

SPECIAL FEATURE: FENG SHUI

IT company transforms negative vibes through feng shui

Blue Sky Technologies, after experiencing some difficulties, turned to this ancient art to create a positive energy within the company and make it profitable

Lucinda Scholtz
 ABOUT A year ago, Sam Thompson, financial director of information technology (IT) company Blue Sky Technologies, started experiencing difficulties in internal and external communication, as well as in business relations with associates.

"A few months ago, we had formed associate partnerships with two other companies and relations were not good; distrust was one of our major problems," he says. "Most of our personnel have worked at our company for 10 years or more, which is exceptional in the IT industry. These people started feeling negative and didn't experience positive feelings regarding our newly formed partnerships."

As financial director, Thompson, could see that financially the survival of all three companies could be in jeopardy. He called in Janet Young, an engineer of the ancient art of feng shui, which has long been used in the orient.

She describes feng shui as a quasi-scientific technique that analyses the topography and interprets natural earth forms through a mix of geomancy and architectural interpretation.

Feng shui believes that by creating a magical space wherever you are, the elements hold the an-



Opposite the entrance door is another door opening onto a courtyard garden. A water fountain was installed to stop the energy (and therefore money) flowing in one door and out the other.

swer to your private space. These elements are wood, fire, earth, metal and water. Once you are in rhythm with the universe with these elements and directions, you will notice the invisible forces working for you in a major way.

Feng Shui cannot fix every problem in your life, but once applied in your office it is up to you to see and accept the opportunities offered to you. Another reason feng shui might not work is that you can desire something you already have.

"When business improves, slowly we tend to complain that a pot of gold has not dropped into our laps. Feng Shui contributes to a third of your luck; the rest is up to you," Young says.

After Young's assessment, the board of Blue Sky Tech started implementing her proposals.

"The first six months were tough," says Thompson. "Janet had explained to us that the changing in energies she would bring about would have a direct impact on our relationships, finances and levels of communication. Previously suppressed negative energies might surface and things could look worse than before."

"In actual fact, many of the underlying problems we had with one of our associates did come to the fore and for the first time we



Feng shui money coins were attached to the frame of the door in the money room.

could actually perceive the problems and manage them. If we had waited, the financial implications might have been much worse."

Thompson is positive about the changes that have taken place in the company since Young's interventions. "We have had fantastic results. Communication between employees has improved

and we seem to attract the right personnel for the right jobs."

Dave Brown, the once-sceptical MD of Blue Sky Tech, now also sees the value of what feng shui can offer. "Janet has been back for follow-ups this year and we feel we have benefited tremendously from her interventions," he says.

Young implemented a number of interventions. At Blue Sky Tech's entrance door was a doormat with the company logo and name on it. This doormat was removed, as people entering the building rubbed their dirty feet on it — sending a subliminal message that they are "treading" on Blue Sky Tech. Some of the other interventions are described in the pictures and captions.

A central element of feng shui is the use of the "flying star-feng shui" (pictured bottom right). It takes away the apparent random distribution of good and bad luck over time, and enables you to pinpoint causes of variations in luck. Flying star is the essence of

feng shui, and the timing element is explained by knowing when one's luck changes. This allows one to stay one step ahead of any unlucky changes that can occur.

A compass denoting location and directions are used to navigate the flying stars. One can change the energy patterns of relationships with staff, career, finances, health and well-being.

Time dimensions can be taken into account and certain "cures" applied on the floor plan for further implementation.

The flying stars are essentially "ch'i" energy configurations that move from location to location inside a building.

By looking at allocated areas, flying star can be transformed from bad to superb luck, and then easily reversed in the next year.

A yearly transit chart would give one the basics to apply within the office space, or a 20-year cycle of the building. The date of the building's construction becomes important to the practitioner as well as the energy of the owners in that internal space.

■ Scholtz is marketing consultant for Janet Young consultancies.



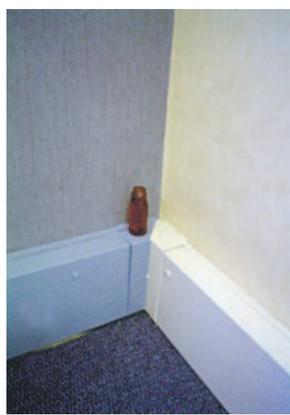
The board members of Blue Sky Tech have a passion for wildlife and there were many paintings of animals in the offices. Of the 12 wildlife paintings, nine depicted wild cats. Young suggested that they reduce the number of cat paintings, as cats project an image of aggression. A crystal was placed on the table in the boardroom, left.

The crystal, right, is considered to be an energiser, promoting enhanced communication and decision-making.



The editor is a feng shui sceptic but wants to hear your views. Do you think it works? E-mail your opinion to editor@realbusiness.co.za.

Young places 'office-clearing remedies', or radionics, in various corners that are considered to be problem areas. These containers will activate positive energy in the company and allow for a more productive and rejuvenating space. The contents should last for six months; within that time a re-assessment of the changes should be done. According to the law of Hahneman, information can be transmitted instantaneously from substance to substance, from field to field, or from plane to plane, and this information can be released in the form of a vibrant shift. When a human being thinks, he creates information which is established as a field. These fields radiate, and give rise to the type of 'consciousness of being'. In a large office there is an excessive amount of this type of energy. By using radionics one can balance those chaotic fields. Examples of consistent, 'unlucky' events within a company are: bad communication with staff; contracts being withdrawn or negotiations never seeming to conclude; and loss of prime staff and retrenchments. Radionics is an ideal medium to use to halt these processes and bring about a 180-degree change.



Flying star the essence of the art of feng shui

THE usefulness of the flying star in feng shui is that it takes away the apparent random distribution of good and bad luck over time, and enables you to pinpoint causes of variations in luck. Flying star is the essence of feng shui, and the timing element is explained by knowing when our luck does change.

This allows one to stay one step ahead of any unlucky changes that can occur.

A compass denoting location and directions is used to navigate the chart.

One can change the energy patterns of your relationships in the workplace, with your career, finances, health and well-being.

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ly "ch'i" energy configurations that move from location to location inside a building.

Flying star numbers move position from year to year. By looking at allocated areas, flying star can be transformed from bad to superb luck, and then easily reversed in the next year.

A yearly transit chart would give one the basics to apply within the office space, or a 20-year cycle of the building.

Flying star "cures" can be applied in an internal and external space.

Using the flying star chart, Young determined where negative numbers (thus negative energy) resided within Blue Sky Tech's offices. She detected negative energy in the money room and suggested that a strong ambience be created for the room with furniture and plants.

