Assessing your Leadership Presence

Your *Leadership Presence* is a delicate balance of understanding others' perceptions, communicating so they can best hear you, and staying true to yourself. Factors to consider include:

- -Credibility (content expertise / presentation of your knowledge)
- -Reliability (delivering the message in the same way / consistent manner over time)
- -Authenticity (being able to open up), and
- -Self-Orientation (your motives)

Step 1: Identify at least three (3) trusted people you work with to provide feedback on your *leadership presence*. It's best to meet in person. Ask the following questions:

- 1. What is the general perception of me as a leader?
- 2. What could I do differently that would have the greatest impact on my success?

Step 2: Consider the feedback you received. Reflect on the things you do each day to create your *leadership presence*. Answer the following questions:

- 1. How do you see yourself?
- 2. How do others see you?
- 3. How do you want others to see you (*are #'s 1 and 2 aligned?)?
- 4. What are your top presence strengths?
- 5. What are your top presence challenges?

Step 3: Now that you have reflected upon your personal leadership presence:

- 1. Any surprises? Shifts from 12-18 months ago?
- 2. What do you plan to do about perceived gaps (*how you see yourself versus how others see you)?
- 3. How might you address your challenges?
- 4. Can you make up for your challenges by playing up your strengths?
- 5. Consider an action plan, if needed.