

Don't Flog A Dead Horse

The tribal wisdom of the Dakota Indians passed on from generation to generation says that when you discover that you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to dismount. Organisations and individuals that do not encompass change or live and lead with insight, continue to flog a dead horse rather than dismount.

Here are some of the 'Dead Horse' strategies they adopt:

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- Buy a stronger whip
- Change riders
- Threaten the horse with termination
- Appoint a committee to study the horse
- Arrange to visit other countries to see how they ride dead horses
- Lower the standard so that the dead horse can be included

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- Re-classify the dead horse as "living but impaired"
- Harness several dead horses together to increase the speed
- Provide additional funding/or training to increase the dead horse's performance
- Conduct a productivity study to see if lighter riders would improve the dead horse's performance

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- Declare that because the dead horse does not have to be fed, it is less costly, carries lower overheads and therefore contributes more substantially to the bottom line of the organisation than the horses that are alive.
- Promote the dead horse to a management position