, CEOs, Executives, and their teams to inflect the trajectory of their conversation-flow professionally and personally, in business and in life, with the agility required to feel a sense of composed confidence in their future.