

TESTIMONIALS

Using his hard-earned expertise, Mark has inspired millions of people to achieve more than they thought possible in hundreds of organisations worldwide as well as at TED, Davos, the World Economic Forum, F.ounders, InnoTown, EG and Wired.



"I was honored to meet with Mark Pollock in Ireland this year, where we engaged with teachers and students at St. Patrick's College to discuss the ways technology is changing how students learn. Mark is an extreme adventurer and athlete who has raced to the South Pole — and even more incredibly, he was the first blind man to ever do so.

Mark is a brilliant example of the fact that we can always achieve more than what we think is possible."

Satya Nadella, CEO Microsoft



"It was a privilege to have Mark address both our customers and our Management Team at Google. He delivers that rare combination of inspiration, perspective and practical insight that forces his audience to really reflect on how they rise to their personal challenges and set goals that seem unachievable. He delivers his message in a deeply personal, humorous and memorable way that lands with his audience. It was a pleasure for all of us to spend time in his company. Inspiring."

Regional Director, Northern Europe, Google



"Mark presented at our Global Sales Partners Conference in Twitter and was exceptional. His ability to link his personal story to people's everyday life and work challenges was excellent. The session was not just about listening to an incredible story, it was a chance for everyone to really think about themselves. There is something in this talk for everyone."

Senior Director EMEA, Twitter

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“The rule of seven is one of the oldest concepts in marketing, the rule states that you must hear something seven times before you act. Mark is a rule breaker in so many ways, but most importantly his message to be a competitor or spectator, realist or optimist, collaborator or soloist was a onetime hit with our team at LinkedIn. I have heard Mark speak many times and each time I come away with a renewed sense of purpose and willingness to act. Mark’s drive to build radical collaboration hubs is one of the most important efforts in his drive to find a cure for paralysis however it’s also the biggest lesson he has for those he interacts with.”

Head of Solutions SMB, EMEA & Growth Markets, LinkedIn



“Thank you for your presentation at our 2018 Partners’ Conference. The story, your response and the manner in which you have turned such adversity into a positive is awe-inspiring enough. But the real message for me lies in your delivery which is laced with humour, warmth and humility. As you may have detected, building our community is very important in the business we’re building and the characteristics you displayed, coupled with your inspiring messages, will serve as model behaviours for everyone who heard you.”

Head of PFP Change & Controls, Prudential Financial Planning



“Mark’s contribution was a perfect fit for our ITU Science and Triathlon World Conference in Edmonton, Canada. But most of all, it was an inspiring and motivational speech that made us all realise the challenges and life experiences we all have to face everyday, and a different approach to those. His experiences of taking decisions in difficult circumstances aligned perfectly with the challenges faced by our coaches, athletes and officials, and therefore we feel really inspired by Mark’s talk. I’m absolutely convinced that Mark’s insights into resilience, innovation and collaborative leadership impacted the rest of our meeting.”

President, International Triathlon Union & IOC Member

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BRUNSWICK

“Mark’s fascinating contribution was a perfect fit at our global conference to celebrate 30 years in business. His experiences of making decisions in difficult circumstances aligned with the challenges faced by our Brunswick people and our clients. Mark’s insights into resilience, innovation and leadership prompted action across our international team at Brunswick. He is truly an inspiration and a fantastic example of what we can all achieve through sheer hard work, determination and imagination.”

Sir Alan Parker, Chairman - Brunswick Group



“Wow – on behalf of the entire Microsoft CDS team, my sincerest thank you for joining us at our START event in Seattle on our special Culture Day. Your story is inspirational and motivational, and you brought everyone in the room to their feet. The response our global team had to your message was incredible, and we can all only hope to be as positive, persistent and proactive as you are with every challenge we may face.”

Corporate Vice President, Consumer Channels Group (CCG) – Microsoft Corp



“Mark provided a powerful perspective to the assembled media at Davos. Mark doesn’t just talk about the transformative intersection of technology and humankind – he lives it. As he explores a cure for paralysis, he helped people understand the human dimension of the fourth industrial revolution at the World Economic Forum’s annual meeting.”

