

BEING THE BEST YOU CAN BE IN OUR WORLD OF EMERGENCE

Written by:

Dr Richard Barber,
Managing Director, RiskIQ Global (Australia)

To help our projects and organisations to perform better we apply standards and benchmarks and we assess performance against targets and goals. Each has value. However in a world where unforeseen events and challenges are the norm they are not enough for us to thrive.

Superlative
performance
becomes possible
when we focus on
the lead indicators
of future success

In a world full of emergence, having lead indicators of future performance and success may not seem possible. However RiskIQ's research and experience over the past 20 years indicates otherwise¹.

In an emergent world, being the best you can be today is no guarantee for tomorrow. Likewise, even the worst performing project can perform better tomorrow if it is proactively agile. This means NOT waiting for the world to change before acting. Reactive agility is a recipe for always being behind the game.

Reactive agility also leads to bursts of significant change followed by periods of consolidation. This is disruptive. It creates workload pressures, resistance to change and churn. Frustration is felt, as people experience 'more of the same' outcomes.

Leaders need a structured, repeatable way to build the capabilities needed for 'Proactive Capability-Agility'. They need to be able to make clear, focused strategic investment choices about the capabilities needed to win, despite the uncertainties faced. To be sustainable, this must also be part of business-as-usual - not an extra workload or a separate activity.

The best lead
indicators of future
performance are the
capability attributes
of proactive agility