

## How to Pick Up The Pieces When Your Company's Success is Short-Lived

You look around yourself at an office that used to hum with activity, buzz with excitement & thrive on the momentum of great success while possessing a stellar reputation within the industry. Today the reputation of your current employer **XYZ Corp** has changed drastically and you wonder where you turn to pick up the pieces. You daydream back to the days when your career began with XYZ Corp....

You anxiously accepted a position at **XYZ Corp** and many of your previous colleagues were extremely envious of your new position. **XYZ Corp** was viewed as a "top notch", "up & coming", "financially secure", and an "industry leader" type of corporation among its competitors. People were begging to join the team at **XYZ Corp** because of the wonderful employee perks, marvelous pay and bonus structure, and lucrative stock options that employee retention was very high within the industry. Because the employees were well taken care of and **XYZ Corp's** reputation was exceptional; tremendous company growth and success followed. As the company grew so did those positions within the company, you found yourself moving up the corporate ladder as new positions were being created to take care of the obvious demand. The senior management staff was admired by all including employees, competitors, vendors and Wall Street. It was the dream job, an outstanding career builder and a great team to be part of.

Four years ago, the changes began.... the president and senior managers left, the core-business focus shifted, programs were eliminated, the stock prices fell and employee morale began declining. The assuming management staff began making "flip-flop" decisions, bad press followed, customers complained and the downward spiral began. You promised yourself and fellow employees that it was only a temporary restructuring measure and that it wouldn't be long before it all turned around to where it used to be. The gloom continued, fellow employees sought positions with competitors, customers no longer relied on your expertise, the stock prices never recovered and the once wonderful workplace has become an office bitten by a plague.....Today **XYZ Corp** has seen a revolving door of senior managers all trying to restore the glory that they once claimed but now the executives are anxious to find a buyer for a company that once was an Industry Leader.

You are preparing your resume' with your work history, titles and responsibilities at **XYZ Corp** and pondering your next career step. You realize that the company's current reputation is less than stellar and you hope that this fall from grace won't be held against you in your career search. Remember that you performed the job that you were hired to do and that what you contributed had a positive impact on the company's growth. You were not a member of the Executive staff that decided to shift the company's direction. You do know that you gave 110% to a company that appreciated great success, even if it was short lived.