

Simon Walker

CEO - Candover Consulting

Co-author of *Generation-Y: what they want from work*

Speaker & Advisor on Leadership and the Future of Work



Helping business managers lead through disruptive, technological, social and demographic change

Professional Experience - original, independent insights

- Simon is an expert in future of work and leadership. Simon *helps lead people through change*, offering established businesses the leadership insights needed to unlock the innovation, agility and flexibility their disruptive competition enjoys.
- His particular interest is the impact of technology and social media on the world of work and business, and how this affects behaviours, effective leadership and organisational design. He's therefore part futurologist, part leadership and team guru.
- Workplace attitudes, expectations and behaviours are changing, driven by rapid technological shifts in all our lives. Simon helps makes sense of the future of work and stresses the importance in particular of adaptive leadership behaviours required to attract, engage and keep the talent needed to build sustainable and competitive organisations.
- Simon explores the intersection between people, performance and technology, where he draws from deep first-hand experience, ongoing research and client engagements in the US, Europe and Asia.
- He is also an expert on generational diversity -- the differing expectations, preferences and attitudes of different generations, and has researched this area widely. He was previously a co-founder of Talentsmoothie which was a successful research-based leadership consultancy focusing on developing emotional intelligence. He has worked with organisations all over the world where he has coached senior executives, executive committees and boards to improve their effectiveness.
- Simon also draws from other first-hand leadership experience both in extreme sport and business. He has led teams on arctic expeditions and round the world yacht races, most notably as skipper of Toshiba in the BT Global Challenge round the world race where he finished second, the youngest skipper in the fleet. His business leadership experience includes being CEO of Challenge Business, organisers of high profile sponsored events around the world.
- He was featured as one of the top 16 business leaders in *Fast Company* magazine's 'Who's fast in 2001'

Publishing and media exposure

- Simon has co-authored several reports including '*Generation Y: what they want from work*' which he co-authored and which he subsequently expanded upon to conduct the very first such study of Gen-Ys in Asia.
- Simon is a regular contributor of print and digital articles worldwide and often interviewed for his insights.
- His work and experiences have been chronicled in various publications including *Fast Company* magazine and in two books; *Uphill All The Way* and *Global Challenge; Leadership Lessons*.

Sample assignments

- Simon speaks at many events worldwide. As well as being an experienced keynote and motivational speaker, he is also an accomplished event host, workshop leader and conference facilitator.
- Clients engage him to consult and research, speak at their conferences, run masterclasses and workshops, and mentor their leaders and teams.
- Across all these areas, clients value his storytelling, practical first-hand experience, and pragmatic approach that comes from a decade of research and practice in the field.
- He has provided in-depth briefings on the future imperatives of talent management for client companies including BT, Barclays Bank, Citibank, CA Technologies, Hitachi, Microsoft, RBS, Toshiba and others.
- He leaves audiences enlightened, informed and in a position to ask searching questions about whether their own situation or organisation is fit for the future.

Simon Walker – Personal biodata

- CEO of Candover Consulting
- Managing Director of Gilo Adventure Sports, focusing on unlocking the potential of ground-breaking adventure aviation products around the world.
- Non-exec director serving on the board of several adventure and tech savvy businesses.
- Visiting Executive Development Fellow, Henley Business School.
- Visiting Executive Development Fellow, Southampton Business School
- For the last decade, he has created, led and built people development focused businesses, including Talentsmoothie and more recently my360plus.
- Co-founder and director of Talentsmoothie, a consultancy on generational diversity.
- Formerly a senior consultant to The Centre for High Performance Development (CHPD) with focus on organisational change
- Simon has been a professional yachtsman and has led teams on arctic expeditions and round the world yacht races, most notably as skipper of *Toshiba* in the BT Global Challenge round the world race where he finished second, the youngest skipper in the fleet. His business leadership experience includes being CEO of Challenge Business, organisers of high profile sponsored events around the world.
- He holds a BA (Hons) in Computer Engineering from the University of Manchester

Informative and enjoyable event combining wit, fact and experience of life. It was valuable session for generations of staff. This is one of the best presentations I have attended, the message was very clear and well delivered.

Barclays Retail and Business Banking

Simon provided our team with thought provoking insights which helped us to gain a greater perspective and understanding of the changing world of work. These insights have since provoked a deeper level of discussion between us around the external factors impacting the decisions we make as a management team.

Angela McKenna – Senior Director OD EMEA at **CA Technologies**

Simon spoke at our recent European HR Conference about the future of work and leadership. It was a great session and provided a challenging overview of the changes that will affect our businesses and their HR strategies.

Stephen Pierce – Chief Human Resources Officer at **Hitachi Europe**