

Paradigms – How they can blind us

In my book, *How to Fix a Factory*, I discuss how paradigms can blind us from seeing something that is directly in front of our eyes. I used an optical illusion to illustrate the point. In the picture below, squares 1 and 2 are the same color, but our brains can't see it. The image violates our paradigms about shadows and the alternating colors of a checker board.

I put this on the website so that skeptics can prove it for themselves. You can take the image below and paste it into Photoshop. Use the eye dropper, and you'll see that squares 1 and 2 are both RGB of 129,130,133. If you are like me, knowing they are the same does not help me "see" that they are the same.

We all have paradigms, and they are very valuable at helping us reach quick conclusions, but they can also blind us. The only way to break through a blinding paradigm is to work with someone who has a different paradigm...a different perspective. They can help you see the same situation in a different light.

