

## **Understand What Your Network Can Do for YOU!**

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## 10 Ways to Get the Most Out of Your Network of Contacts



Not all networks are equal. And, not all of them will work to your advantage.

The most **profitable networks** are those made up of people who share **common business interests** and concerns.

To make your network work for you, you need to understand what each member does - and can do for *you*! Furthermore, your contacts must know and appreciate what services you can provide *them*.

Here are ten ways network members can help each other.

- **1. Exhibit brochures and marketing materials.** These types of materials can be displayed in a reception area or in an office break room. They may also be passed around appropriately at conferences, CLE lectures, and seminars.
- **2. Public endorsements and praises.** If you or another member in your network is promoting an event, give it a public endorsement around the firm, at meetings, or luncheons.
- 3. Nominate each other for recognitions and awards.

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- 4. Supply each other with leads and referrals.
- 5. Arrange a meeting on your behalf or vise-versa.
- 6. Make an introduction or initial contact with a potential client.
- 7. Sponsor a program you or a network member is hosting.
- 8. Print information about you or a network member in firm publications.
- 9. Invite each other to events, programs, and seminars.
- **10. Be a problem solver.** Successful networkers find ways to remind their network what problems they can fix and what services they provide.

Take a good look at your own network and see if it's the right fit for you. Ask yourself:

- Is it profitable?
- Do contacts think of you when they have a need for the services you provide?

Networks work for each member in the circle. It's a give and take. Just make sure that when you're giving, you're also getting something in return.

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