

COMMUNICATION

by Mike Harris

I warrant that every creature on this planet is born with a built in communication system. As long as it works it continues to exist. When the communication system stops working, it dies and becomes extinct.

There are really only three distinct parts to communication: automatic response, learned response, and understanding. Also there are only two ways of communicating, technical and emotional, and without the third ingredient, UNDERSTANDING, there is no communicating.

Earliest humans communicated with gestures and sounds, with the advent of fire, long distance communicating came into being, signal fires and smoke talk. As humans progressed, written and picture communication was the next logical step. Move on some hundred or thousand centuries and *voila!* Radio, telephone, TV, Hi-Fi, etc.

Communication still cannot work if one main ingredient is missing, that is understanding.

The human need to dominate our planet, and all on it, has led to tremendous technical advances, from hunters and gatherers to our present day of a planned economy, one so planned that it has in essence become restrictive.

Our mantra has evolved into one word: "TRADE". Exploration in all fields is fueled by trade. A new product, a new market, a new improved mechanic is easing the business of trade. Credit cards, internet, you name it, it all comes down to TRADE, and without "understanding" there can be no communication, or "trade."

Sorry if I seem to have reduced this subject to what, in my opinion, is a simplification, but I cannot become verbose when extra words would only complicate the subject.

Whether it is technology or emotion, the main partner is understanding. "IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO."