



MONDAYS

with Mike

Turning problems into solutions!

In his book, Pink Bat – Turning Problems into Solutions, Michael McMillan provides a great story and a list of examples of how we perceive problems but don't always allow ourselves to look at these perceived problems with a "solution mindset." Here is an example of how a Pink Bat Solution unfolded from a Perceived Problem:

Perceived Problem: Each day, restaurants prepare French fries, onion rings, fish, shrimp, and chicken . . . the list of deep-fried food possibilities is long. Breaded, battered, or plain, the amount of used vegetable oil is staggering. Disposing of this messy waste is an expensive problem for restaurant owners. In addition, our dependence on foreign oil continues to rise along with the prices at the pump.

Pink Bat Solution: When we change the label from used grease or vegetable oil to biofuel, the problem quickly becomes a solution. By focusing on the solution, it becomes clear that discarded vegetable oil is a valuable commodity. It can power cars, trucks, planes, and perhaps someday . . . space travel. Today, companies compete to collect used vegetable oil. This solution not only solves the restaurant owners' problem, but it lessens American dependence on foreign oil and reduces greenhouse emissions.

This week, let's begin to see all situations that challenge us through a Pink Bat Solution mindset. We may just find a profound opportunity to change the worlds that we operate in.

Have a great week!

