

# ON THE BLOG

## The Big Unknown

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I wanted to post a blog to share a few of my thoughts as I transition from public service, having served in the Military and policing for 27 years, to the private sector. These are my personal experiences and thoughts that I am offering to share with others.

### Culture Issues

The “don’t get too full of yourself” culture remains in use within policing. Arrogance and smugness are soon challenged, so one steps carefully. Understanding is helped by ‘job’ speak – we often understand and characterise who people are by their roles, rank and history. However, in the private sector, you need to be able to clearly state the value you bring; otherwise, how will anyone know how good you are?

### Understanding your value

You must first understand the value you bring and demonstrate to potential employers the value you can add to their business. You should take the step to reach out rather than wait for someone to notice you and snap you up for a job opportunity.

Networking is a horrifying concept for many police officers. When you leave policing, there will be a time of transition, a time when you may feel isolated and miss the better parts of policing. However, you are not alone. You just need to take a breath, be confident, and start connecting to build your new career in the private sector. Moving forward takes many different forms and presents its own challenges. One is to ensure that your CV is of the highest standard. Another is to learn how to use networking social media like LinkedIn, be open-minded, and narrow down job areas that interest you. Don’t necessarily jump at the first opportunity that presents itself if you can take your time; make sure you are going into something that genuinely meets your desires and requirements when possible.

### My Top 5 Tips

1. Don’t wait to start preparing. Create your own network; you will need it to find your next opportunity.
2. Get your CV updated and tweak it to show the necessary skills you possess for the potential job opportunity you wish to pursue.
3. Think laterally about your job experience and skill sets that correlate with your career interests. Be confident and believe in yourself.
4. If you are struggling about what to do next, try to understand a little bit more about yourself, what makes you tick, and what drives you.
5. Most importantly, take notice of anxiety and stress. Don’t bottle up your emotions.

My experience so far in these first few months has been nerve-racking but exciting. Being offered the privileged opportunity to work at such an ingenious and forward-thinking company like Ubique has made my transition much more contented. I consider myself lucky in that regard. Obviously, the support from my amazing wife and two children has been instrumental, too.

I wish all those who are due to make the transition from the public service to the private sector the very best of luck.