Head of Public Engagement & Foundations, World Economic Forum



“Mark’s talk still resonates with our European Sales Team. He started a conversation about challenging conventional wisdom that is ongoing at Google. And with over 20 nationalities in the room he reached them all.”

Head of SMB Sales, Google Enterprise EMEA

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“Mark’s presentation and participation was a key component to the success of our biggest Channel Partner conference to date. His incredible story linked perfectly with the conference theme and was a huge inspiration for our participants. Mark’s insights ‘Made it easy’ to set our partners up for success. I would not hesitate for a moment to recommend Mark to any conference organiser.”

Group Manager Western Europe, EOC Ops Microsoft



“Mark has presented to our EY tax department and to the finalists of the EY Entrepreneur of the Year programme. By using his experiences as a backdrop, he presented the decisions that we all face in times of uncertainty and change. And, as the story unfolded, both audiences were prompted to examine their decision making when challenges appear. The relevance to entrepreneurs and corporate employees alike was excellent.”

Head of Tax and EY Entrepreneur of the Year Programme, EY Ireland



“Mark brought a hugely authentic and moving story to our conference. He challenged us all to think about the mind-sets we bring to work and life, and to change those for the better.”

Global HR Manager Crude & SEE, Shell UK



“Mark spoke to our global team at LinkedIn during our sales development conference. His experiences of remaining resilient when faced with challenges and creating collaborations that have never been done before was exactly the message that we were looking for. Mark connected with everyone in the room, despite the multiple nationalities involved and his messages filtered into many of our discussions over the remaining days at the conference.”

Global Programs Manager, LinkedIn

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"At Dropbox we are always striving to achieve more for our staff and customers. Mark is a living embodiment of someone who does that on a daily basis. The way he connected his story with our people was inspiring, impactful and exactly what we needed to motivate our people for the challenges and opportunities ahead. Thank you."

Head of Dropbox Business EMEA



"During our recent conference at Facebook's EMEA Head Office, we explored practical ways to respond to challenges, change and uncertainty. Mark used his story to encourage us to think differently about how we decide to respond to challenges, regardless of where they come from. Feedback from the team about his talk was incredibly positive. From my perspective, it was both inspirational and full of valuable insights which can be applied to the work the legal team does here at Facebook."

Director & Associate General, Facebook



"It was a privilege to have Mark address both our customers and our Management Team at Google. He delivers that rare combination of inspiration, perspective and practical insight that forces his audience to really reflect on how they rise to their personal challenges and set goals that seem unachievable. He delivers his message in a deeply personal, humorous and memorable way that lands with his audience. It was a pleasure for all of us to spend time in his company. Inspiring."

Regional Director, Northern Europe, Google



"As Mark will tell you, there are two types of people, those who make it happen and those who make excuses. Thanks to his talk, I and all of us are now in the right camp of making things happen."

Vice President, regional equity strategy, Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong)

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“At the European Investment Bank we have a clear understanding of our mission to improve the state of EU countries through strategic investment. And, Mark joined us in Luxembourg to help our employees face the challenge of implementing that vision. His insights into resilience, innovation and collaboration were powerful, emotional and uplifting in equal measure – an excellent contribution to our event.”

Vice President at European Investment Bank



“Mark’s insight into resilience hit the perfect note for our Swiss Re Leadership Forum in Singapore. His delivery balanced both the darkness and lighter sides of his life experience. Critically, his messages resonated with our international leadership group, catalysing conversations about how we deal with challenges in our organisation.”

CEO and Regional President, Swiss Re, Asia



“Mark presented at our North American Leadership Conference in Chicago. It was attended by 200 of HSBC’s senior managers across Canada and the USA. Given the complexity of today’s financial services industry, Mark’s insight into the motivational challenges facing our management teams was accurate and his suggestions and ideas were equally relevant.”

CEO, HSBC North America



“When facing uncertain times, Mark displays an attitude and perspective that reminds us that we really are in charge of our own destiny. And, in hearing how he has overcome his own difficulties, he demonstrates the power that resides within all of us to make things happen.”

