

PINGBACK BY FREE BOOK OFFER – FROM HLSWATCH | *201235*
RECOVERY DIVA

November 6, 2013 @ 4:46 pm

[...] From fellow blogger Chris Belavita: see his posting today for a free download of Navigating the Unknown: A Practical Lifeline for Decision Makers in the Dark. [...]

COMMENT BY WILLIAM R. CUMMING *201347*

November 7, 2013 @ 3:16 am

Thanks Chris!

COMMENT BY JEFF KALINER *201489*

November 7, 2013 @ 5:05 pm

What a wonderful breath of fresh air!

As it occurs to me, this “kit” dares to speak a truth that many response professionals refuse to (publicly) acknowledge: the most well written plan or procedure is no match for an inherently complex world. I have heard it said many times that at some point the plan goes out the window...when that happens, what do we do?

In other words, best practices and lessons learned are not sufficient to deal with the unpredictable and the unordered systems that are the backdrop to many of the crises that we are facing. We can no longer rely on what we “know” from past experience. Thus, “piloting” through ambiguity and disorder is now a 21st century competency. This kit helps to define how we can begin to address these new ways of being that traditional response training does not address.

I believe that what Lagadec lays out is a vital component to the enlightened 21st century Emergency Manager’s tool kit. However, let me be clear, we do not have to throw the baby out with the the bath water. What we know (as in true best practice that is repeatable and predicable) has a place at the table.

However, we also need to get comfortable with “science in action” or “emerging practice” when it comes to working in systems that are less predictable. I believe the first step is to just acknowledge that these more complex and chaotic systems even exist. Then, we might have a chance.

Our culture likes simple...a pill for what ails us; media telling us how to think and feel; a plan that will save lives and reduce property damage. In my opinion, these things are illusions. The world is not simple and the increasingly complex systems that we have created will only make our world more unpredictable and ambiguous in the future.

We need a new way to think about our practice and our work. Lagadec offers a thoughtful and considered alternative.

Read this guide and take it to heart. And then read it again.

[Private Sector](#)

[Radicalization](#)

[Radiological & Nuclear Threats](#)

[Recovery](#)

[Resilience](#)

[Risk Assessment](#)

[Scholarship](#)

[Security Contracting](#)

[State and Local HLS](#)

[Strategy](#)

[Stray dog attack](#)

[Technology for HLS](#)

[Terrorist Threats & Attacks](#)

[WMD](#)

Most Recent Posts:

[Update on Visayas Event](#)

[Friday Free Forum](#)

[Complex versus complicated](#)

[Senate Hearing on Threats to the Homeland](#)

[The reset of global violent jihad](#)

[Security-free Pedigree for Heads of DHS](#)

[Post-typhoon supply chain: Some preliminary observations](#)

[Friday Free Forum](#)

[Healing our addiction to control](#)

[Looting or adapting?](#)

Archives:

[November 2013](#)

[October 2013](#)

[September 2013](#)

[August 2013](#)