

1

# **Objectives**

- Basic Business Etiquette Tips
- Making Introductions
- Networking
- Corporate Image
- Conversation Starters
- Key Words to Remember
- E-mail Etiquette
- Business Luncheon Etiquette



2

# Why Etiquette?

"Don't reserve your best behavior for special occasions. You can't have two sets of manners, two social codes – one for those you admire and want to impress, another for those whom you consider unimportant. You must be the same to all people."

- Lillian Eichler Watson

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# **Basic Business Etiquette Tips**

- Treat everyone with equal courtesy and respect
- · Be punctual
- · Have a concise, professional voicemail greeting
- Whenever possible, answer your phone personally
- Return all calls as soon as possible
- · When leaving a message
  - State your name and organization
  - o Leave a concise but detailed message
  - o Slowly give your telephone number
- If you are traveling overseas representing an American firm, be very aware of the customs and culture of the country you are visiting

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4

## **Making Introductions**

- · When you are introducing someone:
- o In business, introduce the junior to the senior
- o Explain who people are
- o Use their full names
- When you are being introduced to someone:
- Rise if you are seated
- o Smile and extend your hand
- o Repeat the other person's name in your greeting
- How to remember the name of somebody you are being introduced to:
- Repeat back the name of the person to whom you are being introduced
- o Think of another person with the same name
- o Say the name several times to yourself

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5

# **Networking Tips**

- Clothing, behavior and mannerisms = confidence
- · Make direct eye contact
- Good posture and confidence = competence and self-esteem
- Make a list in advance of people you want to approach
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- Break out of your comfort zone
- Mingle
- Keep business cards handy just in case
- Talk to people you don't know
- Introduce yourself with name and department, or name and company if you are from another company



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# Corporate Image

- Dress professionally
- Avoid too much cologne or perfume
- Hair should be clean, professionally styled and neatly combed
- In public do not:
- o Comb your hair
- o Apply makeup
- o Clip nails
- o Brush your teeth



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7

# **Conversation Starters**

#### Do Discuss

- Weather, traffic, travel, books, current events, the arts
- Personal questions may include their name, where they live, where they're from, where they work, first job, school, obstacles they've overcome, accomplishments they are proud of

#### Do Not Discuss

- Personal health issues (yours and theirs)
- Controversial subjects such as politics and religion
- · Inappropriate jokes
- Do not interrupt or finish other's sentences, go into too much detail, talk too loud or too soft, preach or gossip

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# Key Words to Remember

These words are too often neglected in business:

- Please
- Thank You
- Well Done



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# E-Mail Etiquette

- Growing concern that we do not use email effectively or appropriately
- Email messages often written with too much informality and sometimes too aggressively
- Email messages lack non-verbal expression to supplement what we are "saying"
- Judgments about a person's motives and intentions are made based on their tone of voice, gestures and proximity - all which are lacking in an email message
- Email makes it more difficult to figure out what the message sender means
- Easier to offend or hurt someone in email
- · It is important to be as clear and concise as possible

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10

### How Do I Know if I am Using the Correct Etiquette?

- · How should I format my email?
- To whom am I sending my email?
- Can I send attachments?
- How long should my email be?
- · Am I being polite?
- · When should I not send an email?



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11

# How Long Should an Email be?

- One page printed or the length of your computer screen before scrolling
- There are times when email messages need to be longer
- Organizations often seek to reduce their paper costs when sending documents, such as orientation schedules and information, memos, convention information, newsletters, and policy changes
- · For long emails try to include:
- o An executive summary at the top of the document
- o How soon a response is required from the recipient(s)
- o A table of contents

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# Am I Insulting Someone?

- "Virtual venting" is sending highly critical or inflammatory emails
- It is best to avoid venting because it tends to create more conflict and tension
- · What you say cannot be taken back
- Things to consider before venting in email:
- o Would I say this to this person's face?
- o Am I putting the receiver in an awkward position?
- o How would I feel if I got this email message?

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13

# Inappropriate vs. Appropriate Digital Communication

#### Inappropriate Message

### "This project really sucks and I cannot believe that

- and I cannot believe that he is making us do this. I'm sick and tired of all these dumb assignments. He needs to get a life!"
- "If you don't fix this problem then I am going to quit TOMORROW!!!!!! I am sick and tired of Martha's incompetence!!!"

#### Appropriate Message

- "This assignment came at a tough time. I wasn't expecting so much work. I can't wait until the end of the quarter."
- "I'm growing increasingly frustrated by the current situation. Can we set up a time to talk about this more?"

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14

### When Should I Not Send an Email?

- Disciplinary action
- Conflicts about grades or personal information
- · Concerns about fellow workmates
- Complaints

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# Social Networking Don't • Be careful of the image you Mix personal and business are presenting of yourself • Don't be offensive, use foul Assume your personal sites language etc. are visible to all · Don't be tagged in · Remember the internet inappropriate photos is forever · Monitor your reputation online **Anthem** EAP 16 **Business Luncheon Etiquette** Most common etiquette blunders · Using and holding utensils incorrectly Waving utensils around while talking or pointing them at people · Cutting food into tiny pieces all at once · Not using a napkin or using it incorrectly • Eating before host picks up his/her fork · Breaking a roll into little pieces · Ordering food that is messy or difficult to eat while conversing **Anthem** EAP 17 **Etiquette Don'ts** Drinking from a bowl · Picking your teeth

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• Using bread as a plate cleaner

Taking food from someone else's plate
Stacking dishes or pushing them toward someone else when you are done

• Smelling your food

# Loose Lips Sink Ships

- Chewing with mouth open, talking with food in mouth, slurping soup
- Being rude to service people, complaining loudly or openly about food or service
- Offering opinions or making judgments about diets or food preferences
- Not putting your cell phone on vibrate before the meal starts

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19

## Sensitive Workplace Issues

- · Handling colleagues special situations
- Seeing eye dogs in the workplace the do's and don'ts
- $_{\mbox{\scriptsize o}}$  Always ask the owner before approaching the dog
- o Don't disturb the dog when it is resting
- $_{\mbox{\scriptsize o}}$  Never give the dog a command, only the owner does that
- o Walk on the owner's right side, but several paces behind them
- o No treats/food
- o Ignoring the dog is the best course of action

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20

# **Closing Thought**

"Etiquette is the invention of wise men to keep fools at a distance."

- Sir Richard Steele

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