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Title: Corporate Breakfast Event
Category: Breakfast Meeting
Location: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, 9300 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Start Date: September 7, 2007
End Date: September 7, 2007
City: Rosemont
Description:

Corporate Breakfast Event

An ACG Chicago event focused on corporate decision-makers

Featuring **David G. Thomson**, author of

Blueprint to a Billion: 7 Essentials to Achieve Exponential Growth

7:45am Networking breakfast

8:15 am David Thomson

9:00 am Leadership Panel moderated by David Thomson

September 7, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare

Microsoft, Google, eBay, Staples, Genentech, Starbucks, Time Warner, Nike, Fifth Third Bancorp, and Harley-Davidson ...these are a few examples of an elite group of companies that turned Big Ideas into billion-dollar businesses. What traits did these highly successful companies share? What "blueprint" did they follow?

Based on 3 years of in-depth research, David Thomson's "Blueprint to a Billion" provides the first quantitative assessment of the success pattern common across a distinct, "elite" group of 387 "Blueprint Companies" - the 5% that have gone public since 1980 and subsequently grown to \$1 billion in revenue. The Blueprint Companies that David Thomson studied have a simple but definable characteristic: they not only grew fast, they exhibited exponential revenue growth.

Following his remarks, David Thomson will moderate a panel discussion featuring prominent Chicago area business leaders whose companies are experiencing the exponential growth of David Thomson's Blueprint companies. Among other things, the panelists will share their own views on their growth drivers and challenges as well as how their companies rate on the 7 Essentials that set Blueprint companies apart (see next page), followed by a Q&A session. This promises to be an exciting and insightful discussion. This event is particularly appropriate for business owners, directors, CEOs, CFOs and other senior-level decision-makers.

About The Panelists

Selim Bassoul has been President and CEO of The Middleby Corporation since 2000 and became Chairman of the Board in 2004. He joined Middleby as President of the Southbend Division of Middleby in 1986 and then was promoted to the post of Middleby's COO in 1999.

Mr. Bassoul started his career at Ernst & Young in the audit department for one year in the Middle East, and then came to the US to continue his postgraduate education at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management where he earned his MBA in Finance and Marketing. He also holds a certificate in Accounting. Before entering the foodservice industry, Mr. Bassoul worked in the healthcare industry for eight years for American Hospital Supply and Baxter Healthcare in various position including M&A, Corporate Planning and Regional Director in the Middle East and Africa. Prior to joining Middleby, Mr. Bassoul worked for eight years in commercial equipment for Premark, Inc., a unit of Illinois Tool Works, as Director of Marketing, General

Manager of the Cook-Chill Division and Vice President of Sales for the Vulcan Cooking Division.

Outside his career, his achievements included Contributing Editor, Journal of Business Strategy, speaker on global marketing at the Conference Board, developer of the Riskette financial modeling system and Exsys software for international distribution. Mr. Bassoul is a member of the Young President's Organization (YPO) and a board member of the Holy Spirit University foundation. He is a current member of the board of directors of New Piper Aircraft, Vero Beach and Confluence Watermark, Greenville, S.C.

Daniel Hamburger, was named President and CEO of DeVry Inc in 2004 and is responsible for managing the operations of the organization and implementing its strategic plan. Mr. Hamburger joined DeVry in 2002 as Executive Vice President with responsibility for the growth of the organization's online operations and Becker Professional Review.

Prior to DeVry, Mr. Hamburger served a Chairman and CEO of Indeliq (now owned by Accenture Learning). In addition, Mr. Hamburger's previous experience includes serving a division President of W.W. Grainger's Internet Commerce Group, growing revenues from \$10 million to over \$100 million in one year. Previously, Mr. Hamburger started the Internet Services Group for Chicago-based Metromail (a unit of RR Donnelley, later acquired by Experian) and was responsible for its venue capital investments. Mr. Hamburger also served as a consultant with Bain & Company in London, Warsaw and Boston.

Mr. Hamburger graduated in 1986 from the University of Michigan with bachelor's and master's degrees in Industrial Engineering. In 1990, he earned an MBA from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

Gary E. Holdren is the Chairman, CEO and President of Huron Consulting Group. Mr. Holdren along with Andersen partners founded Huron in 2002. Under his leadership, the company has grown to over 1,200 people today.

Mr. Holdren has more than 30 years of experience consulting with corporations and legal counsels on complex financial and business matters as well as extensive experience serving as an expert witness. Mr. Holdren has extensive consulting experience in international tax, antitrust and corporate civil damages and has testified as an accounting and industry expert in Federal Tax Court and Federal District Courts. Mr. Holdren works closely with many pharmaceutical companies and is also a trusted advisory to many healthcare companies. In his former position, Mr. Holdren was the advisory partner for Abbott Laboratories, Ameritech and Peoples Energy. Mr. Holdren has been litigation consultant to Nestle SA, AT&T, Drexel, Burnham Lambert, Commodore International, Ltd, Perkin Elmer Corporation, Seagate Technology and Exxon.

Mr. Holdren holds a Bachelor of Science, Accounting Degree from Miami University in Oxford, OH and is also a Certified Public Accountant.

ACG Members : \$95
Non-Members : \$110
Discounted Corporate Attendee: \$50
Special Table Rate (10 attendees): \$700

“Blueprint to a Billion” will be on sale at the event at a special discounted price.
A limited number of signed copies will be available & can be reserved in advance.

Hear David Thomson explain the 7 “Essentials” that set his Blueprint companies apart and learn whether your company or your clients’ companies have what it takes to enjoy exponential growth:

Essential #1: Create and Sustain a Breakthrough Value Proposition

Essential #2: Exploit a High Growth Market Segment

Essential #3: Marquis Customers Shape the Revenue Powerhouse

Essential #4: Leverage Big Brother Alliances for Breaking into New Markets

Essential #5: Become the Masters of Exponential Returns

Essential #6: The Management Team: Inside-Outside Leadership

Essential #7: The Board: Comprised of Essentials Experts

About David Thomson

David G Thomson has a passion for innovation, business-building and leadership. He has appeared on CNBC's Closing Bell and in such well know publications as the NY Times, Investors Business Daily, Entrepreneur Magazine, Leader to Leader, Fortune Small Business and Red Herring Magazine.

David G. Thomson has been leading business growth for 20 years in general management and executive sales/marketing at Nortel Networks and Hewlett-Packard. He also served as an Associate Principal during his five years at McKinsey & Company. Thomson graduated with an Electrical Engineering Degree for the University of Waterloo and an MBA from the University of Western Ontario. He resides with his family in Overland Park, Kansas. His favorite hobbies are running, golfing and radio-controlled jets.

The hallmarks of Thomson's business-building career was at Nortel Networks where, as General Manager, Residential Services, he led the development, standardization and deployment of advanced Wireline Caller ID services; Caller ID on Call Waiting and Telemarketing Call Rejection. This initiative, in partnership with Bell South launched a billion dollar software and telephone business for Nortel. As Vice President, Sales and Marketing in both Nortel and HP, Thomson led strategic account growth from \$100M to over \$500M. These successes in large companies drove Thomson to identify the success pattern for standalone businesses. Cancellation Policy - Cancellations received via email to Chicagoacg@acg.org by 5pm, August 24th will receive full credit. There are no refunds on cancellations received after August 24th.

To Reserve your table Contact ACG Chicago at 630-455-1740

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