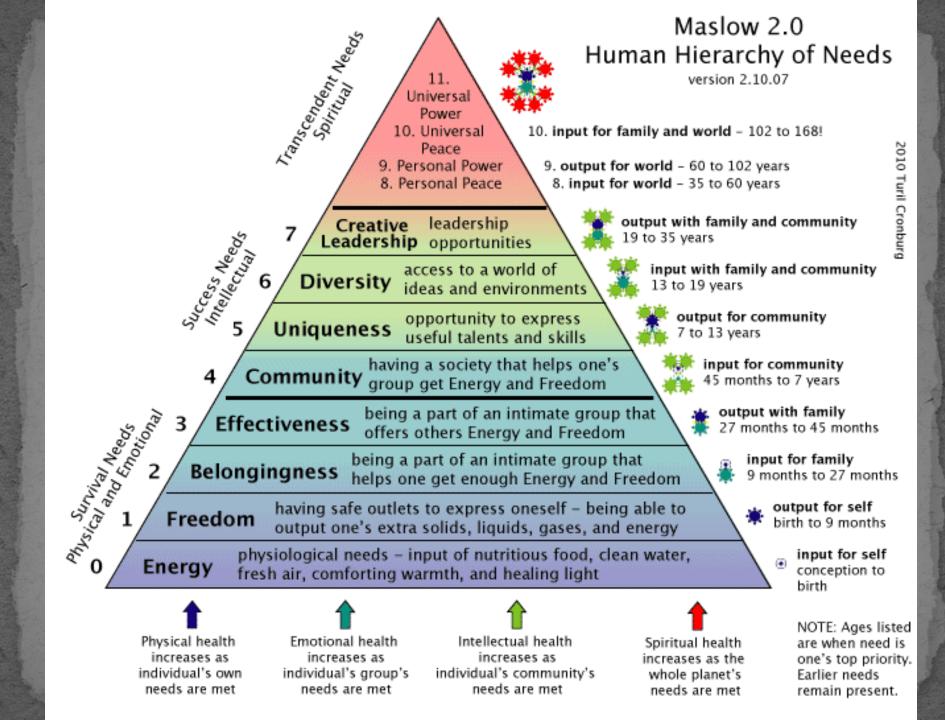
### Taking Yourself to the Next Level

Tony Messana NANT National Symposium 2013

#### **Discussion** Areas

- Define Needs
- Internal Improvement and Goals
- External Improvement and Goals
- Define Success
- Opportunity
- Journey



Sometimes you have to take a good look in the mirror and realize you need to make some improvements



#### Success

- How do you measure your success:
- Competencies
- Money
- Prestige
- Recognition
- Fun

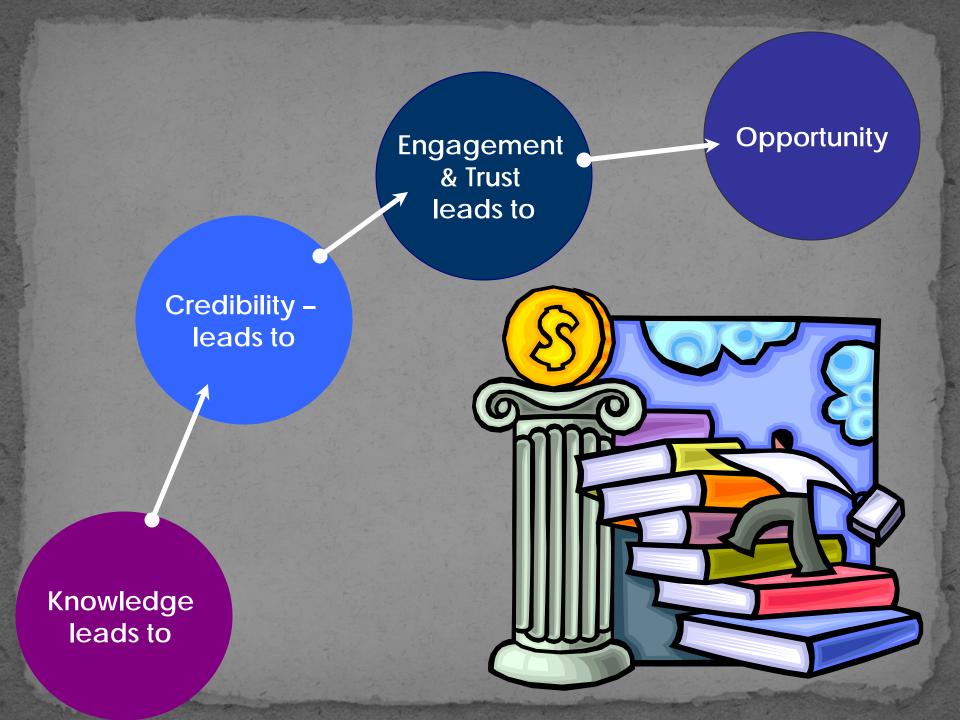


#### Internal

- Quest to improve yourself
- Being a better self in your home, work or play life
- Examples
  - Home: becoming more of a chef, a gardener or a mechanic
  - Work: challenging yourself to improve in the care you give
  - Play: improve that golf swing (or in my case being able to hit the ball....)

#### External

- Quest for achievement that moves you from your current position to another level or another job requiring different or enhanced skills
- Examples:
  - Moving from a technician to a technical manager
  - Moving from taking care of patients to taking care of equipment
  - Moving into research or administration
  - Changing employers or moving for a new job
- As with internal improvement there is a need for education either formally or informally
- Utilize Professional Advancement Ladders (PAL)



Some organizations cannot see, hear or speak to your needs so you may have to take a journey on your own....



### The Journey Begins... there and back again a technician's tale

### You find yourself wondering what you should do next to improve yourself

I am really in a rut and have mud on my shoes What do I need to do





#### Maybe discuss your ideas with a mentor



Sometime things blow in and drop right on you in your journey



#### Maybe you find yourself not in Kansas any more

We are the blue man group warm up act… Viva Las Vegas





# With a little help you can start the journey



You can't build a reputation on what you're going to do. Henry Ford

### Just hanging around does not get you very far and you become a little out of touch





If you wait too long to make a change you might get a little rusty... but with a little help you realize that you want something more



### How about a little bravado when your don't have the courage



### Once you have figured out what you want you have to take the effort to find it



#### Sometimes scary things await you





## The mean folks in the office in the suits always tell you what to do ...



### Sometimes you have to play with fire or lose a little sleep





#### Then the enemy arrives to stop your journey









### And you have to call on your friends to help take down the barrier to get to the prize











Sometimes the man behind the curtain is a lot like us



## Sometime promises made fall through but the journey may have changed you



### You have inside you the things that you really want but needed to find









### A few final thoughts

- Engage in the community through local participation in meetings as well as national meetings
- Consider giving back through board and committee participation
- Advocacy for your profession and the industry
- Education
- Professionalism
  - Appropriate interactions
  - Dress
  - Respect for patients and co-workers
  - Maintaining your skill sets

Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.

#### **Winston Churchill**

#### Just look what the tin man did when he got a heart!

Don't make me call out the flying monkeys!