Tom Royds, Head of Asian Equity Sales, ABN AMRO

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Red Bull[®]

"Mark spoke at our all-staff sales conference in Austria. The impact was instant and the messages continue to affect our people. His delivery was awe-inspiring and truly humbling, which forced us all to take a step back and consider how we face challenges and make decisions. Empowering our teams to take action and avoid excuses is key to our success as a business and Mark's story demonstrates how to do that."

Managing Director, Red Bull UK



bhpbilliton

"Resilient thinking is something pertinent to everyone and Mark's insights aligned perfectly with our wellness approach. Mark has had a long lasting impact on our people throughout Asia and we look forward to engaging with him again."

Principal, Group Health, Safety and Environment, BHP Billiton



"We were delighted to welcome Mark as the keynote speaker at Avolon's inaugural Aviation School in Dublin. The international audience of aviation professionals were moved and inspired by Mark's story and by his compelling message to choose to be a competitor, a realist and a collaborator. His words have travelled home with our guests to enrich business and personal lives around the world."

Head of Strategy, Avolon



"During our Google team off-site, Mark was our keynote speaker. He combined messages of resilience, innovation and collaboration to prompt our team to reflect on how we deal with challenges, big and small. His delivery was powerful, emotional and uplifting in equal measure."

Director Sales, Google

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Mark joined us at our National Conference to share his insights into individual decision making in tough circumstances, and the importance of collaborative working. Using his own field of endeavour to bring the session to life, he prompted us to focus on the decisions we make when we face challenges, rather than the challenges themselves. It is this kind of thinking that led us to invite Mark to speak at our conference, where he delivered a very powerful speech that left a lasting impression."

Pfizer, UK Managing Director



"Mark spoke to 300 Microsoft employees at a global event for our recent graduate and MBA hires. Mark connected his story with our international audience of graduates challenging them to decide to be competitors, realists, and collaborators inside and outside work. His words deeply resonated with the people in the room and prompted all sorts of conversations through the rest of the day."

Global Program Manager, Early in Career Team, Microsoft



"Thanks for coming along to our National Sales Conference. To overcome the obstacles that you have in your life is amazing. Over many years I have heard motivational speakers who aim to inspire with words. Mark you inspire with as you say "The Facts not fiction". I have no doubt that you will overcome the issues that you are now faced with and achieve success in whatever road you decide to take. Your positive attitude, achievements and sense of normality when most people would have given up is something to behold."

Regional Sales Director, MetLife



"Mark tells his story in a way that is both profound and touching. He provides his audience with a real insight into his personal struggle to overcome his fears and achieve his business and sporting ambitions while dealing with becoming blind in his early 20s. He is living proof that if you have a positive outlook and are focused on your goals, you can do anything you want to."

BOI Global Markets

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" Mark spoke to a select group of our C-suite clients at our recent Temenos worldwide conference. Balancing the importance of being a competitor as well as a collaborator to achieve positive change in the world really resonated with our global audience. His delivery was entertaining and inspiring all at the same time – excellent!"

Chief Marketing Officer, Temenos



"Thank you for your inspiring words at our Sogeti Labs Thinkubator event. The group represented some of the best thought leaders at Sogeti, and therefore demand challenging contributions from all of our speakers. Your input was thought provoking and stimulating, and it set up the following 3 days perfectly."

Manager Corporate Social Responsibility Sogeti.



"Mark gave us one of the most jaw dropping and inspiring presentations we have ever had. No one took their eyes or ears off of him for the duration of his talk, it was simply fantastic. Mark's delivery was as interesting as it was relevant and he really was one of the hot topics at dinner during the evening – what a legend."

Chief Operating Officer, Primis Mortgage Network

Siegel+Gale

Simple is smart.

"Amazing! My team of business development and marketing colleagues simply could not stop talking about Mark's session during our annual strategy day at Siegel+Gale in New York. The talk set the tone for our meeting and set us up to achieve great outcomes in the year ahead and beyond."

