



## Chris Nel

Managing Director, Quest Leadership Ltd

[www.questleadership.co.uk](http://www.questleadership.co.uk)

Referred to by Tom Peters affectionately as '*our company's very own positive deviant*', Chris is an agent provocateur. This coupled to a natural ability to build relationships, retain a strategic perspective and a strong bias for accountable action mean that Chris is seen, by his coaching clients, as a key external influence on their future business success.

Chris was born in the UK but grew up in South Africa. Surfing, beach life, rugby and cycling dominated the school years. At University in England, Chris twice represented Great Britain at the world triathlon championships. In 1985 he graduated from The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and served for twelve years in the British Army in a wide variety of roles and conflicts around the globe. This exposure to extreme social, political and cultural hostilities kindled in Chris a progressive, determination to facilitate learning and progress. To make things better.

On leaving the Army, Chris held senior operational management positions in two UK FTSE250 companies, after which his 'positive deviancy' led him in to coaching. Initially with Tom Peters Company, where Chris learned the art of leadership coaching with Jim Kouzes and Tom Peters and then in 2007 to co-found his own executive coaching business, Quest Leadership Ltd.

Chris's approach to coaching is to build trust, identify clear *applied* development goals / actions and to review these in such a way that one can reinforce success and crucially, learn from the failures.

For seventeen years Chris has been using this approach to stimulate better leadership at senior management and executive level in the following organisations; Analog Devices, Bramshill Police Staff College, Chartwell, Cybex, David Brown Engineering, Erbil International Airport, Dialog Semiconductor, Ecosurety, EnOcean, Leica Geosystems, Hexagon, Hitachi Capital, Leica, Lufthansa, Norwich Union, Rolls-Royce Aerospace, Rompetrol, Situs Asset Management, Texas Instruments, Textron, Situs Asset Management, The UK Home Office, UK Defence Academy, John Wiley & Son, Virgin One Account, Western Union and Zurich Insurance.

Chris is a regular contributor to the Leadership Challenge Community and a Kouzes & Posner Certified Master & LPI Coach.