

## **EPIC TECH FAILS – WHEN I.T. ALL GOES WRONG**

We have all been on the wrong end of ‘tech hell’, when the computer, internet, phone or various other devices simply fail to function and plunge us into a dark, tortured place from which there seems no possible return. Imagine, then, what it’s like when this happens to entire organisations – really big ones. The fails are epic and the fallout massive.

A special report in the latest issue of leading business publication **INTHEBLACK** profiles some of the biggest tech fails ever, both here and abroad, resulting in permanent damage to some organisations. Given the connected world in which we live, IT disasters have seen major corporations and networks brought to their knees, bills ballooning into the billions, and tens-of-thousands of people losing their jobs.

The report profiles what went wrong and why, and provides expert advice on the best way to avoid such an across-the-board calamity from affecting your own workplace and livelihood. (It won’t make you feel any better next time your personal tech gives you grief, but it will provide some jaw-dropping revelations about just how big IT fails can get.)

## **THE KINDER CUT – MAKING REDUNDANCY WORK**

The unspoken reality is that our jobs and employment prospects are morphing by the day – whether we like it or not. Workplaces are in an age of ongoing restructure, trying to adapt to rapid technical and social change. As a result, redundancies happen – but fortunately some organisations are getting better at making sure these exits work for all concerned.

The latest issue of leading business publication **INTHEBLACK** explains how most of us can expect to be told, at least once in our careers, that our job is no longer there. But, at the same time, poorly handled redundancies can seriously destabilise an organisation – with disgruntled and spooked ‘survivors’ heading for the doors as well.

Social media campaigns from angry former workers can also do significant harm to brands and hard-won reputations. The report looks at examples of damage from messy redundancies, as well as examining the new approaches that ensure individuals and organisations can part on good and productive terms.

## **THE SURPRISING TRUTHS ABOUT TRAVEL INSURANCE**

Whether it’s an option we choose to accept or reject on a domestic flight, or something we actively pursue to protect our wellbeing on an overseas trip, the fact is that most of us are probably pretty clueless about travel insurance – and what, exactly, we’re insuring. The truth is in the fine print, and it may well surprise you.

A special report in the latest issue of **INTHEBLACK** magazine examines the various types of travel insurance you’re likely to be offered, what sort of difference it could make for you, and the hidden clauses that most of us fail to bother finding out about... because it seems far too boring when compared to the excitement of the trip itself.

***/ See next page for further topics and interview contact details...***

## **THE HUMAN FOOTPRINT – AND THE INCOME PARADOX**

Detailed new research has identified the full stresses and impacts of the human footprint on our global home but, curiously, economic growth is actually helping the planet. In many areas where per-capita income has reached the right levels, the pressures on the environment are beginning to ease.

A report in the latest issue of **INTHEBLACK** magazine explains how the human footprint has become almost 10 per cent heavier in recent times, even though more affluent areas are breaking the mould and finding ways to grow their economies without, for the first time in history, using extra natural resources.

## **THE OSTRICH, THE THREE MONKEYS & WORKPLACE ‘SPIN’**

An ethics expert claims the integrity of our workplaces is often being let down because too many of us don't want to be the bearers of bad news, for fear of the messenger being the one who gets shot. Bad news is not welcome at work and, as a result, we tend to avoid, disguise or 'beautify' such information, as a form of career self-preservation.

In her regular ethics column for leading business publication **INTHEBLACK**, Dr Eva Tsahuridu (CPA Australia's policy adviser, professional standards and governance) examines what's really going on when we individually, and collectively, skirt around the truth.

We live in an environment where meetings are always meant to be 'productive', our ideas are supposed to be 'fantastic' and our results 'amazing'. Avoiding reality, however, can deliver very different outcomes.

## **THE GLOBAL CLASSROOM – THE BUSINESS OF EDUCATION**

Getting an education used to be a pretty clear-cut path. You went to your local school, then you possibly went on to a nearby TAFE or a designated bricks-and-mortar university to further your education and kick-start your career. Things have changed. Education is not only big business, it is global – and with that comes a whole new set of opportunities and challenges.

A special report in leading business publication **INTHEBLACK** explains how the education market is expected to hit a staggering one-billion students within the next decade, raising questions about how Australia's learning centres are gearing themselves up for the needs of both local and overseas students.

## **TO ORGANISE INTERVIEWS:**

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