



## Brian Szepekouski

Associate Consultant

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Brian Szepekouski is a leading authority on cross-cultural communications, international executive development, and strategic planning for global business expansion. Capitalizing on his extensive global experience, he provides coaching to global team leaders as well as executives facing the challenges of understanding and working effectively in a new culture. Brian has a true passion for inspiring individuals and organizations to manage, leverage and profit from the changes associated with various business cycles. As a group facilitator and keynote speaker, numerous corporations have benefitted from his cultural insights, humor and engaging style.

Brian has an M.A. in International Education and Human Resource Development from George Washington University and a B.A. in Foreign Languages (German, Japanese and Spanish) from the University of Redlands (CA). He completed intensive courses in languages and linguistics at the Monterey Institute of International Studies and the University of North Dakota. As a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar in Japan, he conducted research in comparative education at Tokyo University. Upon returning to the U.S., he served as a bilingual associate for Europe Assistance, a Paris-based firm, during its start-up phase in the U.S.

Brian worked for Daido-Hoxan, Inc., a Japanese multinational whose core business is industrial and medical gases. While at DHI, he served as the public relations manager and later as the chief representative of the New York Office which he established for the company. Brian's work included assisting with the formation of joint ventures and intercultural negotiations related to product modification. He is fluent in Japanese and has published articles (both in English and Japanese) about managing cultural differences and global perspectives on society and business.

With LIW, Brian facilitates a four-day global leadership program at locations in the US and Japan and leads the cultural adaptation of the program for Japan.

Brian's professional background also includes serving as the deputy director of public affairs at the Japan Society in New York and as the director of international public relations for Tiffany & Co. Besides Japan, Mr. Szepekouski has lived in Mexico and various parts of the U.S. He currently resides in Bernardsville, New Jersey with his wife and son, while his daughter attends college in Rhode Island. His interests include world travel, swimming, collecting gemstones, and calligraphy. He is a former board member of the Japan-American Student Conference (Washington, D.C.) and Society for International Education, Training and Research USA. He is a recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow Award of Rotary International and serves as a board member of his local Rotary Club.

### Mini Bio

- Leading authority on cross-cultural communications, international executive development, and strategic planning for global business expansion.

### Qualifications

- George Washington University, Master of Arts (M.A.), International Education and Human Resource Development, 1982 - 1985
- University of Redlands, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics