

## Governing Energy

### Reflection

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As we close out the Gregorian calendar year, it is common practice to reflect on the past year and note our accomplishments as well as review our short comings.<sup>i</sup> With this edition, this blog closes our second year addressing contemporary issues surrounding governance models and transparency.

During this period our world has undergone major transformations. The upstream oil and gas industry continues to strengthen its safety processes, in the United States health care has been renovated and globally security remains challenging among others.

The Gregorian calendar is just one method of marking time. On January 31, 2014 the Chinese year 4712 begins.<sup>ii</sup> Other cultures and religions celebrate the New Year on other dates as well.<sup>iii</sup>

One constant throughout is the “clash of cultures.” In this series we have discussed issues of cultural change and cultural interaction a number of times. Moreover, in our forthcoming book we will deep dive into the cultural transformation process heavy industry must undergo to assure compliance with societal demands.<sup>iv</sup>

Driven by a number of factors including technology, .i.e. social media, we can expect the rate of change and cross cultural interaction to remain high and perhaps accelerate. Moreover, the nuances of a given culture are more apparent than ever.

This suggests that communication between cultures will continue to be demanding. However, tools are available enable more effective communications among disparate groups.<sup>v</sup>

**How will your organization’s governance model handle accelerated cross cultural interactions?**

## About the Author

Dr. [Scott M. Shemwell](#) has over 30 years technical and executive management experience primarily in the energy sector. He is the author of two books and has written extensively about the field of operations management. Shemwell is the Managing Director of The Rapid Response Institute, a firm that focuses on providing its customers with solutions enabling operations excellence and regulatory compliance management.

## End Notes

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/gregorian-calendar.html>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.infoplease.com/spot/chinesenewyear1.html>

<sup>iii</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_calendars](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_calendars)

<sup>iv</sup> Holland, Winford "Dutch" E. and Shemwell, Scott M. (in press). Implementing a Culture of Safety: A Roadmap to Performance-Based Compliance. New York: Xlibris.

<sup>v</sup> Shemwell, Scott M. (1996). Cross Cultural Negotiations between Japanese and American Businessmen: A Systems Analysis, (Exploratory Study). Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale.