

BASSETT & PARTNERS

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Dr. Gordon sucks up Harvester Ants in the Arizona desert.

The Inspiration Series: Swarm Intelligence

Bassett & Partners' Inspiration Series is designed to do just that: inspire.

In our third piece, Stanford Professor Deborah Gordon discusses how monitoring ant behavior has yielded clues into the nature of swarm intelligence.

Dr. Gordon has studied seed-eating ant colonies in the southwestern United States for 25 years, isolating how ants allocate tasks without a centralized system of control.

Chaotic and precise, ants exist in an anamorphic unity, perpetually engaged in a system of activity without the need for hierarchical authority structures.

Dr. Gordon's research inspires us to think outside our "hierarchical tendencies," and to explore the practical applications of a new logical apparatus rooted in the increasing power and intriguing concept of swarm intelligence.

(For those interested in reading further on the practical

applications of swarm intelligence, here is an article published by Dr. Gordon: http://www.stanford.edu/~dmgordon/Gordon2007_Nature_Essay.pdf

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