

WASIMS

Beware of those *desktop managers*;
those who feel safe only in their offices,
or those that think they know the best way to do it,
because they did it that way *10 years ago*.

In preparing for one of my programs I was fortunate to interview a young lady concerning the causes of stress in the workplace. She told me about a program they had implemented within her company that made a lot of sense in reducing stress in their work environment. They called it *WASIMS - Work A Shift In My Shoes*.

This young lady worked in the MIS (*Management Information Systems*) department for a major Fortune 50 company. She explained that in order for their management staff to make good decisions they needed certain information. Much of that information came from computers being handled by personnel who have a customer standing right in front of them while this data was being entered. She said,

*"We don't design a new system or procedure and put it in place,
making it standard operating procedure,
until those designing the system come
Work A Shift In Our (My) Shoes."*

Hey folks ... what management wants, what your people can provide, and what the client will allow, may all be different. For those managers out there setting policy, making changes, implementing procedures ... do yourself, your company, and especially your people a favor. Get out there doing their job, asking questions, and finding out *today's environment*. Don't brashly request something today you are probably going to regret later.

Go *Work A Shift In Their (My) Shoes*.
Not only will you learn something, you'll gain their respect as well.