

Risk Managment: Anticipating and avoiding a Black Swan event

Eddie McLaughlin, MD & Practice Leader Marsh Risk Consulting EMEA



icaew.com

Supported by:













RISK MANAGEMENT Anticipating & Avoiding Black Swan Events ICAEW, May 16-17th 2012

Eddie McLaughlin Managing Director

Marsh Risk Consulting EMEA

Registered in England Number: 1507274, Registered Office: 1 Tower Place West, Tower Place, London

EC3R 5BU. Marsh Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority for insurance mediation activities only. Marsh Ltd conducts its general insurance activities on terms that are set out in the document "Our Business Principles and Practices". This may be viewed on our website

ntp://uk.marsh.com/AboutUs/AboutMarsh/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/2375/Governance.asp



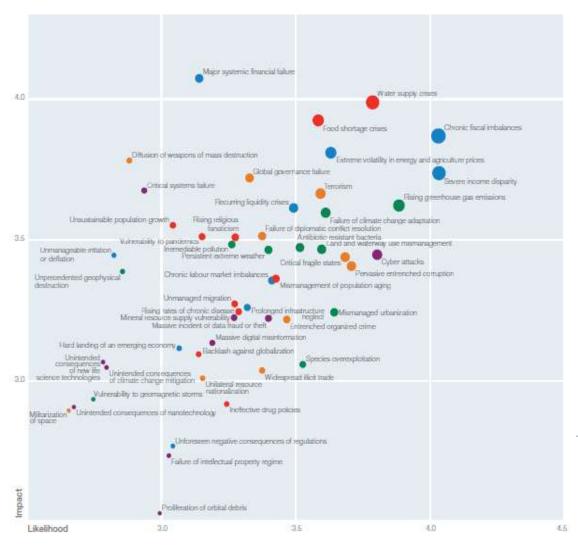
Outline

- Changing risk landscapes global emerging risks
- Enterprise Risk Management
 - Best practice & risk maturity
- Black Swan events as part of your ERM process
- Summary and conclusions

"Underscored by an unprecedented pace of change, stakeholders from across business, government and civil society face a new imperative in understanding and managing emerging risks."

Klaus Schwab
Founder and Executive Chairman
World Economic Forum

Global risks landscape 2012 World Economic Forum



Economic Risks

- Unmanageable inflation or deflation
- 2 Chronic labour market imbalances
- Prolonged infrastructure neglect
- 4 Hard landing of an emerging economy

Environmental Risks

- Unprecedented geophysical destruction
- 2 Persistent extreme weather
- Antibiotic-resistant bacteria

Geopolitical Risks

- Entrenched organized crime
- Widespread illicit trade
- O Unilateral resource nationalization

Societal Risks

- Vulnerability to pandemics
- Rising religious fanaticism
- Mismanagement of population aging
- 4 Unmanaged migration
- 6 Rising rates of chronic disease

Technological Risks

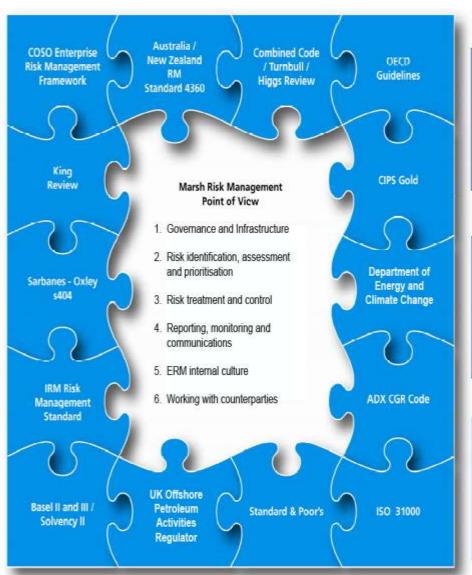
- Massive digital misinformation
- 2 Unintended consequences of new life science technologies
- Unintended consequences of climate change mitigation
- Unintended consequences of nanotechnology
- 6 Failure of intellectual property regime

