



# Flawless Execution – Agility for your Business Team

Joel "Thor" Neeb | 24 May 2017









#### Joel "Thor" Neeb Atlanta, GA

- President of Afterburner
- USAF F-15 Mission Commander
- U.S. Presidential Escort Missions
- Air Force Academy Graduate
- M.S. Aerospace Science / MBA from UT
- Instructor Pilot of the Year at USAF Training HQ
- Embedded with Silicon Valley Tech Company







#### Agenda

Give your business team the highest value in the shortest time

- The Agility of a Fighter Pilot
- Plan to Build Buy-in
- Debrief Techniques







#### The Flawless Execution Cycle









AFTERBURNER OF THE CUTTON

Companies achieve only 33% of expected results from their strategic plans.

The Gap between expectation and performance is a failure of companies to execute strategy.

Markon Associates and the Economist Intelligence Unit





#### Agility of a Fighter Pilot

- West Point graduate, Jeff Sutherland, brings the discipline and process of a Fighter Pilot to Scrum
- Fighter Pilot processes are the foundation of the Agile and Flawless Execution Methodology







#### The Flawless Execution Advantage

Former Soviet Union



**United States** 









#### AFTERBURNER





#### Former Soviet Union



# United States



Focus

Technology

User

Culture

Top-Down

**Empowered Individual** 

Data

Mother Russia

Collaborative Team





#### **Organization Agility**

- Culture of trust and safety
- Continuous improvement and accomplishment of Mission Objectives
- Measure the outcomes of the organization or department as a whole







# Why Plan?

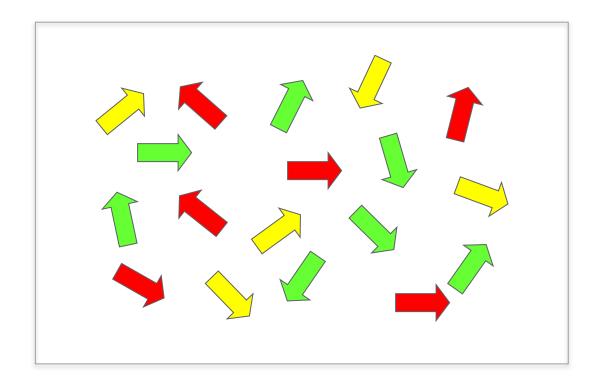
- Stay ahead of the rate of change in the marketplace.
  - "We are making a shift. We are no longer capable of just conducting 'transactions' in the marketplace – we need to provide transformative solutions. The value proposition that we must offer has to change."
    - » Vice President of Sales
- Create Alignment.
  - "It feels like we've got 3,000 CEOs in this company."
    - » Senior Vice President







# **Tactically Focused Organization**

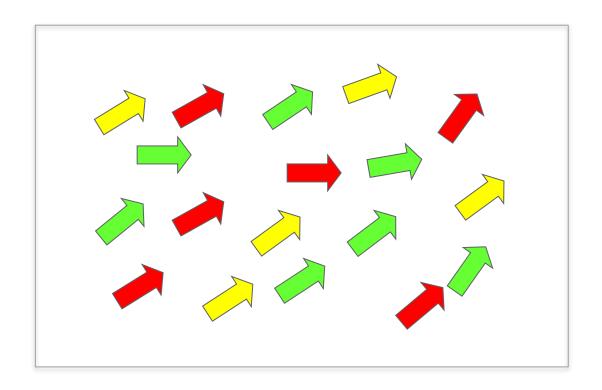








# Strategically Aligned Organization







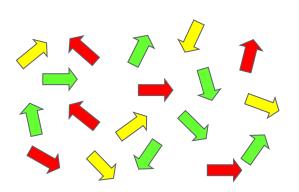


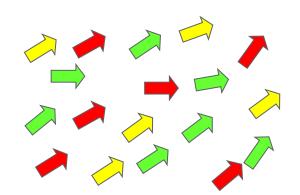
#### **Two Choices**

#### Tactical vs Strategic

**Tactically Focused Organization** 









Prometheus Process by John Warden. Copyright 2002-2012, Venturist ®, Inc.







# Align the Team

- Create buy-in
- Create a roadmap for success (\$100M of value created)
- Create clear roles and responsibilities
- Create accountability
- How? Create an aligned plan







#### Tips for Your Planning Session

- Ensure you have the right team in the room
- Strive to conduct the Planning session in-person
- Identify your Red Team up front
- Build HDD and draft Mission Objective first!
- Champion must articulate the "why"
- Plan for 4-6 hours (but it may be much less)







#### **Planning Concepts**

- Rapid Planning
- 80% Planning
- "Ace" Leadership / Decision Maker
- Open Planning Many Minds
- Team Execution







# Determine the Mission Objective

- Clear
- Measurable
- Achievable
- Aligned







#### Determine the Mission Objective

Make customers successful

Close \$100M deal in FY2018

2 \$100M deals in pipeline by 31 July







#### **Red Team**







## Key Stakeholders

- Assure all key stakeholders are in the room
- Imperative to assure buy-in and support for the mission







#### Why Debrief?

- They moved your cheese.
  - "At EUC we had enjoyed a great sales run. Predictably, the market has changed and we now need to create a more transformational solution vs. a transactional one."
    - » Vice President of Sales
- Become a more agile organization that learns and adapts from the past.
  - "Success can hide 1,000 ills. Why did that product succeed? Why did that product fail? We never truly answer those questions."
    - » Senior Vice President







# The Afterburner for your Retrospective

- The additional component added to provide a significant increase in thrust
- Debriefs are your afterburner











#### 21-Year Client Average

PLANNING	6.85
BRIEFING	5.01
EXECUTING	7.93
	7.00
DEBRIEFING	3.73



#### AFTERBURNER

Debriefing

Facilitated Debrief +27%

Structured Debriefing 38%

30+%

20% Unstructured Debriefing 22%

10%







#### The Numbers – Without a Debrief

- Your team achieves 60% success rate
- You don't Debrief, but you do learn from the school of hard knocks, so you improve by 5% each time.
- After 3 iterations, your team has a 66% chance of success







#### The Numbers – With a Debrief

- Your team achieves 60% success rate
- You do Debrief, and you use the Structured Debrief format (38% improvement each time)
- After 3 iterations, your team has a 86% chance of success







#### STEALTH<sup>SM</sup> Debrief

**S**et the Time and Place

Tone

**E**xecution vs. Objectives

**A**nalyze Execution

**L**essons Learned

Transfer Lessons Learned

High Note







#### Three Tips for Your First Debrief

- 1 Lesson Learned: Start with Why. Continue with Why. End with Why.
  - "I never understood why this Mission was so important."
- 2 Lesson Learned: Start with a clear Plan.
  - "We didn't start with a clear plan, so you can't hold me accountable!"
- 3 Debrief a Win first



#### Joel "Thor" Neeb

Afterburner Flawless Execution Webinar Series

Contingency Plan Triggers: Managing Project Risk



http://go.afterburner.com/webinar-june-2017/

Thank You for Attending 24 May 2017

