

SPECIAL SECTION: "THE EQUATIONS": An Engineer's View of the ... Secrets of Effective Implementation

Engineers live for mathematical and/or algebraic representation of any and all things. Hence, I, an unrepentant engineer, offer this set of "equations" aimed at helping you, engineer or not, boost your odds of success at implementing damn near anything.

Success at GTD/Getting Things Done Is a Function of ...

$$S = f(\#DR; -2L, -3L, -4L, I\&E)$$

Success is a function of: Number and depth of relationships 2, 3, and 4 levels down inside and outside the organization.

$$S = f(SD>SU)$$

"Sucking down" is more important than "sucking up"—the idea is to have the entire "underbelly" of the organization working for you.

$$S = f(\#non\text{-}FF, \#non\text{-}FL)$$

Number of friends, number of lunches with people not in my function—e.g., "#non-FF" is number of friends not in my function.

$$S = f(\#FF)$$

Number of friends in the finance organization.

$$S = f(\#EODD3MC)$$

Number of end-of-the-day difficult (you'd rather avoid) "3-minute calls" that soothe raw feelings, mend fences, etc.

$$S = f(\#TYsT)$$

Number of "thank you"s today, number of thank you notes sent today.

$$S = f(SU)$$

Show up!

And about 20 more like these...

This document is #19 in a series of 48 highlights from Tom Peters' *The Little BIG Things: 163 Ways to Pursue Excellence* (HarperStudio, 2010). For more information, visit tompeters.com.