Enterprise Risk Management Review ERM Blueprint

Board sponsorship
 Resourcing and accountability for
 risk management
 Risk management embedded in core
 decision making
 Continuous improvement
 Documented ERM framework
 Alignment to other assurance activities
 Consolidated view of risk

Identification at operational and strategic levels
 Consistency in approach
 Management of interdependencies
 Risk identification and assessment is a continuous process
 Emerging risks are identified
 Qualitative and quantitative techniques
 Risk is both positive and negative

Group wide, consistent risk treatment SMART action plans Interdependencies accounted for to exploit efficiencies
 Cost-benefit analysis applied
 Net risk and target risk categorisations
 Financial provisioning for contingencies



Regular reporting on risks, controls and mitigation
 Cross business information flow
 An "early warning" system for emerging risks
 Learning from Incidents (LFI) culture
 User friendly and relevant reporting to support decision making
 Alignment of ERM and Internal Audit

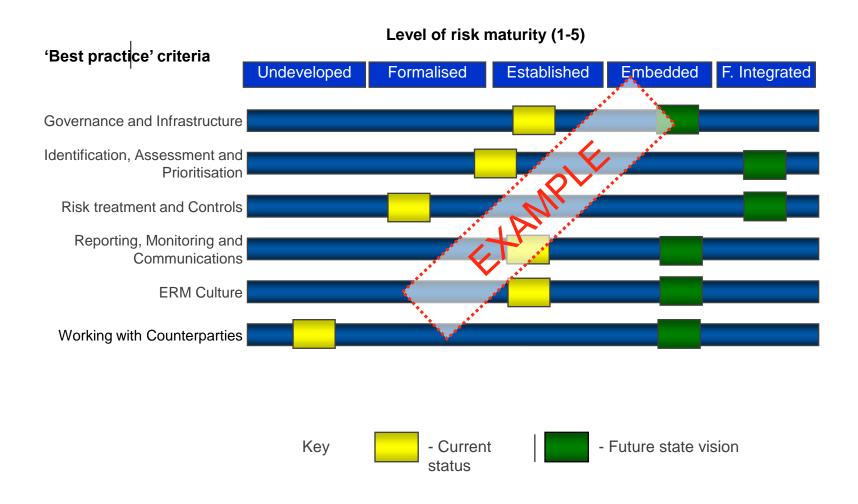
 Incentivisation at a busines and personal level ERM training
 An effective internal and external network to

An effective internal and external network to exchange risk management best practice

A strong due diligence process to manage risk in joint working
 Reliable and regular information available to monitor risk of partner organisations
 Consistent management of partner relationships
 Management of the aggregate partner portolfio risk

Joined up treatment plans

Best Practice Standards Relative to Risk Maturity



Black Swan Events

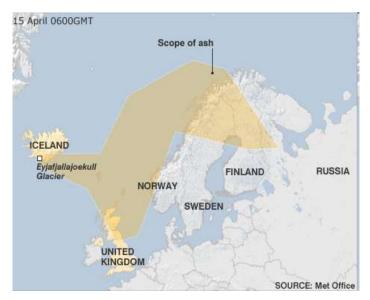
What is a Black Swan?

"A Black Swan is a highly improbable event with three principle characteristics: its unpredictable; its massive; and, after it has happened, our desire to make it appear less random and more predictable than it was. The astonishing success of Google was a Black Swan; so was 9/11

