

## Opportunity

## Countermine - Ending The War Against Land Mines

Over 100 million landmines have been placed around the world, and this number is increasing each year. The United Nations estimates the total mine contaminated area to be one million square kilometers.

The issue with land mines is two-fold. Every day un-detonated landmines dating back as far as World War II and from more recent conflicts kill and maim adults and children. In countries affected by landmines thousands of square kilometers of land remains unused, leading to famine and over-population.

Until recently most landmine clearance was conducted manually, a highly risky and slow process. For every 5,000 mines cleared one person is killed and two persons are injured, with only 20 to 40 square meters able to be cleared per hour. At this rate it will take 1,000 years to clear the world's land mines manually, with thousands of deaths.

The Countermine Group, founded by Swede Lars Nylin, is dedicated to developing efficient and safe landmine clearance and land restoration devices. Countermine developed the ORACLE system, which is able to safely clearing 15,000 square kilometers per one hour with a 3-pass system, making it 100 times faster than manual clearing methods. Its patented Spitfire tool, mounted on an armored Caterpillar track loader, hits mines at such high speeds that it destroys them before detonation. The land is then safe for human use.

Countermine Investments Limited is seeking investors to support its work in making the world safe from landmines. Please email [investor@countermine.info](mailto:investor@countermine.info) or visit [www.countermine.info](http://www.countermine.info) for more details.

# Punctuality is Power



**By Dave Rogers** How does it make you feel

when someone makes you wait? What thoughts go through your head about the person? Do you start to question the person's sincerity,

responsibility and ability?

Impressions do make a difference. If you get a reputation for being late, making people wait, or being absent-minded about time, it can affect both your personal and professional life.

Peak performers understand the importance of time. Help your employees do the same: emphasize the importance of punctuality, believe that it is possible to change a belief system about time.

Ask questions like, 'What will happen if you continue to be late?', 'If you don't improve your attendance, what will happen?' Alone, they may create discomfort and motivate a change in behaviour. Another strategy is to tap into the employees' negative experiences of wasting time – encourage them to talk about times when they were kept waiting or felt others were wasting their time. Time is life's most precious commodity.

With a world of huge discrepancies and variations between wealth and poverty, what is the great equalizer in life?

If you answered time, then you are absolutely correct. Even the richest men in the world, Bill

Gates and Warren Buffet, have only 24 hours in a day. What makes these folks remarkable is their ability to process, review, and prioritize realms of information and then still get things done – within that time.

A good impact coach will facilitate a shift in mindset towards time, and work with to internalize people's respect of their own time, and other people's time. **XL**

### 3 KEY STEPS TO MASTER YOUR TIME SCHEDULE

- 1 Make journaling a habit that assists you to use your time more effectively, efficiently, and productively.
- 2 Preview, prioritize and plan your week in advance. Prioritize key objectives and make sure you allocate more time to major things.
- 3 Give yourself ample time to make it for meetings and appointments. If you are going to be late, advise the other party and apologize in advance.

Time is your most valuable resource. Time is money, so make it a point to coordinate, organize, and invest it.

*Dave Rogers is an investorpreneur, international speaker, and Chief Mentor Coach of the XL Results Foundation. For more about Dave's motivational talks or corporate coaching programs contact [dave@daverogers.net](mailto:dave@daverogers.net)*

## It's quicker to do it yourself



**By Ann Andrews** As a boss, manager, owner,

yes, it probably is quicker to do it yourself. Sadly, the challenge is that as long as you think that way, you'll always have to do it yourself!

If you want to have a successful team/department/business (and a life), then doing everything yourself will have some predictable outcomes:

- In the long term, it will affect your health
- It could affect your marriage (or significant relationship)
- It prevents other people learning and growing
- It sends the message that you don't trust anyone

- It says to your staff that they will never be as smart as you
- People will eventually leave and go elsewhere. Possibly even moving to your competitor!

It is my aim to free up the time of owners/managers by a minimum of 30%. To hand over a whole host of routine day-to-day 'stuff', so they can work ON their business and not IN it. However, in order to gain that 30%, they need to be willing to delegate! Simple not necessarily easy. Most owners and managers are terrified of delegating because they're terrified people will make mistakes. And they probably will. But how do managers and owners learn? By making lots of mistakes! Try delegating the easy stuff first.

Not delegating (and not trusting) is what I call a but. Buts are fears; and the only way to overcome a fear, is to discover a WIIFM – what's in this for me? Think about that. What could you be doing differently if you had 30% of your