



Article from

The Actuary

October/November 2015
Issue 5

TAKE THE LEAD

Looking to be a leader in your workplace or in your profession? Here are some resources that can help you in that quest.

PODCAST

INCLUDE DATA ANALYSIS IN YOUR SURVIVAL KIT Presented by Christopher Surdak

With data crush, an overwhelming mass of information becomes readily available to individuals and companies. While things we need and want have become increasingly and conveniently available to us, it has also become harder to protect ourselves from deeper analysis of our psyches (re: spending habits). Christopher Surdak, a recognized expert in information security and regulatory compliance, believes that companies must use data analysis in order to survive in this economy.

<http://www.amanet.org/training/podcasts/10192.aspx>

BOOK

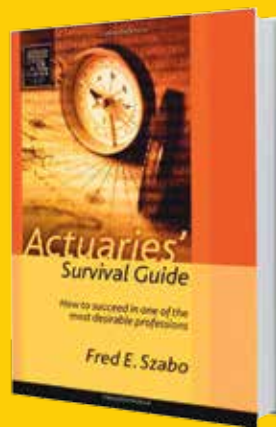
ACTUARIES' SURVIVAL GUIDE By Fred E. Szabo

This unique book is a guide for students and graduates of mathematics, statistics, economics, finance and other number-based disciplines contemplating a career in actuarial science. Given the comprehensive range of the cases that are analyzed in the book, the *Actuaries' Survival Guide* can serve as a companion to existing study material for all courses designed to prepare students for actuarial examinations.

- »» Based on the curricula and examinations of the Society of Actuaries (SOA) and the Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS)
- »» Presents an overview of career options and details on employment in different industries
- »» Provides a link between theory and practice; helps readers gain the qualitative and quantitative skills and knowledge required to succeed in actuarial exams
- »» Includes insights from over 50 actuaries and actuarial students
- »» Written by Fred Szabo, who has directed the actuarial co-op program at Concordia University for over 10 years

<http://toolsforactuaries.org/node/402?c>

BUY NEW OR USED

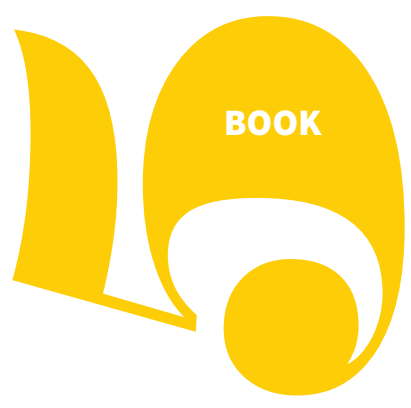




TED TALK WITH MARGARET HEFFERNAN: DARE TO DISAGREE

Most people instinctively avoid conflict, but as Margaret Heffernan shows us, good disagreement is central to progress. She illustrates (sometimes counterintuitively) how the best partners aren't echo chambers—and how great research teams, relationships and businesses allow people to deeply disagree.

www.ted.com/talks/margaret_heffernan_dare_to_disagree



PEOPLE SKILLS: HOW TO ASSERT YOURSELF, LISTEN TO OTHERS, AND RESOLVE CONFLICTS

By Robert Bolton, Ph.D.

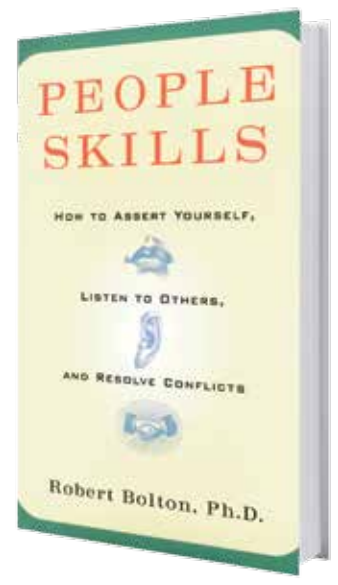
A wall of silent resentment shuts you off from someone you love. ... You listen to an argument in which neither party seems to hear the other. ... Your mind drifts to other matters when people talk to you. ... *People Skills* is a communication-skills handbook that can help you eliminate these and other communication problems. Author Robert Bolton describes the 12 most common communication barriers, showing how these “roadblocks” damage relationships by increasing defensiveness, aggressiveness or dependency. He explains how to acquire the ability to listen, assert yourself, resolve conflicts and work out problems with others. These are skills that will help you communicate calmly, even in stressful, emotionally charged situations.

<http://toolsforactuaries.org/node/411?c>

BUY NEW OR USED



If you know of a tool that might be beneficial to other actuaries, please let us know by sending an email to theactuary@soa.org.



MYNORMAL CURVE

myNormal Curve helps you calculate the area under the normal curve, eliminating the need of the normal distribution table commonly found at the end of a statistics textbook.

PRICE: \$0.99 at the Apple App Store
<http://appsforactuaries.org/node/474?c>

