

David Marquet

Expert on leadership and organizational design, former submarine commander, Author of Amazon #1 Best Seller: *Turn the Ship Around!* and *Turn Your Ship Around*.

David Marquet imagines a work place where everyone engages and contributes their full intellectual capacity, a place where people are healthier and happier because they have more control over their work—a place where everyone is a leader.

A 1981 U.S. Naval Academy graduate, Captain Marquet served in the U.S. submarine force for 28 years. After being assigned to command the nuclear powered submarine USS Santa Fe—then ranked last in retention and operational standing—he realized the traditional leadership approach of “take control, give orders,” wouldn’t work. He “turned the ship around” by treating the crew as leaders, not followers, and giving control, not taking control. This approach took the Santa Fe from “worst to first,” achieving the highest retention and operational standings in the navy.



After Captain Marquet’s departure, the Santa Fe continued to win awards and promoted a disproportionate number of officers and enlisted men to leadership positions, including ten subsequent submarine captains. Stephen R. Covey said it was the most empowering organization he’d ever seen and wrote about Captain Marquet’s leadership practices in his book, *The 8th Habit*.

Captain Marquet is the author of *Turn the Ship Around! A True Story of Turning Followers Into Leaders*. *Fortune* magazine named it the #1 must-read business book of the year, and *USA Today* listed it as one of the top 12 business books of all time. He is also the author of *Turn Your Ship Around, A workbook for implementing Intent-Based Leadership*.

Captain Marquet retired from the Navy in 2009, and now speaks to audiences around the globe who want to create empowering work environments that release the passion, initiative, and intellect of each person. This bold and highly effective framework is summarized as “give control, create leaders.”

He is a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and in 2015 was named to the American Management Association’s “Leaders to Watch” list.

Selected Articles:

Fast Company: [A Submarine Captain on the Power of Language](#).

99U: [Why Motivating Others Starts with Using the Right Language](#)

Shanghai American Chamber of Commerce: [Take Control by Giving Control](#)

INC: [How to Inspire Greatness: Stop Leading](#)

Selected Videos:

[What is Leadership?](#)

[Creating Leaders](#)

[Simon Sinek | How to be a Great Leader with Lessons from David Marquet](#)

[Speakers Spotlight: Expert on Leadership and Innovation | Author, Retired US Navy Captain](#)