

# Odyssey

## International Odyssey Program – 2010 Fancourt, George in South Africa



### What is The Odyssey Program?

The Odyssey Program is a 5-day program where participants get the opportunity to apply the powerful insights and thinking processes of Theory of Constraints (TOC) to their own life journey – your own Odyssey. The program is open to everyone wanting to invest time to discover what really blocks them to set and achieve ambitious goals or make important decisions and how to practically challenge assumptions or overcome obstacles that hold us back.

This program is aimed at helping attendees develop and apply critical thinking skills to discover the cause-effect patterns, generic conflicts and assumptions that limit success in the various aspects of their life (e.g. wealth, health and happiness) and discover how to practically break these conflicts in ways that do not have any major negatives and or major implementation obstacles. Attendees can apply these TOC Thinking processes to any personal subject or circumstance. (e.g. what to do with the rest of my life, how to live a full life, how to make an important decision)

The International Odyssey event is held every year in a different country to provide attendees from all over the globe to attend this event. This International Odyssey event will be held this year in South Africa at the beautiful Fancourt and includes both the 5-day Freshman program, presented by Dr Alan Barnard for 1<sup>st</sup> time attendees as well as the 3-day Alumni program presented by Dr Eli Goldratt.

## Dear Odyssey Alumni and potential Odyssey Freshman attendees,

It's Odyssey time again. Find your sponsors, book it in your diaries and fasten your seat belts.

### Here are some quotes from past Odyssey attendees:

*"I really had the time of my life at the Odyssey. Didn't think that you could have fun, learn powerful techniques to remove conflicts and constraints and apply what you've learned all at the same time and in just 5 days. You really helped me realize how much potential I have and what is possible; if I simply follow the plan I developed. Can't wait to return next year as an Alumnus to continue my Odyssey journey, Thanks again for everything"*

*"Odyssey definitely impacted my life forever. It has changed my way of thinking in such a positive way. I would highly recommend Odyssey and look forward to coming back."*

*"I spoke to my daughter today. She said you guys were "an inspiration" for her, funny, approachable, fun. She said she had such a great week, and I am so glad she was able to learn from you and with you"*

*"Let's see what I learned at the Odyssey 2005 course? I learned how to solve my problems while aligning emotion and logic - how to step back from the conflict and find ways to solve it in a way that there are no winner-loser solutions, only win-win answers..."*

The feedback from the Odyssey 2009 program, like those from previous years was again really inspiring. Everyone that attended said it was a life changing experience. Attendees not only learned how to apply TOC to their own life, but will also meet new friends from around the world - realizing that the world really is "flat" after all – that is, we all experience similar life challenges – no matter where we are from or how far down the journey of life we are.

So let the next journey begin ...

For 2010, our guest speaker will again be Dr Eli Goldratt, who has donated 3 1/2 days of his valuable time. Dr Goldratt will spend a ½ day with the Freshman and 3 days with the Alumni, during which he typically challenges *the Alumni Group to do something they previously considered impossible*. This will definitely be an experience – one of the world's most forward thinkers will be stretching our minds and imaginations.

### The Evolution of the Odyssey Program

Dr Eli Goldratt initiated the Odyssey program 15 years ago in a quest to teach critical thinking skills to young adults (originally targeted at children of TOC practitioners) at this important stage in their life. Dr Eli Goldratt is the developer of the Theory of Constraints (TOC), an educator, author, physicist, philosopher, philanthropist, and business leader. But he is, first and foremost, a thinker who provokes others to think.

Over the past three decades, the TOC applications and thinking processes have been successfully applied by thousands of organizations around the globe from within both the private and public sector. The Odyssey Program provided an opportunity to these same powerful insights, applications and thinking processes of TOC to your personal life. For those interested to learn how widely TOC has been applied, just do a search on the World Wide Web on "Theory of Constraints" or "Goldratt" and your specific interest - you will be surprised by the diversity and number of applications and articles TOC is referenced in.

The Odyssey Program was re-introduced and upgraded in 2005 under the leadership of Dr Alan Barnard following requests by Dr Eli Goldratt and especially past Odyssey Alumni as a way to provide an opportunity to everyone that believe they can benefit from the application of TOC to their personal lives.

The new Odyssey Program includes the latest developments within the TOC body of knowledge and takes participants through a step-by-step process using the latest Thinking Process Tools to help participants set ambitious life goals and/or finding practical common-sense solutions to overcome conflicts and constraints blocking them from achieving their own goals. The Odyssey program further provides the opportunity to meet people from around the world and be exposed to different cultures and ways of thinking, helping you review your life and provide a new perspective on your choices. Alumni friendships from around the world have proven to remain long after the Odyssey Program is concluded.

