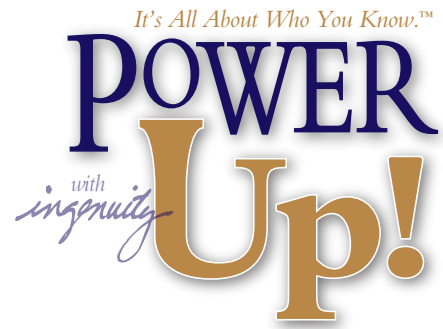


Best Mentors & Why



Mentoring or being mentored is one of the most sophisticated ways to network in your field. Mentors can gain an emotional stake in their mentees and help them move along in their careers. They can open doors and make critical suggestions.

Mentors who are open to their mentees can learn about new technology or innovations in their field, how to retain newer professionals, and can benefit from the younger person's network. Below are some responses from the November 2006 Power Up attendees on who their mentors are and why:

"I have several and they are good in various ways. The common element is the patience they have to share the experience and knowledge they have gained over the years."

"My best mentor was a senior analyst when I first got into banking. He taught me to look at the big picture without losing focus on the details."

"My father is my best mentor. He is the model of integrity."

"A more senior associate because he is a good listener and gave honest and practical advice."

"I have realized through my mentor – a VP of sales at Thomson West – that patience and hard work are the main facets to success. He taught me that my attitude will be a direct result of future success, or failure. My vision and attitude will create my destiny."

"A senior partner in my firm who pushes me to be a better lawyer by asking the tough questions."

"My team lead. She doesn't take shortcuts and is extremely engaged and well-respected with her customer base and peers. At the same time she takes the time for basics and to have fun. She has helped me become a more critical thinker and look out for the customer while protecting the banks' interest as well."

"My former boss. He taught me to take risks and make good business decisions. To be passionate about what I do, but not be married to it!"

"My best mentors have been all the voices I've heard on tape while driving in my car. Over the years, they have helped me formulate my goals, kept my motivation high, and provided numerous strategies for improvement."

"My boss – he takes the time to focus on my career and is willing to help in any aspect to help me further my career."