Global CMO, Siegel+Gale

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"Mark opened our global launch meeting in Rome. His motivational speech on "Mindset" really captivated and helped to motivate the entire launch team! Mark's inspirational story about mindset and perseverance linked directly to the launch plans and his three themes (e.g. competitor vs. spectator, realist vs. optimist, and collaborator vs. soloist) made the talk very relevant to our journey ahead with the product launch."

Global Brand Leader, Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD)



"Explorers and adventurers of all kinds have spoken to our membership at the Royal Geographical Society in Hong Kong and Mark Pollock's story fitted right in with this. In addition though, in this humorous, eloquent and passionate talk, his message to be a competitor, realist and collaborator resonated with our international audience of members and guests."

Director, Royal Geographical Society, Hong Kong



"Mark presented at our National Sales Meeting in London. The audience are a tough and sometimes cynical group of sales people when it comes to outside speakers. The key messages of 'deal in facts', 'get a great team around you' and 'have the right attitude' really hit home in this difficult economic environment. The best thing about listening to Mark speak is that he is the embodiment of everything he speaks about. There is no better role model that I have seen in my 25 year career. I'm honoured to have met Mark and heard his story."

Regional Sales Director, Metlife Europe Ltd.



"Your talk in Bangkok was awesome! Even after a huge setback, you can still achieve your goals if you remain focused and determined. As you highlighted, in order to achieve your goals you need to make it happen rather than either talk about it or make excuses why it can't. That is what we are all trying to achieve now."

Merrill Lynch (Australia)

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"At our DAZN global marketing off-site in London, Mark was our closing keynote speaker. We tasked him to inspire our team to think differently and he delivered. Sharing his experiences of extreme challenges and what he decided to do about them, he inspired our team to challenge conventional wisdom and achieve more. Brilliant!"

CMO, DAZN



"During our recent away day in Belfast, Mark spoke to our team who had travelled from across the UK. He was truly inspiring, sharing insights into resilience and adaptability while showing how important it is to be both competitive and collaborative if you want to succeed - a powerful message for the challenges and constant changes we face in our business. The entire team were not only fully engaged on the day, but since Mark's talk, we have reflected on what he said and has undoubtedly shaped how we think about what we do at all levels of the team. Truly inspirational."

Business Development Director, ITV



"Wow, so powerful! Challenging us to think and behave like explorers during our New York off-site was spot on and overlapped perfectly with our focus on being open, brave, collaborative and curious. Thank you from the entire team at CSM LeadDog."

Chief Operating Officer, CSM LeadDog



Whenever we gather our demonstration team together, we seek to motivate and inspire them to each personally impact the business when they are back in the trade environment. We took the opportunity to bring Mark into the meeting to deliver a powerful message, that we hoped would resonate with the team throughout a key trading period. We certainly got the reaction we were looking for thanks to the compelling way in which Mark delivered such a personal experience, blending moments of real pain with great hope and at times humour, ensuring the team left the meeting with a renewed enthusiasm and belief to think differently and approach their challenges head on – Thank You Mark!"

National Sales Manager, Nestlé Nespresso UK&ROI

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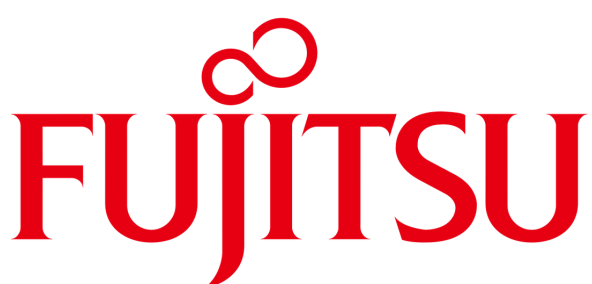
"Mark spoke at our first ever global managers meeting at Dr Martens in London. Mark's powerful talk around perseverance, teamwork and collaboration really resonated and mirrored our own brand values. Mark's delivery connected with our entire team and was continuously referred to over the whole event. We would absolutely recommend Mark as a truly inspirational individual who encouraged us all to re-frame our thinking and approach"

Change Communication and Culture Lead, Dr Martens



"Mark spoke to the whole Mars Ireland Business. Mark's personal humility, remarkable achievements and genuine honesty really touched and inspired many of the team, myself included. Whilst Mark may not be the most famous motivational speaker I would recommend him ahead of the usual celebrity list."

