Dave Blakely

IDEO   Senior Director

Dave Blakely is a Senior Director based in IDEO's Palo Alto
office. He leads Technology Strategy at IDEO, which explores
links between emerging technologies, business opportunities
and customer needs. Dave implements the methods and tools
of Technology Strategy through his management of strategic
business relationships with several of IDEO's
technology-focused clients. He also advises executives at a
number of different technology companies, serves on advisory
boards for business and academia, conducts innovation workshops, and speaks frequently to
academic and business groups. Dave is proud to serve on the UC Berkeley Engineering Advisory
Board, helping his alma mater to adjust the engineering curriculum to the needs of a rapidly
changing global economy. He is also a faculty advisor to Singularity University, a new academic
institution that understands and facilitates development of exponentially advancing technology to
address broad challenges to humanity.

Much of Dave's advisory work involves helping technology-focused companies to foster advance
their cultures of innovation, and to develop products and services to maintain market leadership.
Dave helps global companies understand how attributes of Silicon Valley culture can transcend
political borders and organizational charts. Recent clients for this advisory work on innovation
range from Silicon Valley leaders to senior advisory councils at NASA. Of particular value for
many of these clients is Dave's knowledge of emerging technology developments from Silicon
Valley startups.

Prior to his current position at IDEO, Dave built and led a successful business unit of IDEO called
"Smart Products" which focused exclusively on electromechanical systems with embedded
controls. Dave and his 35-person team provided the market with full-service design and
development of embedded systems by assembling an interdisciplinary staff of human-factors
experts, interaction designers, and electrical, mechanical and firmware engineers, Working with
his team, Dave helped visualize the future of computing for Microsoft, created streaming media
players for Philips, adapted new technologies into the workplace for Steelcase, designed a new
surgical device for Gyrus ENT, and created a new category of appliance controls for Whirlpool.
Dave holds six patents.

Before joining IDEO in 1988, Dave worked at Kevex corporation developing electron
spectrometers for surface analysis. The robotic arms he developed for this system are still in use at
numerous research labs.

He received a BS in Engineering Physics with honors and an MS in Mechanical Engineering with
a controls specialization with honors, both from the University of California at Berkeley.