## **International Odyssey 2010 Event**

The International Odyssey 2010 event consists of two programs and is hosted every year in a different country to provide the opportunity to participants from all over the globe to attend:

### **The Freshmen Group**

A five-day program for first time participants facilitated by Dr Alan Barnard and Michael Demere supported by trained Odyssey assistants that guide participants through a journey of applying the TOC principles and thinking processes to their own life. (See program outline on next page)

### **The Alumni Group**

A three-day program for past attendees of Odyssey Freshman programs (including the 2010 program) facilitated by Dr. Eli Goldratt where Dr Goldratt guides participants through a journey of applying TOC critical thinking skills that a significant challenge that affect both our personal and professional lives such as "How to find and understand the essence of a subject?", "How to identify and overcome the distractions that block us from really focusing on what is important and urgent?" etc.

## **2010 International Odyssey Venue:**

### **FANCOURT in South Africa**

Fancourt, a stunning 5-Star Hotel, Conference and Golfing estate is situated just outside the beautiful town of George in the Western Cape.

### **Dates:**

**Freshman Program: July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2010** (arrive July 28 before 5 pm, depart August 2<sup>nd</sup> after 5 pm)

**Alumni Program: August 3<sup>rd</sup> – August 5<sup>th</sup> , 2010** (arrive August 2<sup>nd</sup> before 2 pm, depart August 5<sup>th</sup> after 4 pm)

## **Early Bird Attendance Fees (Valid until 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010):**

### **Freshman Program:**

**\$850 for Young Adults, \$1,100 for Spouses, Academics & TOC FE Teachers and \$1,250 for Professionals**

*This fee includes 5 nights accommodation in 5-Star accommodation on a per person sharing basis, all meals and program materials. Non-Sharing pricing is available on Request.*

### **Alumni Program:**

**\$550 for Young Adults, \$650 for Spouses, Academics & TOC FE Teachers and \$750 for Professionals**

*This fee includes 3 nights accommodation in 5-Star accommodation on a per person sharing basis, all meals and program materials. Non-sharing pricing is available on request.*

Please visit [www.theodysseyprogram.org](http://www.theodysseyprogram.org) to register or email [alan@goldratt.co.za](mailto:alan@goldratt.co.za) for more information.

When registering, remember to indicate your Group: Freshmen and/or Alumni.

Space and accommodation is limited to 100 attendees, so register ASAP to avoid disappointment

We look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Kind Regards

Dr. Alan Barnard and Michael Demere (Odyssey Facilitators)

# International Odyssey Freshman Program Outline

## **Day 1 AM: Introduction to TOC Fundamentals & Thinking Processes Roadmap**

- Your Expectations from the Odyssey Program
- Specific Program Objectives and Thinking Process Roadmap
- Review of the Fundamental principles and processes of Theory of Constraints
  - Traditional (Limiting) vs. Systems Approach (Enabling) Mindsets that help us deal with Constraints, Complexity, Conflicts, Uncertainty and Bad Choices by others (without blame)
  - The Five Focusing Steps of Theory of Constraints as applied to organizations and individuals
  - The New Simplified Thinking Processes Roadmap which follow the five questions related to making any change or decision within our lives.
    - Why change?
    - What to Change?
    - What to Change to?
    - How to cause the change?
    - How to measure/validate the impact of the change and achieve ongoing improvement.

## **Day 1 PM: Why Change?**

Defining your subject matter (i.e. which aspect or aspects of your life do you want to improve on or which critical decision need to be made) and learning to apply the Ambitious Target, GAP and Undesirable Effect thinking processes to answer "Why Change?" for your situation / chosen subject matter.

## **Day 2: What to Change?**

Learning to use the Conflict Cloud thinking process to answer "What to Change" by verbalize the Undesirable Effects as unresolved conflicts and to find your "Core Conflict" that if removed, will eliminate most if not all of your UDEs.

## **Day 3: What to Change?**

Learning to use the 4 methods for breaking unresolved conflict clouds to identify necessary changes in your assumptions and mindsets (injections) that can replace limiting assumptions/mindsets that is blocking you from achieving more goal units

## **Day 4: How to Cause the Change?**

Learning to use the Negative Branches and IO Map process to turn your injections into a robust solution that have no significant negatives for you or any stakeholders and which incorporates specific steps to overcome implementation obstacles.

## **Day 5: How to Measure the impact of your proposed Change and achieve Ongoing Improvement?**

Learning to use the TOC way of measurements and five focusing steps to monitor your implementation progress, overcome execution problems and identifying how you will achieve ongoing improvement in your life.