- Prof Nassim Nicolas Taleb

Black Swan events Examples



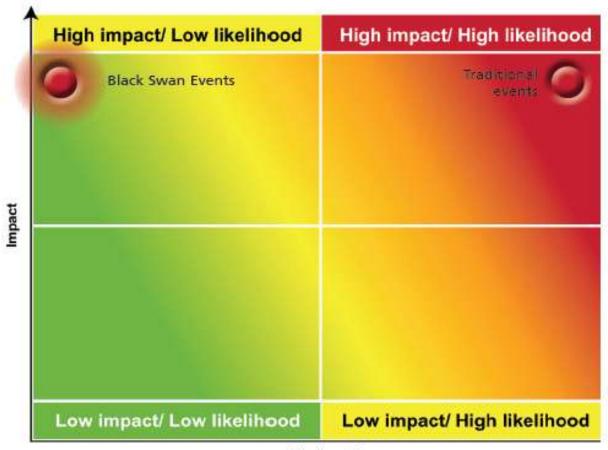




Black Swan events Categories

- 1. Transformational change to the operating environment e.g. 9/11, Social media
- 2. Extreme events that are known to be possible but are thought to be beyond any reasonable planning horizon e.g. major meteor strike or eruption of the Yellowstone volcano (Super eruption)
- 3. Events that only *seemed* inconceivable because of a reliance on flawed fundamental assumptions e.g. recent global economic crisis (and reliance in the credibility of credit ratings)

'Black Swan' events The impact



Likelihood

Businesses should consider Black Swan Events at Board level Understanding the impact

 May have multiple direct or indirect consequences (brand / reputation?)

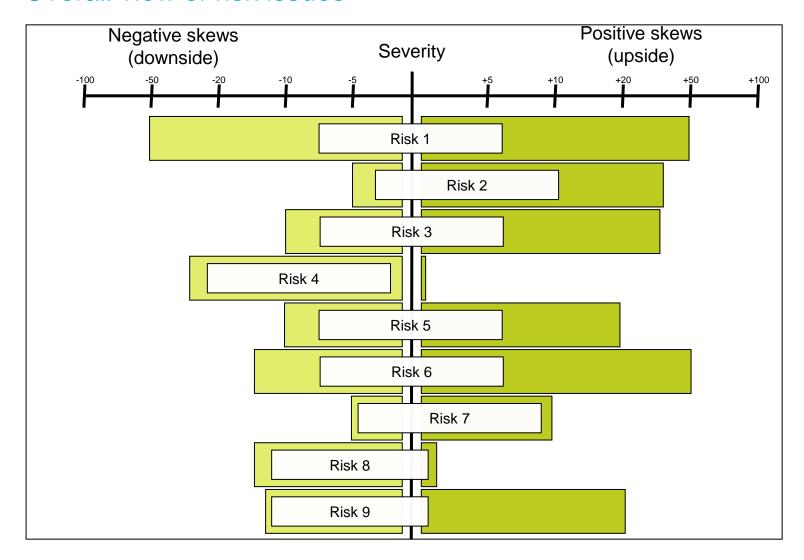
 Catastrophic damage to the infrastructure of your clients or suppliers as demonstrated by the impact on global supply chains after Fukushima

Effects on businesses interests, both internally and externally

Anticipating & Managing Black Swan Events Mitigate the impact

- 1. Review of risk management maturity, processes and frameworks
- 2. Focused review of potential Black Swan Events
- 3. Identification of and robust challenge to fundamental assumptions
- Challenge to probability assessment framework, utilise statistical techniques
- 5. Scenario analysis and risk mitigation analysis
- Crisis management plan (rehearsed / multi-agency tested)
- 7. Supply chain resilience review

Scenario Analysis - Example output Overall view of risk issues



Summary and Conclusions

- The emerging risk landscape is more complex but there are resources and tools to help
- Consider black swans and scenario analysis as part of your risk assessment process
 - The probability may be impossible to predict but the consequences are not
- International benchmarks and maturity models are available apply these wisely as there is no 'one size fits all'.

"While triggered by the tragic March 11th earthquake and tsunami, the Fukushima disaster was ultimately caused by the Japanese authorities choosing to ignore risks, and make business a higher priority than safety,"

Jan Vande Putte, Greenpeace International nuclear campaigner.

