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Subject: Board performance

How effective is your board? Can it perform better?

Directors expect management to continuously improve company performance. Increasing board effectiveness should also be a continuous exercise.

Six Questions To Ask Now

1. Is there a performance gap between what your board can do and what it actually accomplishes each quarter?
2. Would management describe the board as a company asset?
3. Does the board focus on the long-term, or get bogged down in daily operations?
4. Is there a process in place for the board's annual review of the CEO's performance?
5. Is there a regular and formal board performance process in place?
6. Is the board prepared to lead in a crisis?

The role of the board of directors has morphed from "decorative" to "watch-dog/overseer" and "sounding board for the CEO." In recognition of this evolution, and the heightened public interest in good corporate governance, **boards are asking more meaningful questions**. Pose these questions at your next board meeting – the list is intended to stimulate discussion. Check www.governancesolutionsgroup.com for a new list each month.

Some of the questions are easy to answer and will allow you to validate your belief that your board is operating within the scope of "governance best practices." However, good governance is more than checking a "good governance box" so that the board keeps out of trouble and out of the spotlight. Good governance is about examining how the board is actually functioning and about making meaningful changes to improve your board's effectiveness, engagement, efficiency and accountability. If your board could benefit from a dose of independent advice concerning how to establish or modify your board's governance practices, structure your board or revitalize your board, call Denise Kuprionis at The Governance Solutions Group.



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"Good governance is part of every good business solution." Mary Denise Kuprionis