



## FAIL FAST TO LEARN FASTER

In this activity, you will see the importance of defining success and failure points to innovate faster.

Rapid Application Learning Activity Worksheet	
<p>While watching the video <i>Fail Fast to Learn Faster</i>, you learned that our most valuable life lessons come from our failures. If you aren't failing that means you aren't innovating because the two go hand in hand. We need to create a positive metric for failure and seek to recognize it as instantaneously as possible, rather than avoiding it. Failure then shifts from a liability to an asset.</p>	
<p><b>Fail Fast Principle</b></p>	<p>Part of living successfully in the future is embracing a new relationship with one of our most valuable and underappreciated resources: our failures. Our most valuable life lessons never come from our successes; they come from our failures. The biggest problem with failure is not that it's failure, but that we tend to fail in slow motion, dragging it out for years or even decades, which weighs us down and prevents us from moving forward. Learning to fail fast allows one to recognize failure quickly and act on it immediately, so that failure shifts from being a liability to being an asset. In fact, it becomes an essential tool for success.</p>
<p><b>Pre-Mortem</b></p>	<p>The action of identifying and eliminating predictable obstacles and problems that will slow or block the success of a plan, product or service before beginning a project.</p>
<p><b>Activity #1</b></p> 	<p>Select a current or upcoming project and define a few success measures necessary for a positive outcome. What predictable obstacles can you identify or eliminate that might block the success of the project?</p>

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<p><b>Activity #2</b></p> 	<p>List the required actions for success. If your project is in progress, assess if you are succeeding or failing with the actions. What actions do you need to take now?</p>
<p><b>Activity #3</b></p> 	<p>If your project is failing, after a few review intervals, ask yourself how long you can afford to fail. Track progress and make sure the lessons learned from failures are documented and shared if you are working with a team. Learn and act quickly so you can move forward faster.</p>
<p>For future projects conduct the above Pre-Mortem exercise by listing predictable challenges or possible failure points. List and define solutions to help overcome these obstacles before they occur. Review frequently to access where things are. Generate a shareable list of lessons learned to be accessible for yourself and others into the future.</p> <p>Additionally, we've developed the Learn Faster Review Planning Tool to make organizing and documenting this exercise easier. It's designed in MS Word, so it's expandable, shareable and something you can use as a template for planning now and into the future. To purchase go to: <a href="https://goo.gl/cfH6qd">https://goo.gl/cfH6qd</a></p>	