



# Bridgeway to Success™

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**THE SUCCESS OF  
EACH DAY  
STARTS THE  
NIGHT BEFORE.**

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## A Lesson from a Fly-by-Night Company

At FedEx we used to say, “The success of each day starts the night before.” Which meant that if we picked up each package and got it to the station on time, scanned and sorted it correctly, and loaded it on the right aircraft by the right time, then that package would most likely be delivered to the right destination by the right time the following day.

As businesses get leaner, demands grow more intensive and time becomes scarcer, fewer leaders plan for success the night before ... or even on the day. Unsurprisingly, they get drawn into the vortex of ad-hoc meetings, fire fighting and emerging issues that so easily devour a workday.

So what to do? Commit to the discipline of blocking 15 minutes of quiet, uninterruptable time at the end of each day to *think*. To think about what one strategic issue you should make progress on the following day. How you should best prepare for your fixed commitments. And how you can protect yourself from the outstretched arms that would pull you down every alley of distraction.

Fifteen minutes. Think. Plan. Then tomorrow, succeed.

Michael Canic