General Manager, Mars



"Mark's presentation helped animate our theme for the day 'Making it Happen'. The messages in the stories he shared were easy to understand and easy to translate into an individual's own outlook. It was an inspirational presentation which transported people into a reflective mood at how everyone's own actions can change the overall outcome."

CEO, Fujitsu Services



"The feedback from your talk has been fantastic. I know a number of sceptics who attended the talk have been raving about it ever since. People have asked me when your book is coming out as they would love to read it themselves and also pass it on to the many others they have spoken to about you. Since your session many people are beginning to make it happen in terms of their work and career goals in Canon - there really is a different atmosphere around the place."

Marketing Manager, Canon Ireland

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vodafone

"Your account of how you have overcome the loss of sight and continued to live your life and "make it happen" was humbling. But more than that, it was truly inspiring and invigorating as you challenged each one of us to reflect on and recognise how we choose to live our lives. You illustrated by personal example how we make decisions and that, by deciding what we want to change and what we want to see persist; we can find a powerful way through obstacles that originally might have seemed insurmountable. You also recounted your experiences with great style, honesty and humour. I can tell you that everyone who heard you has since spoken of you and been energised."

CEO, Vodafone



"Mark spoke to 300 Microsoft employees at a global event for our recent graduate and MBA hires. Mark connected his story with our international audience of graduates challenging them to decide to be competitors, realists, and collaborators inside and outside work. His words deeply resonated with the people in the room and prompted all sorts of conversations through the rest of the day."

Global Program Manager, Early in Career Team, Microsoft



"At our global sales development conference at LinkedIn, Mark spoke to our team from right around the world. Using his story as a backdrop, he connected his key messages to be competitors, realists and collaborators with our international audience of sales professionals. His challenging and uplifting words deeply resonated with the people in the room and helped us frame a positive conversation throughout the remainder of the conference."

Global Head of Sales Development, LinkedIn



"One of the great strengths of your message is that it does lead the listener to look at their situation and question their responses and to reflect on those attitudes. We may not control the environment and may not be responsible for the situation we find ourselves in, but we are responsible for our actions and responses. I guess one of the reasons why people got so much out of your talk was that it was aimed as much at helping them develop as people as it was helping them be better corporate employees. We sometimes forget that we hire whole people whose life outside of the office needs to be balanced (whatever that is), otherwise the output we get is not sufficient."

Managing Director, Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific Region)

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"Mark spoke at our Google Emerging Markets event. his message of resilience, leadership and collaboration really resonated with our dynamic, international team. And, his ability to balance both the darker and lighter sides of his life experiences prompted us to think about how we approach our challenges."

Director, EMEA Emerging Markets, Google



"We have had many guest speakers at our annual DJO Global sales conference over the years but no one made a lasting impact quite like Mark. The feedback from the team after his speech was incredible and unanimously positive. Mark's inspirational words had a huge impact on the team and helped them to put their own challenges into perspective. His message resonated throughout the remainder of the conference."

President, DJO Global



"Amazing, humbling experience, Mark held a room of over 400 people and you could not hear a pin drop – his messages on continuously reinventing yourself and using challenges to define your future was done in an engaging, perceptive, inquisitive and humorous way. His insights truly connected with the audience on so many levels and left them with one enduring quote "...sometimes you do not choose a challenge, it chooses you...". Mark is proof that it's one thing to read the theory but quite another to live it."

Board Member, Pharmaceuticals, Bayer P



"Mark's contribution was a perfect fit at our global conference at CDB Aviation. His experiences of creating multi-national teams aligned perfectly with our international audience. And, Mark's insights into innovation, collaboration and leadership informed many of the discussions across our teams from Europe, Asia and the US for the rest of the conference and continues to do so during our day to day work."

President and Chief Commercial Officer, CDB Aviation