

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p>January 25–29, 2010 Progress in Hydrogen Safety Series Regulations, Codes, and Standards Belfast, UK www.engj.ulst.ac.uk/lesshs/liscspsh/</p> <p>February 28–March 5, 2010 PITTCON Conference Orlando County Convention Center Orlando, FL www.pittcon.org</p> <p>March 23–25, 2010 WESTEC 2010 Los Angeles Convention Center Los Angeles, CA www.westeconline.com</p> <p>April 12–16, 2010 Energy & Environment Week David L. Lawrence Convention Center Pittsburgh, PA www.ee-week.com</p> <p>April 14–15, 2010 Nanomanufacturing Conference and Exhibits Hilton Phoenix, East/Mesa Mesa, AZ www.sme.org/nanomanufacturing</p> <p>April 18–20, 2010 GAWDA Spring Management Conference Hyatt Regency Chicago Chicago, IL www.gawda.org</p> <p>April 25–30, 2010 Progress in Hydrogen Safety Series Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies and Case Studies Belfast, UK www.engj.ulst.ac.uk/lesshs/liscspsh/</p> <p>May 3–6, 2010 Bio International Convention McCormick Place Chicago, IL http://lconvention.bio.org/</p> <p>May 3–6, 2010 2010 National Hydrogen Association Conference & Expo Long Beach, CA www.hydrogenconference.org</p> <p>May 25–27, 2010 EASTEC 2010 Eastern States Exposition W. Springfield, MA www.easteconline.com</p>	<p>June 14–18, 2010 Progress in Hydrogen Safety Series Hydrogen Vehicles and Infrastructure Ajaccio, Corsica, France www.engj.ulst.ac.uk/lesshs/liscspsh/</p> <p>July 6–8, 2010 Bridging the Gaps: 2010 SME Annual Conference Sheraton Music City Nashville, TN www.sme.org/conference</p> <p>July 12–15, 2010 20th International Compressor Engineering Conference at Purdue 13th International Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Conference at Purdue 1st International High Performance Buildings Conference at Purdue West Lafayette, IN https://engineering.purdue.edu/Herrick/Events</p> <p>July 13–15, 2010 SEMICON WEST Moscone Center San Francisco, CA www.semiconwest.org</p> <p>July 13–15, 2010 Intersolar North America San Francisco, CA www.intersolar.us/</p> <p>July 20–21, 2010 Biomass '10 Renewable Power, Fuels, and Chemicals Workshop Alerus Center Grand Forks, ND www.undeerc.org/biomass10</p> <p>October 1–5, 2010 GAWDA 66th Annual Convention Grand Wailea Resort Hotel & Spa Maui, HI www.gawda.org</p> <p>November 2–4, 2010 FABTECH INT'L & AWS Welding Show Including METALFORM Georgia World Congress Center Atlanta, GA www.fabtechexpo.com</p>
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ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT WEEK

April 12–16, 2010

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT WEEK
David L. Lawrence Convention Center • Pittsburgh, PA
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By Art Waskey

PERSONAL GROWTH THROUGH ADVERSITY

One of the certainties in life is that we all eventually make foolish mistakes, given enough time. These mistakes will occur in our professional and in our personal lives. Many times, these mistakes result from our personality. Do you recognize these personalities?

- The **aggressive, dominating personality** gets mad and pushes too hard for results;
- The **optimistic influencer** brags, and continually makes commitments he can't possibly fulfill;
- The **sanguine steady** avoids confrontation by concocting dishonest compromises;
- And the **picky compliant** points out his Manager's mistakes at the wrong time.

Adversity is defined as misfortune, suffering, or an extreme hardship. Ultimately, each of us will face adversity at some point in our lives. Adversity, death, and taxes are the three constants in each of our lives. It's not a matter of "if," but "when." And those who don't learn from adversity end up with greater frustration and anxiety when it rears its ugly head again.

But adversity also provides the opportunity for change. Winston Churchill advised, "Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm." Here are the basic steps for personal growth through adversity.

1. **Admit responsibility** — A personal example. A rep gave me a competitive contract to review; it was ending an initial term. I neglected to ask for a letter of cancellation immediately and by the time I got around to it, the contract was automatically activated by an evergreen clause for another year. The customer physically sent the cancellation only two days later, but I had blown it!
2. **Avoid rationalizing** — I reviewed the contract several times looking for good reasons to divert my responsibilities and rationalize the loss of the contract, and I found several reasons. But what example would I have set if I avoided my part of the debacle?
3. **Seek forgiveness** — For me, this is most difficult! The rep and my boss were both gracious: they identified with my situation, each claiming responsibility for not catching my omission.
4. **Accept consequences** — I visited the customer and addressed the situation. Because of my integrity, he pre-signed a contract effective at the end of the competitive year extension.

There have been several incidents in my life — sleepless nights and anxious moments — caused by mistakes; when I applied these steps for handling adversity to those mistakes I was able to rise above them. Mac Anderson, founder of Simple Truths, perhaps said it best, "In my 64 years on this earth, I have come to realize that the **difference in our success or failure is not change, but choice.** When adversity strikes, it's not **WHAT** happens that determines our destiny; it's **HOW** we react to what happens."

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