

# Process Invention

**Howard Smith**

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CTO, Office of Innovation, Computer Sciences Corporation  
Co-Founder BPMI.org, Founder SouthbeachInc.com



BPM and Innovation, Shared Insights, Boston, Nov 2006

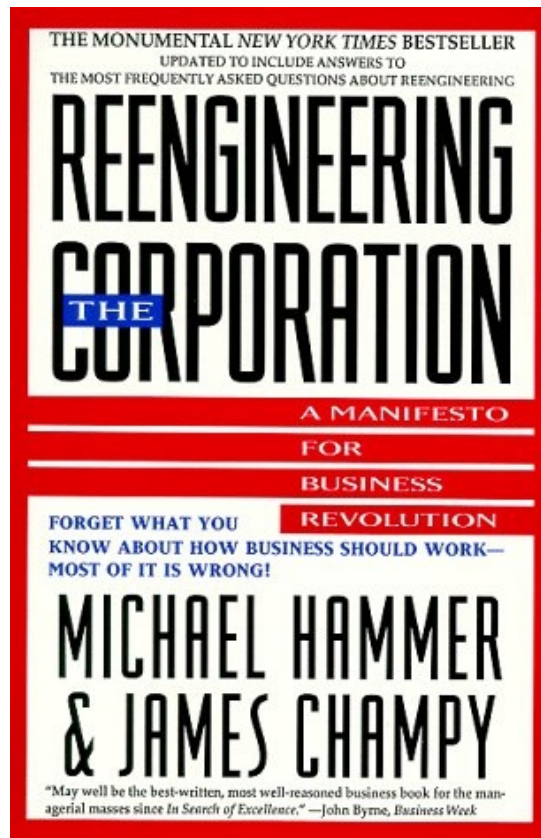


EXPERIENCE. RESULTS.

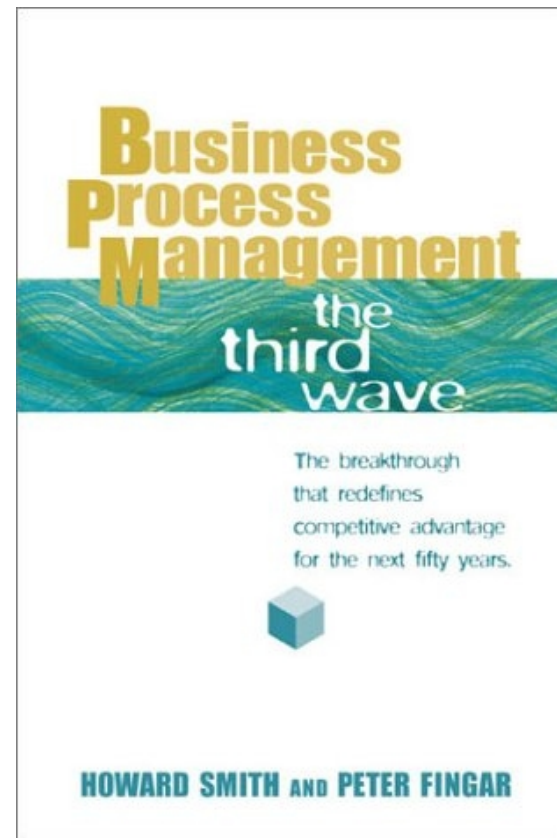


EXPERIENCE. RESULTS.

