

Reputation and Its Risks

Michael Netzley, PhD



Reputation is the most important commercial mechanism for conveying information to consumers.

- John Kay, Why Firms Succeed, 1995.



Changing Business Environment



Reputation - Reality Gap

 We create an image of the organization that is about inconsistent with the reality



Internal Breakdowns

•When deviations from procedure or protocol create the opportunity for your good name to become tarnished.



Changing External Environment

 When your organization's activities become out of step with stakeholders because of external changes in values or mores



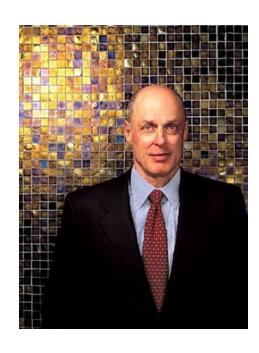
Good Reputation Helps To

- Command premium prices
- Pay lower purchase prices
- Attract top recruits
- Increase intent to purchase when brand is backed by solid reputation.*
- Increase loyalty from consumers and employees
- Face fewer risks during a crisis
- Gain greater latitude to act by constituents
- Overall favorable operating environment



The Importance of Reputation

Hank Paulson, [former] Chief Executive of Goldman Sachs, has ordered the bank to stop using its own money to finance hostile takeover bids....Mr. Paulson has warned that such moves threaten to damage the bank's standing with corporate clients, which is more important than the investment profits from any single deal.





Reputation Reality Gap

2016 Olympics in Rio Don't Always Live Up to Expectations

Shaunae Miller's controversial dive for gold ruins Allyson Felix's Olympic moment



Jeff Passan

MLB columnist Aug 16, 2016, 2:31 PM













Medal count | Olympic schedule | Olympic news

RIO DE JANEIRO – Almost 20 minutes after she dove across a finish line to win an Olympic gold medal, Shaunae Miller barely had moved from the spot on the track where she splayed her weary body. Her hip sported an oval-shaped strawberry, her arm a cut, her leg a scratch. She was still out of breath. Her wheezes alternated between desperation for oxygen and joy. She was the Rio Games' 400-meter champion, and she



It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it. If you think about that, you'll do things differently.

Warren Buffett





Reputation Reality Gap

2016 Olympics in Rio



Singapore's



Olympic spirit: New Zealand and American runners help each other after collision

Nikki Hamblin and Abbey D'Agostino finished last in the 5000m after coming to each others' aid following a mid-race fall



Schooling makes Olympic history for Si





Wednesday 17 August 2016 01.28 BST











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Save for later







Internal Breakdown

Procedures not followed create the risk





VW Beetle



VW STINKBUG



Attribution of Fault is the Key

Intentional versus accidental attribution to your organization







Changing External Environment

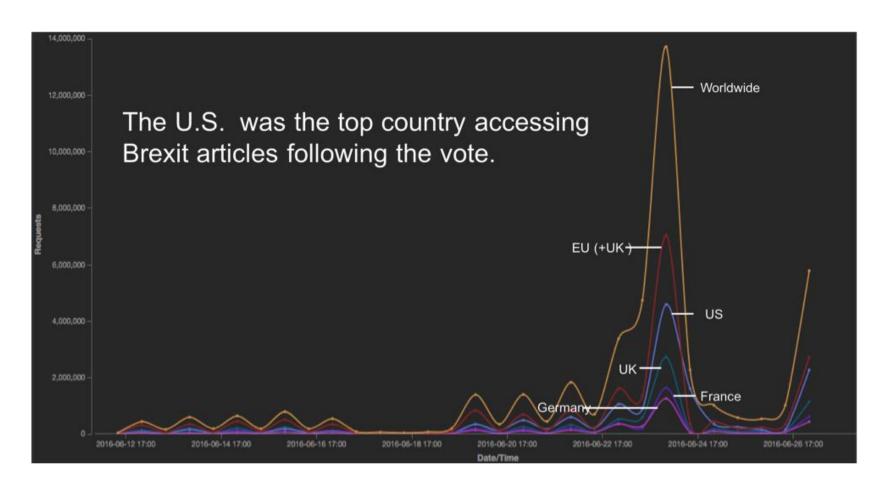
Companies need to keep up with public sentiment





Too Late is *Not* Better Than Never

The damage is only beginning





Applying Salt to the Wound

We are living in a world of



24/7 media scrutiny with traditional and social media



Large decline in trust granted to societal institutions



Increased Transparency



On Reputation

If the business were split up, I would take the brands, trademarks, and goodwill, and you could have all the bricks and mortar—and I would do better than you.

John Stewart, past
 Chairman of Quaker Oats

