

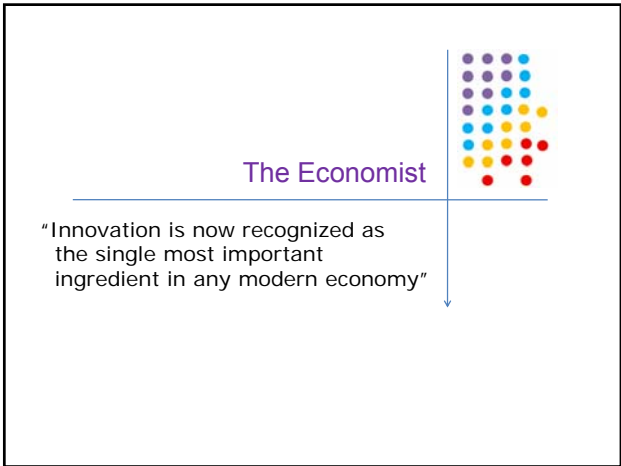
INNOVATING in HARD TIMES
...a conversation with futurist Joel Barker and
Debbe Kennedy, author and founder,
Global Dialogue Center

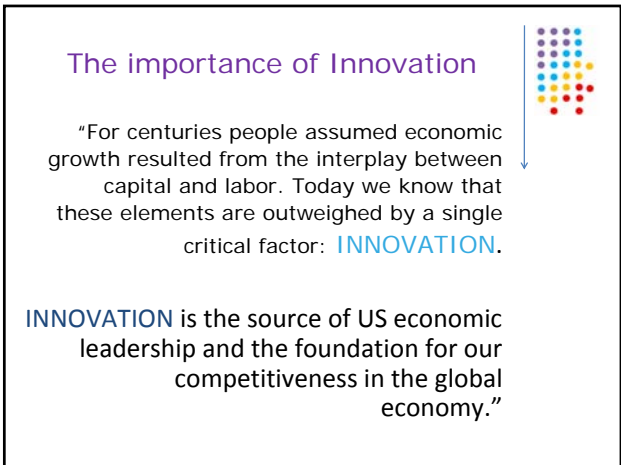
SUMMARY SLIDES











Two Kinds of Innovation

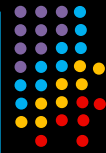


- Incremental innovation... at the center
- Radical innovation... at the edge

Innovation at the Verge
is a subset of radical innovation

The "Verge"

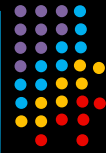
Where something
and something different meet.

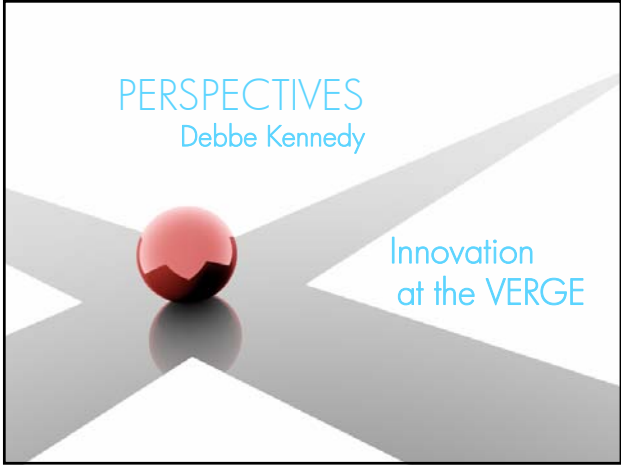


Summary Thoughts

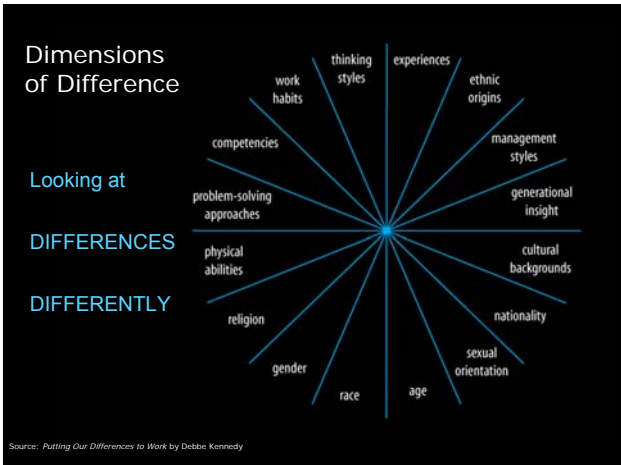
Innovation at VERGE

- Quicker than innovation from scratch
- Cheaper than innovation from scratch
- Underutilized as a process











Five Distinctive Qualities of Leadership

1



Makes diversity an "organizational" priority. Even in an organization of ONE

2



Gets to know people and their DIFFERENCES.

3



Enables rich communication.

4



Holds personal responsibility as a core value.

5



Makes MUTUALISM the final arbiter.

INNOVATION at the VERGE



Christopher G. Kenny
president

What 2 differences created the VERGE ?

utility company



stakeholder engagement process

STORY: 

Told by Chris Kenny

the VERGE Opportunity ?



Vermont UTILITIES
needed to upgrade aging
transmission infrastructure.



Vermont CITIZENS
wanted to play a meaningful
and active role in how these
projects are planned and built.

↓
STORY



What INNOVATIONS were realized at the VERGE ?

Stakeholder engagement
and rich dialogue at
the verge changed
the solution.

Two devices made it possible to
defer building a new power line
along a scenic, 66-mile
transmission corridor
for several years.

What INNOVATIONS were realized at the VERGE ?

Collaboration resulted in a mutualistic,
BARN structure designed to house the two devices.

A win, win, win SOLUTION!





What **INNOVATIONS** were realized at the **VERGE** ?

Stakeholders recommendation adopted by Vermont utilities to study and implement all feasible non-transmission options for improving the reliability of Vermont's electric grid.

CVPS recently announced it will install solar array at its maintenance facility in Rutland, VT.

Lessons Learned at the Verge

Utility Search Conference® process

↓

- Define the right problem.
- Frame the problem so it motivates.
- Know the desired outcome you want.
- Make it inclusive and balanced with stakeholders.
- Have ground rules for participating for everyone.
- Be open to never-imagined ideas and solutions.
- Commit to follow through on the ideas.
- Fuel interest with ongoing updates.

Vermont Utilities & Community
INNOVATING in Hard Times at the Verge

Utility Search Conference® process

STORY by  Chris Kenny
President, STAR Group, LLC
www.starconsultinggroup.com ckenney@stargroupconsulting.com

A journey of 1000s of miles in "tech time"...

- Connected across the many dimensions of **DIFFERENCE**

- Learned something about the **600+** people
50 States-US and 20 countries | titles, industries, areas of expertise

- Explored **INNOVATING** at **the Verge**
The Concept | Examples | **FIVE** Leadership Qualities for everyone
Chris Kenny's Vermont **VERGE STORY** | Take-away Handouts/Links

- Benefited from **YOUR** **QUESTIONS** | **COMMENTS** | **STORIES**

- Passed along **LESSONS LEARNED** working at **the Verge**

Where to go | value of the **OUTSIDER** | essential of **DIVERSITY**
the **FASTEST** way to innovation... | 5 enabling leadership qualities