## A bit of history - process thinking at CSC

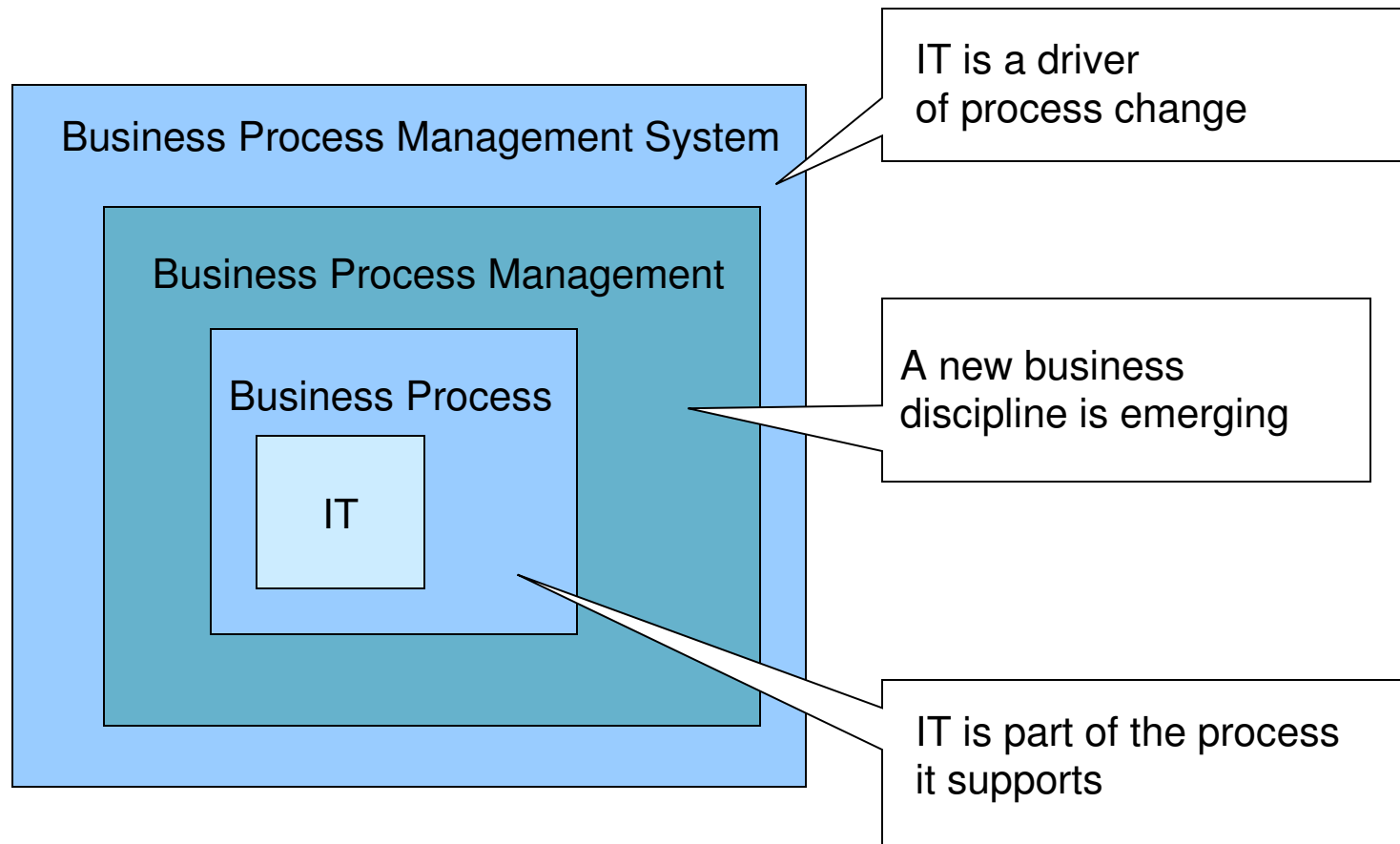


1993



2003

# Business processes include information technology



# It works! Case studies and commentary

		<p>A CSC White Paper September 2005</p>
		<p>From CIO to CPO via BPM</p>
<p>THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENTERPRISE AUTOMATION</p>		
<p>CSC.COM CONSULTING SYSTEMS INTEGRATION OUTSOURCING</p>		<p>EXPERIENCE. RESULTS.</p>

