

Sensing Your Next Storm

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Is it just me ... or does it seem like Mother Nature has been getting increasingly grouchy and downright unpleasant these days? From our home base here in normally calm Greensboro, North Carolina, we have recently experienced the combined drama of earthquakes, tornadoes and a nasty hurricane ... all

in a matter of days apart. Enough already! Just as we are powerless in changing the path and fury of Mother Nature, we are also subject to wrath and vagaries of a volatile, fragile global economy. We have described our times as the Era of Rampant Uncertainty. A friend who studies numerology once told me that I was born under the sign of “uncertainty resolver”. You can imagine how that makes me feel these days!

So, what can we do to try and “resolve” some of this uncertainty we face? Well, since much of the uncertainty in our world results from factors beyond our control (see Shift Happens on UTube link), we need to get better at creating the right kind of “sensing” mechanisms to give us early warning alerts when our “forces of change” start acting up. Just like in our homes where we have numerous “sensing” devices (e.g. smoke alarms, security alarms, thermostats, dogs, etc) that give us signals or alerts to changing conditions or like the emergency broadcasting system or tornado sirens that help communities stay safe ... we can and must construct comparable sensing systems for early

warning signs of change in our organizations if we hope to proactively anticipate change and operate as an Agile Enterprise.

What are some examples of sensing systems that you can create for your businesses or organizations? Below is a sampling of just a few ...

Samples of Sensing Mechanisms To Help Anticipate Change	
Forces of Change	Possible Sensing Mechanisms
Customers	
Consumers	
Suppliers	
Workforce	
Technology	