

# Who was Dr. W. Edwards Deming & Why Should We Care?

Dr. Deming was a world renowned expert and pioneer in quality management. He revealed blind spots in modern management practices, while exploring better ways to manage. He guided leaders to shift organizations in a new direction by focusing on the quality of management, the overall quality of the organization.

*“Deming is best known for his work in Japan from the early 1950s, where he taught top managers and engineers the methods for management of quality. As a trusted consultant, Deming significantly contributed to the dramatic turnaround of post-war Japanese industry, and their rise to a world economic power. Dr. Deming’s role as the architect of Japan’s post-World War II industrial transformation is regarded by many Western business schools and economists as one of the most significant achievements of the 20th Century.”* (LA Times, Oct. 25, 1999)

- 1940 - Committee to create standard for *application of statistical methods to the quality control of materials and manufactured products* (ASA Z1.1 & Z1.2)
- 1942 - First of 23 eight day courses titled ‘Application of Statistics to Industry’ for U.S. War Department
- 1951 - Union of Japanese Scientists and Engineers established the Deming Prize (on the right)
- 1960 - the Emperor of Japan awarded Deming the Second Order Medal of the Sacred Treasure
- 1980 - Deming’s lectures became a major impetus for what became known as the **quality movement in corporate America**
- 1987 - President Reagan awarded him the National Medal of Technology
- 1988 - National Academy of Sciences gave him the Distinguished Career in Science award



He was just beginning to win widespread recognition in the U.S. at the time of his death in 1993.



### History's Hidden Turning Points

- 1) Apostle Paul
- 2) Bubonic Plague
- 3) Who Didn't Discover America
- 4) Napoleon Bonaparte
- 5) Japan's rejection of Firearms
- 6) Huck Finn
- 7) China Syndrome
- 8) Decline and Fall of Chastity
- 9) The Man Who Gave Japan The Business