



Nick Bishop Solutions

Can you “Out Trump” leaders across sector?

The man has no political experience...He has never held an office within Government! These were just some of the words used to describe Donald Trump, in recent weeks.

So how transferrable are “transferrable skills” and in across which sectors? No matter what you say of Trump, he has made colossal sums of money (and lost some along the way), and clearly has a tremendous business brain.

Across sectors in business, CEO’s do not always remain in the same field. Since his fall from grace at HBOS, Andy Hornby who earned his stripes with Asda (a business with a strong record in nurturing talent), has been Group CEO with Alliance Boots before joining Coral as CEO.

What counts most are the inherent talents that allow the person to both bring something “new” to the role, but also the proven abilities to manage high profile senior teams. The speed to grasp what is needed, the ability to command respect, the ability to lead teams with strong communication skills...Or that is the theory!

Within sport, Sir Clive Woodward who won the Rugby Union World Cup with England in 2003, worked within Banking before starting his own IT leasing company. In a short matter of years, he worked his way through the Rugby system before becoming the England Manager.

Mark Warburton has gone from City Trader to saving fallen giants Glasgow Rangers in the Scottish Premiership. Brentford FC was the stepping stone following a career in the City.

So where do transferrable skills cease? And what are the most important of skills? They say in football that a Manager is under an intense scrutiny twice each week to achieve results. CEO’s just twice per annum.

Can Sport transfer to business? Some sports people have gone on to achieve considerable success through applying a “team ethos” and a dedication to be the very best. Hard work and hours of commitment to succeed and being better than the competition.

Not forgetting sport to politics and Sebastian Coe. Olympic Gold medallist turns to MP and then Senior Roles within Government...And now President of the IAAF.

So only time will tell if Trump can continue to be a serial winner and use the all so important transferrable skills necessary.

“Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood”

RALPH WARDO EMERSON