

Guest,

Welcome to:

Business Communication in Today's Environment

Presented by Lighthouse Consulting Services, LLC

Featured Guest: Linda Harris President JorgensenHR

Phone: (661) 600-2070 Email: lharris@jorgensenhr.com Website: www.jorgensenhr.com



To print program slides, click here:

Host:

Dana Borowka, MA CEO, Lighthouse Consulting Services, LLC Author of Cracking The Personality Code

Phone: (310) 453-6556, ext. 403 Email: dana@lighthouseconsulting.com Book: www.crackingthepersonalitycode.com



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Most common written communication includes:

- Letter/Memo (Traditional/Structured)
- E-mail (Informal/Fast)

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When to use what method

- Letter/Memo
- E-mail

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Whether you send a letter, memo, or E-mail, the message should be

- Clear
- Appropriate (Does not violate any policies)
- Professional

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What we are seeing in today's work environment:

- Letters and memos are poorly written (grammar and content)
- Memos are too casual
- E-mails are written like text messages with text abbreviations, shortcuts, and symbols i.e., U R, and happy faces
- Written communication (i.e., E-mails) is replacing phone calls and in person interaction

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When sending a letter, make sure it follows business writing standards to include:

- A Salutation
- A body or contents that is not too lengthy and to the point
- Have an appropriate closing or follow up statement
- Signature and title

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Memos are typically used internally for sending communication to others regarding:

- Policies or Procedures
- Announcements
- Employee matters
- Operation issues
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When sending a memo, consider using the a standard format:

- To:
- From:
- Date:
- Subject:

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Bringing effective **insight** to your organization SM



When sending E-mails, follow E-mail etiquette **do's and don'ts**

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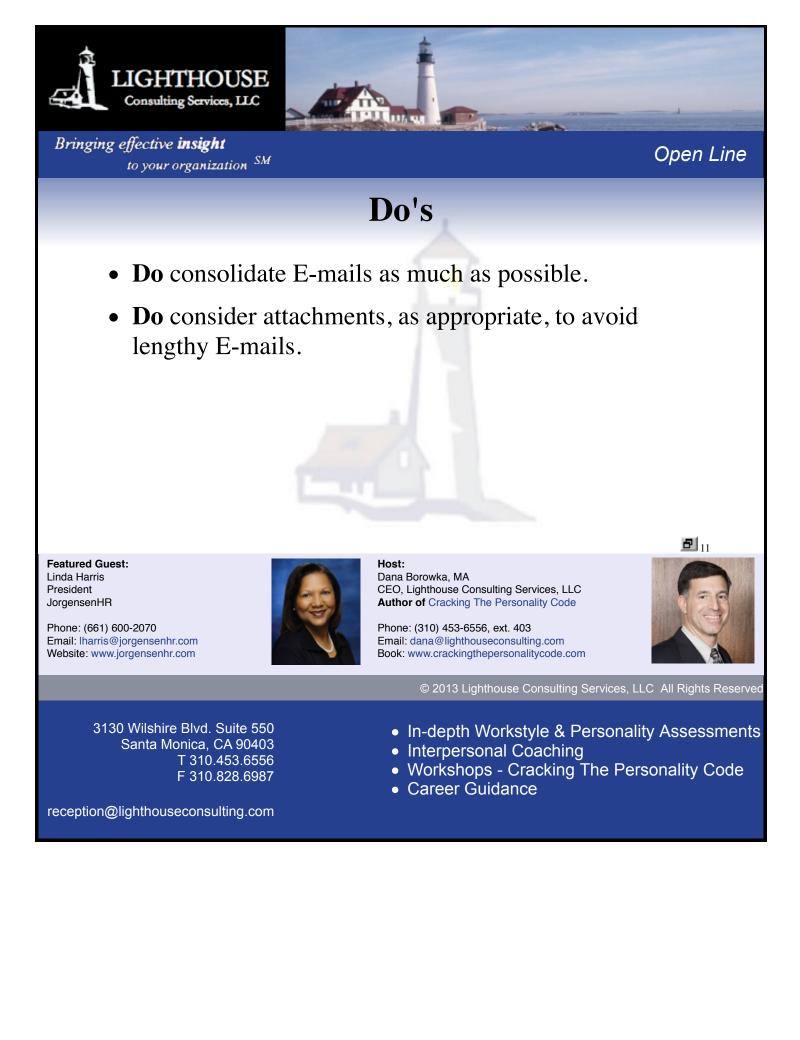
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Don'ts

- **Don't** send an E-mail when you are angry.
- **Don't** cc people on E-mails who do not need to be included.
- **Don't** 'reply to all' if not appropriate.

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Don'ts

- **Don't** reply (normally) if you are not the 'To' recipient (i.e., you were cc only).
- **Don't** tag every E-mail with a 'red flag' or mark as 'high importance.'
- Don't use ALL CAPITALS

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Don'ts

• **Don't** write an E-mail in Red font (unless you are trying to highlight or emphasize a point).

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Think About How Your Written Communication Will Be Perceived By Others?

- Is it too lengthy
 - May not be read completely
 - Recipient may miss details
- Is your message clear
 - Get to point quickly
 - Bullet points may be helpful
- Is any action required
 - Summarize action or expectations
 - Provide dates or turnaround time

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Think About How Your Written Communication Will Be Perceived By Others?

- Above all, what is the tone of your message:
 - Harsh
 - Rude
 - Bold
 - ALL CAPITALS
 - o !!!

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Bringing effective insight to your organization SM



Written communication is a great tool in our businesses today; however, it should not replace the phone or in-person communication when appropriate.

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Thank you for attending Business Communication in Today's Environment

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Click on <u>this link</u> to sign up for our upcoming Open Line: 'Inboarding Sets Employees Up For Success'.

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