

The benefits and risks of flexible work practices

Garry Emanuel, Recruitment Coach



Chartered Accountants Business in Focus

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Welcome to this June 2015 edition.

Back in the dark ages, circa the 1920s, Hollywood star and visionary entertainer Will Rogers famously warned us that "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there." That's truer now than ever as technology and smart thinking combine to create whole new ways of doing business. It's called business disruption, and disruptors are appearing in all walks of business life. For those of us who've been around for a while, it's important to sit up and take note because we ignore new business models at our peril. Take for example, 'Financial Technology' or simply 'Fintech'. These new online lending businesses are making the big old major banks take note. Bank Doctor Neil Slonim tells us what's happening in the new world of online business lending – it's fast and accessible but is it for everyone? Make up your own mind after you hear Neil's assessment of this new trend.

In the wake of last month's Federal Budget, we turn to our regular commentators, leading economist Professor Neville Norman, and tax expert Michael Jones, on what they really think about Joe Hockey's second attempt at turning our fiscal fortunes around. They'll bring reminders about the key measures and what it all means for you and your clients. There's plenty more to impact on your practice and your financial well-being, of course. The property market's having a bonanza – in some parts at least – and we turn to experienced property advocate Warren Brookes to find out what's really going on, who's buying, and where.

Also changing are work arrangements to accommodate employees' personal circumstances. Recruitment Coach, Garry Emanuel, talks about the latest in these flexible workplace practices.

And this month, we hear from James Evangelidis on soft skills – what are they and how do we acquire them to build rapport with current and future clients?

We look at the call centre industry and how it can help build your business in a world jaded by cold calls. Chris Torrisi of Imperatif Call Centre Partners knows all about it and offers his advice.

Then there's a business challenge that most of us succumb to: email overload! Who doesn't get that? But if your inbox gets way out of control, Samuel Gilbert of IT consultancy Caramel offers a helpful check list to keep things in order.

Enjoy!

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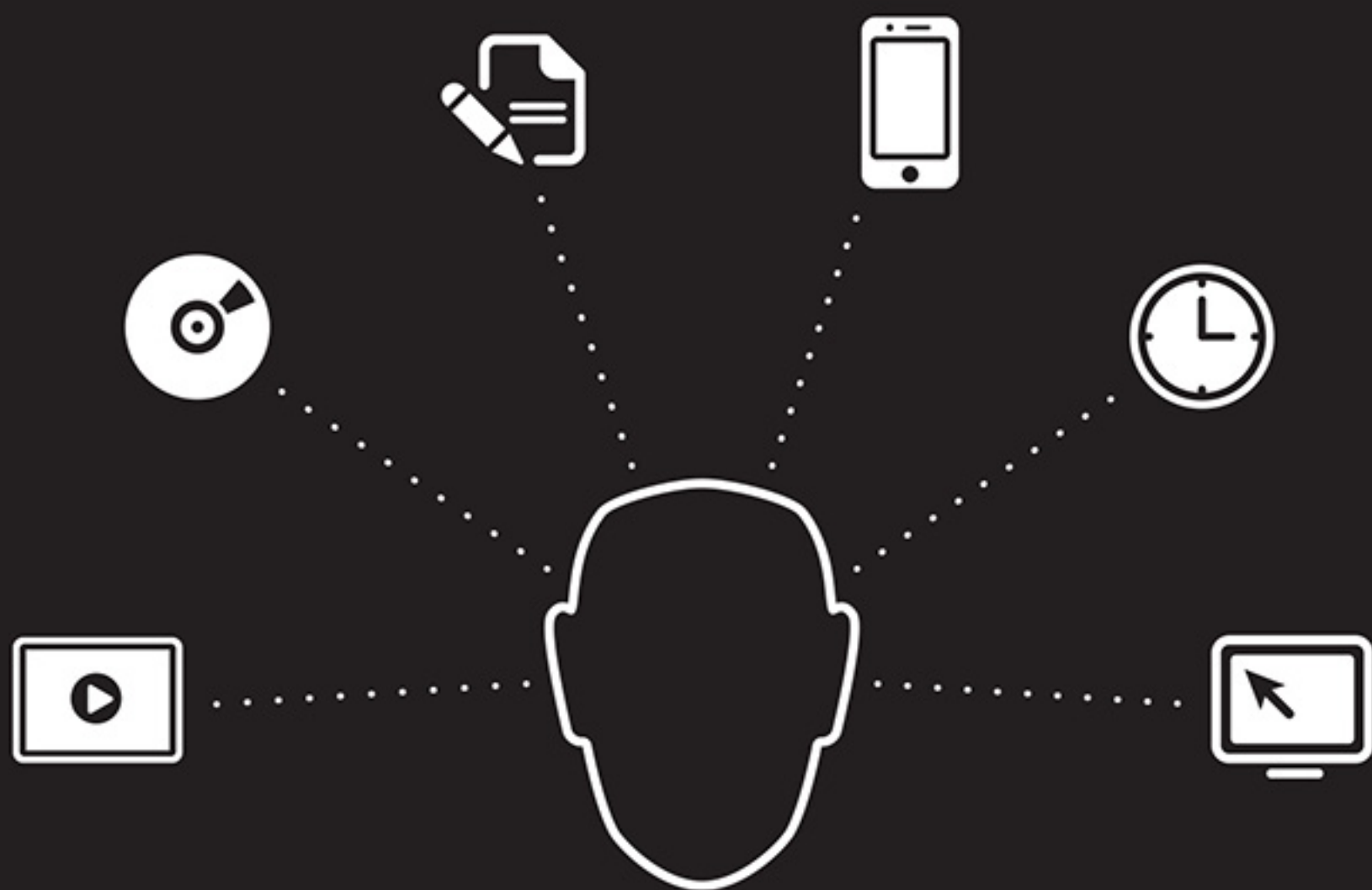
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