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Subject: board goals

It's December. Company executives are busy planning corporate budgets and setting performance metrics for the new year.

Has your board considered its goals for 2013? What will it get better at next year?

Six Questions To Consider

1. How does your board guide company culture? *Consider this 2013 goal ... the board will actively cultivate a corporate culture that prioritizes high ethical standards and the principles of integrity and fair dealing.*
2. Does your board have natural and emergency CEO succession plans in place? *Consider this 2013 goal ... the board will review its CEO succession plan and evaluate the leadership development process.*
3. Does your board discuss crisis management? *Consider this 2013 goal ... the board will review the business continuity plan and ensure crisis management is on the agenda at least once.*
4. How does your board ensure it spends more time addressing strategy rather than reviewing past financial performance and checking off compliance activities? *Consider this 2013 goal ... the board will engage in strategy discussions with management at each meeting and constructively question assumptions and debate analysis.*
5. Does your full board accept the responsibility for risk oversight? *Consider this 2013 goal ... the board will approve the standard for managing risk and then monitor the management of key identified risks and ensure appropriate responses.*
6. Is your board a "good-to-great" board? Where does it fit on this (HBR) continuum – is it a (a) foundational (b) developed, (c) advanced, or (d) strategic board? *Consider this 2013 goal ... the board will honestly look at its governance and annual assessment processes and make modifications as appropriate to better promote effective board functioning.*

**Ask these questions during the executive session at your next board meeting.
The answers might help your board become more effective and the company stronger.**

New questions are posted each month at www.governancesolutionsgroup.com.

GSG board advisory services include facilitating board assessments, sharing practical guidance on the carrying-out of fiduciary duties, establishing key succession and leadership development plans and mentoring new directors. Clients range from public company boards to nonprofit boards and private company owners considering establishing their first advisory board.



The Governance Solutions Group

Website: www.governancesolutionsgroup.com Phone: 513.272.8500 Email: denise.kuprionis@governancesolutionsgroup.com

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