

Keynote Presentation

Changing the IT Leader's Mindset: Time for revolution rather than evolution

By Dr Robina Chatham & Dr Brian Sutton

09:10 - 09:45: Opening keynote presentation
Plenary Session - Room 6

For the past 30 years the relationship between IT and the rest of the business has been a troubled one which few organisations have successfully resolved. The big question is "why" does this issue continue to elude us whilst at the same time the pressure to resolve this issue is mounting in today's world of increasing dependence on IT.

We contend that it is time to take a different approach to the traditional one of attempting to build bridges through committees, liaison roles, appointing account managers or hybrid managers. This session will propose an alternative approach – you will need to be prepared to have your thinking challenged and to listen with an open mind!

We will start by putting the problem into context: then we will offer some answers i.e. what you need to do, and finally we show you how to operationalise this advice i.e. how you need to do it. Our advice is based on revolutionary research that sought to study role model IT leaders: IT professionals who had been promoted beyond the top IT job to the position of CEO within their organisations.

Speakers background information

Dr Robina Chatham has 14 years' experience in IT culminating with the position of CIO for a leading Merchant Bank. She is a Visiting Fellow at Cranfield School of Management and also runs her own training consultancy specialising in helping senior IT managers to increase their personal impact at board level. Last year she was voted a medalist for the BCS IT industry award 'IT Consultant of the Year'.

Dr Brian Sutton has over 30 years' experience of running engineering and IS projects having managed major initiatives and projects varying in size from hundreds of thousands of pounds to tens of millions of pounds. He was formerly a Professor of Systems Management in the Information Resources Management College of the National Defense University in Washington DC and is currently a visiting professor with the Institute for Work Based Learning at Middlesex University.