Organizational Change Myths and Patterns for Evangelists



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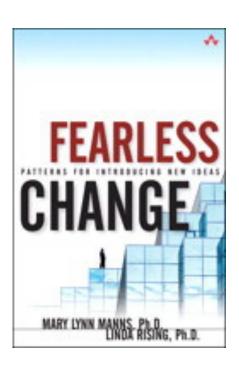
Why patterns?

Giving a name to a recurring problem with a known solution means the names of related patterns can be used to have a conversation about the problems and solutions.

Fearless Change

Patterns based on

- Social psychology
- Influence strategies
- Evolutionary biology



You're not here to build software, you're here to change the world.

Jeff Patton

Myth #1: Smart people are rational.

Keep these Patterns with You

Take on a role

Evangelist (not a fanatic)

Create short-term goals: build on your successes and learn from your failures

Test the Waters
Time for Reflection
Small Successes
Step by Step

Myth #2: Good always triumphs over evil. (Just World Fallacy, one of our many cognitive biases.)

Do Food: A most underappreciated pattern but one of my favorites ©!

Myth #3: If I just had enough power I could make people change.

Threat, firing, killing are very effective but only get compliance. You want real commitment.

Personal Touch: Each person is asking, "What's in it for me?"

You must address a genuine user need. Data does not equal empathy.

Jeff Patton

Different people accept new ideas differently

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This is new so it's cool!
     (Innovators--2.5%)
It's interesting, but I want to learn more.
     (Early Adopter--13.5%)
I want to know what other people think.
     (Early Majority--34%)
If I have to. I guess.
     (Late Majority--34%)
We've always done it this way.
     (Laggards--16%)
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Myth #4: Skeptics, cynics, resistors—THOSE people, well, they must be BAD or STUPID or BOTH!! Ignore them!!

Fear Less: Use resistance to your advantage. Listen, really listen, and learn all you can.

Champion Skeptic: Have a resident resistor play the important role of "Devil's Advocate." Treat him/her as a valued partner in the change effort.

You're a smart person, so you don't need help from others. After all, it's your idea!

Ask for Help: The idea is yours and you believe in it, but the change must not be "all about you."

Just Say Thanks: Offer sincere appreciation for the contributions of others.

Power Thanks

- Sincere appreciation
- Timely
- Detailed
- Describe impact

Grateful people:

- Have more energy and optimism
- Are more resilient in the face of stress
- Have better health
- Suffer less depression
- Are more compassionate, more likely to help others, less materialistic, and more satisfied with life.

There are 48 patterns in Fearless Change to help you introduce new ideas. This is just a start!

Thanks!