

#### Estimated Reading Time: 5 minutes

The article emphasizes the importance of focusing on one's strengths and personal branding in career development. It advises individuals to identify and hone their unique skills and talents, which increases enthusiasm, happiness, and engagement at work. Personal branding, akin to corporate branding, is crucial in differentiating oneself in the job market. Additionally, effective self-marketing, understanding audience needs, and standing out with a unique value proposition are key strategies. The article underscores the need for continuous learning and adapting to industry changes, and the importance of having a long-term career strategy, likening each individual to the CEO of their own career.

By Lindah Awuor

Has it ever occurred to you that you are your own boss? That's because the industry is your profession, and you are the commodity. Depending on the figures, the average person is estimated to be changing occupations five to seven times during their working life. Regardless of the exact number, during your lifespan, you'll definitely have many professions.

As professional growth is no longer linear, taking care of the future is more important than ever. Here are several ways to handle your profession as a company so you can achieve the satisfaction you deserve.



## Concentrate on your strength

By relying on so many abilities and strengths at once, you won't be able to produce optimum results. But more importantly, what you do best is home in. People make the most common error of concentrating on strengthening their weaknesses. Concentrate instead on what you are already talented at, so you always move towards being the best. Ideally, these are things you love and enjoy working on.



Stress-building in the workplace also has potential benefits. <u>Studies show</u> that people using their strengths at work are more enthusiastic, optimistic, happier, innovative, fulfilled and engaged. Why do you want to miss out?

#### Put up your mark

Branding is critical not only at the corporate level but also at the individual level. This should be packaged with a proliferation of social media and the gig economy. It's called <u>personal branding</u>. It's all about portraying yourself as the main character of a great narrative. Your personal brand is the special combination of skills, qualifications and abilities that makes you stand out from the crowd.

Amazon's founder Jeff Bezos is famously quoted as saying, "Your brand is what people say about you when you're not in the room." Great personal branding can differentiate you from others. Moreover, it helps you create loyalty with prospective customers and employers.

## Market yourself

One way to manage your career as a corporation is through promotion — especially when it's about your personal brand. A great way to market yourself is by creating a personal website. All you need to start is a basic layout, with a blog and a "about" tab. Consistently share content through your own social media accounts to position yourself as an authority on the subject.

If you have an opt-in on your website, you can also create a weekly newsletter. You might also consider starting your youtube video or podcast. The critical items should be aimed at the right audience. This should help you work towards constantly increasing your exposure.

## Understand your audience needs

Knowing your clients means running your professional life like a business. This might be your employer or the person with whom you have a job interview. Take time to consider the points of pain. What do they need, and how do you offer value? Which challenge is it that you solve? Defining your market segment helps you create a clear message and effective branding.

#### Stand out from the crowd.

What defines and renders you special from the competitors in the market? Find the target point of difference and try to fill in a gap instead of pursuing the pack. This advice is given by Tammy Perkins, Chief People Officer at PMI Worldwide." Ultimately you want to be your authentic self, showing potential employers how your skills are uniquely differentiated from others, while also sharing your passion, along with supporting work examples and accomplishments. Do all three, and you have a chance to stand out with recruiters and hiring managers."





#### **Consistent evolution**

Growing and developing is key to being successful in an ever-changing workplace. Manage your profession by keeping up to date and making adjustments to the new developments in your industry. Commit to lifelong learning. Expand your know-how and skills. Have the preparation you need to transition to the next level. The more you step up your game, the more valuable you are for your manager, team, co-worker and company as well. That strategy often places you outside of your current business or sector for potential prospects that might arise.





# Map out a long-term strategy, manage your profession like a business

It would be best if you had a long-range strategy to be able to handle your profession like a company. Incorporate America change is so rapid that a long-term plan is possibly no more than five years. Identify what you plan to do when planning your career. Is it a more senior position within your own company or maybe a completely different field? Create a set of concrete steps you need to take to accomplish your objectives. Ensure sure the targets are written down (on paper) and reviewed frequently.

You're the CEO of your profession, in the end. You'll find yourself not only progressing professionally but also enjoying the trip by following these basic tactics.

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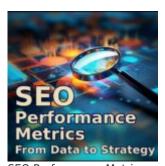


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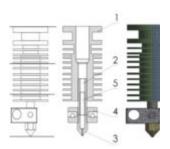


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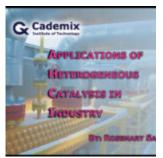


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