7 TIPS FOR UNRAVELING COMPLEXITY WITHOUT TEARING YOUR HAIR OUT

[A]

TIP #1: ANTICIPATE

Think around corners to what's coming next and watch the *"edges"*.

The edges are the intersections between all of the known moving parts involved. Where they touch they interact and impact each other.

Also, consider that you may have missed some and take another look.

ADDRESS RISK   TIP #2

Understand that complexity is going to create risk.

Practice active risk management with your team. Define individual risks and then figure out your approach.

You can avoid it, eliminate it, transfer it to somebody else, or accept that occurrences may happen and deal with it when needed.

TIP #3   ADAPTABILITY

Encourage adaptability and flexibility.

Be ready to morph yourself into whatever is needed in a given situation.

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TIP #4: BIG PICTURE

Keep an eye on the big picture and context and remind yourself and others why you're doing what you're doing.

Don't people respond better when they understand the value of their work and how it fits into the overall scheme?

The team can unravel complexity together.

TIP #5 STATUS QUO

Respectfully challenge status quo and sacred cows.

The "way we've always done it" may not be sufficient in a world of increasing complexity.

Recognize, it can be scary to challenge your comfort zone and live with more uncertainty.

TIP #6

EMBRACE DIVERSITY

Forget titles and job descriptions and leverage the diverse, knowledgeable team that you have.

At the same time, challenge them to look at things with new lenses. You've got the power.
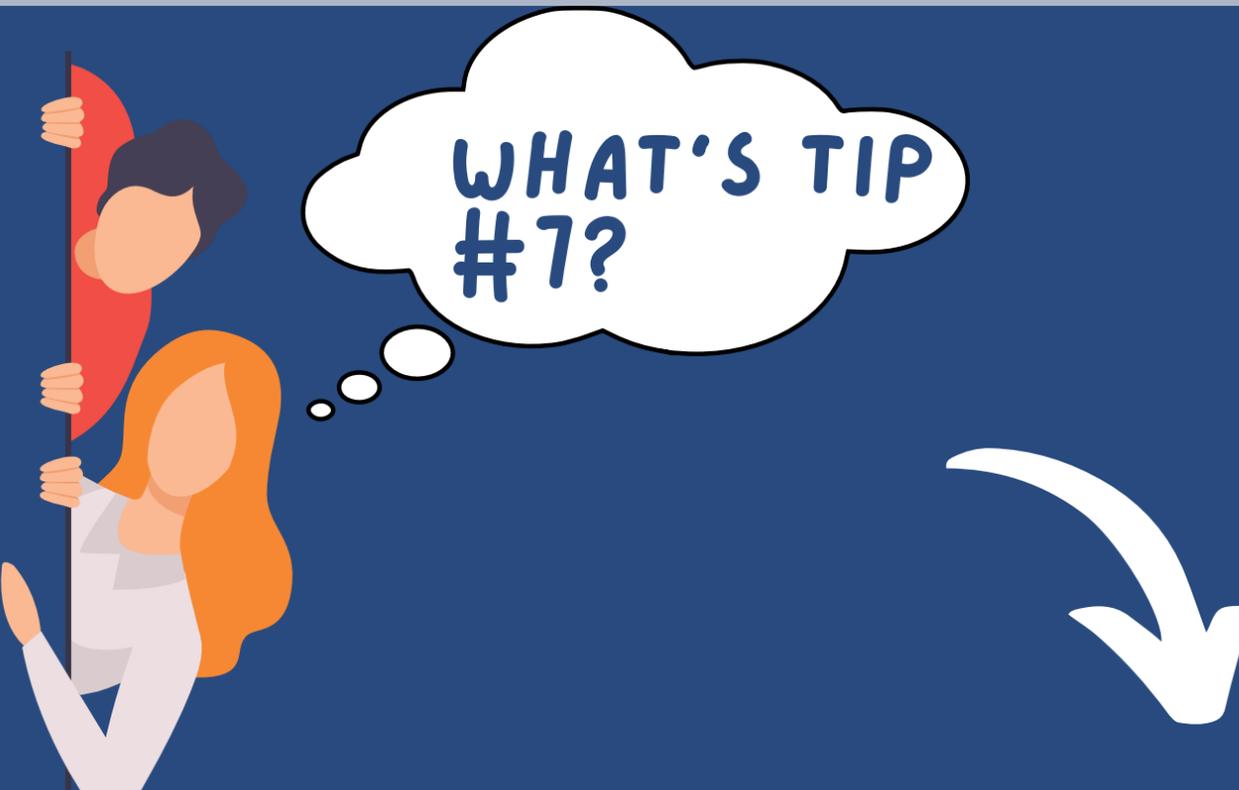
WHAT'S TIP #7?

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TIP #7: *CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT*

Seek out and encourage continuous improvement, making learning a top priority.

Learning includes figuring out how to adapt to that changing environment and everything else swirling around your project.

Learning invites innovation.

Want More?

When it comes right down to it, unraveling complexity is about being prepared before you begin something new and adjusting your course as needed.

Arete Global Solutions' Readiness Assurance© practice is designed to help you avoid obstacles so complex projects are less difficult and don't waste time or money.

We'd welcome an opportunity to speak with you about how we can help you to better address complexity in any upcoming change initiative.

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