



***“When you can’t see  
the wood for the trees.”***

***– John Heywood***

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EMPOWERING PEOPLE PERFORMANCE

'Can't see the wood for the trees' is a timeless proverbial saying which first appeared in 1546 (John Heywood's Glossary).

I have always loved it because it's a simple reminder to become aware of where my focus is. And of course where it is not.

The Cambridge dictionary's definition of this well known proverbial saying is; 'to be unable to understand a situation clearly because you are too involved in it'

In Leadership and for optimal team performance it's a constant dance between the bigger picture and the finer details.

However, it's not linear, an either-or.

The journey from the bigger picture to the finer detail reveals a myriad of perspectives which require attention, strategy and course correction.

It reminds me of diving out of a plane, from 15,000ft it is a flat landscape, as the landscape below changes so does perspective and what is required to land safely.

What have you been involved in this week?

Diving deep in your expertise, in the detail? Or high in the trees of the bigger picture?

What did you notice or miss in the transition from big picture to detail?

*Pollyanna*