## From CIO to CPO via BPM:

### *The Next Generation of Enterprise Automation*

<http://www.csc.com/features/2005/51.shtml>





# The case studies

Level of ambition



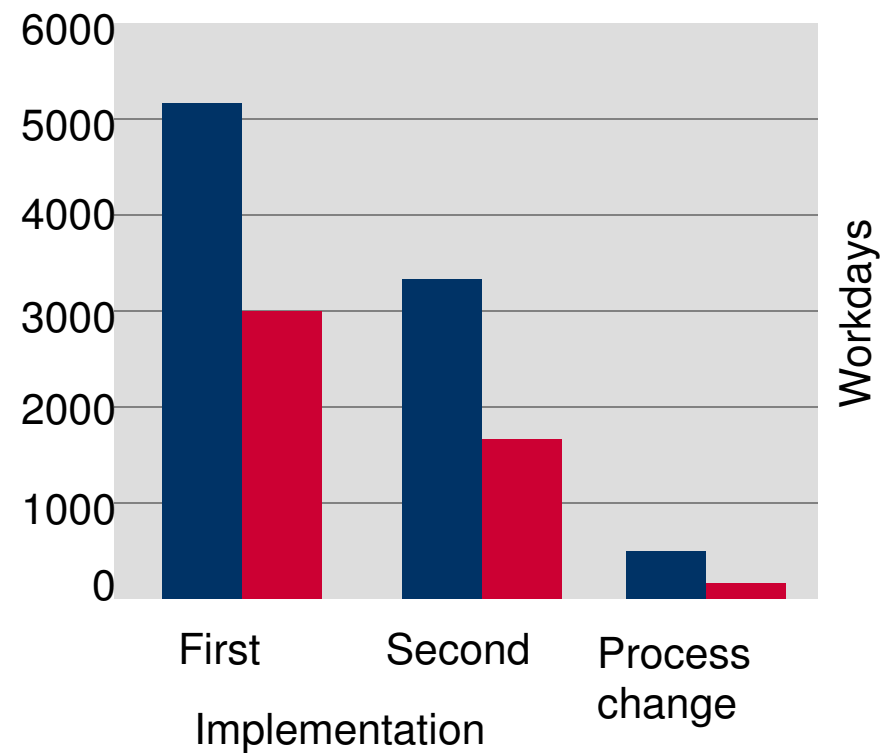
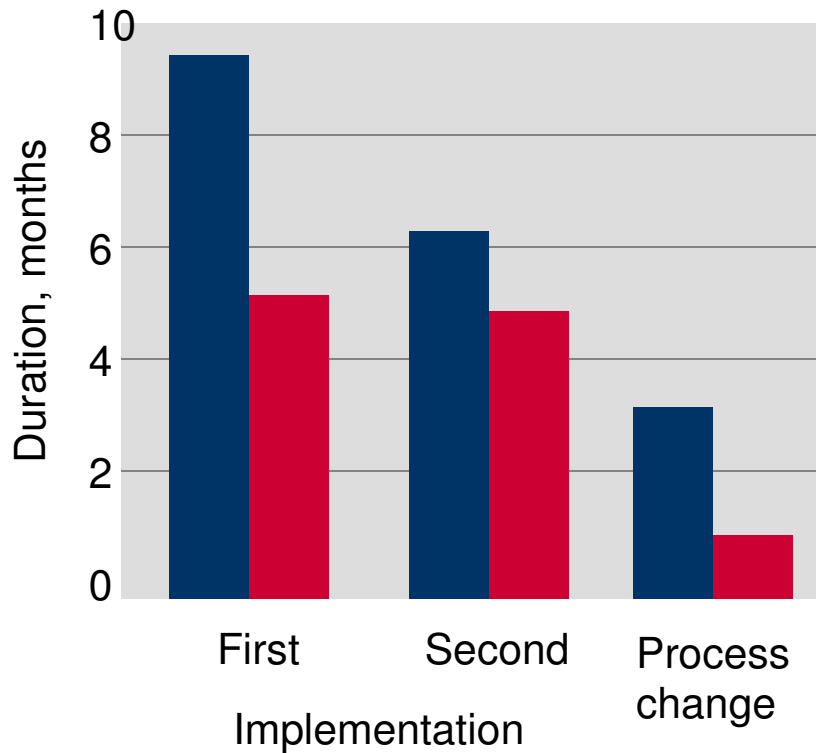
Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ New product development</li><li>▪ Service innovations</li><li>▪ Flexibility/agility</li><li>▪ Mass-customization</li><li>▪ Profit retention strategies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Enabling innovation process</li><li>▪ Coping with complexity</li><li>▪ Coping with growth</li><li>▪ Scaling up operations</li><li>▪ Entry to new markets</li></ul>
Productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Productive knowledge work</li><li>▪ Productive clerical work</li><li>▪ Economies of scale</li><li>▪ Cycle time reduction</li><li>▪ Enabling self-service</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Employee satisfaction</li><li>▪ Tighter coordination</li><li>▪ Tracking important events</li><li>▪ Coping with workload</li><li>▪ Just-in-time strategies</li></ul>
Lean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Increased efficiency</li><li>▪ Reduced resource utilization</li><li>▪ Lower costs</li><li>▪ Reduction of waste</li><li>▪ Integration/migration</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Managing unpredictable work</li><li>▪ Eradication of duplication</li><li>▪ Automation of manual tasks</li><li>▪ Reconciliation</li><li>▪ Consolidation</li></ul>
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Increased reliability</li><li>▪ Greater compliance</li><li>▪ Reduction of exceptions</li><li>▪ Fewer errors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Greater discipline</li><li>▪ Consistency</li><li>▪ Transparency</li><li>▪ Assurance/security</li></ul>



## Fortune 50 Oil Industry case study

- History of acquisition and standardization
- Aging and fragmented architecture
- Preventing process change and customer oriented process design
- > 400 SAP instances
- Majority pre SAP R/3
- Heavily customized in all but a few cases
- Need to upgrade to SAP R/3
- Need to significantly reduce number of instances
- Need to maintain/extend existing processes
- Need to create new processes
- Need to create new end to end processes
- Need to preserve existing customizations and localizations
- Need to support customization and localization without proliferation
- Need to avoid disruption and risk
- Need to build in compliance, visibility control and accountability

# Impact of BPMS - Fortune 50 Case in Oil Industry

## Customer data



 Traditional approach  
 BPMS approach

Second: Builds on generic base applying localization  
 Process change: Global template across multiple locals

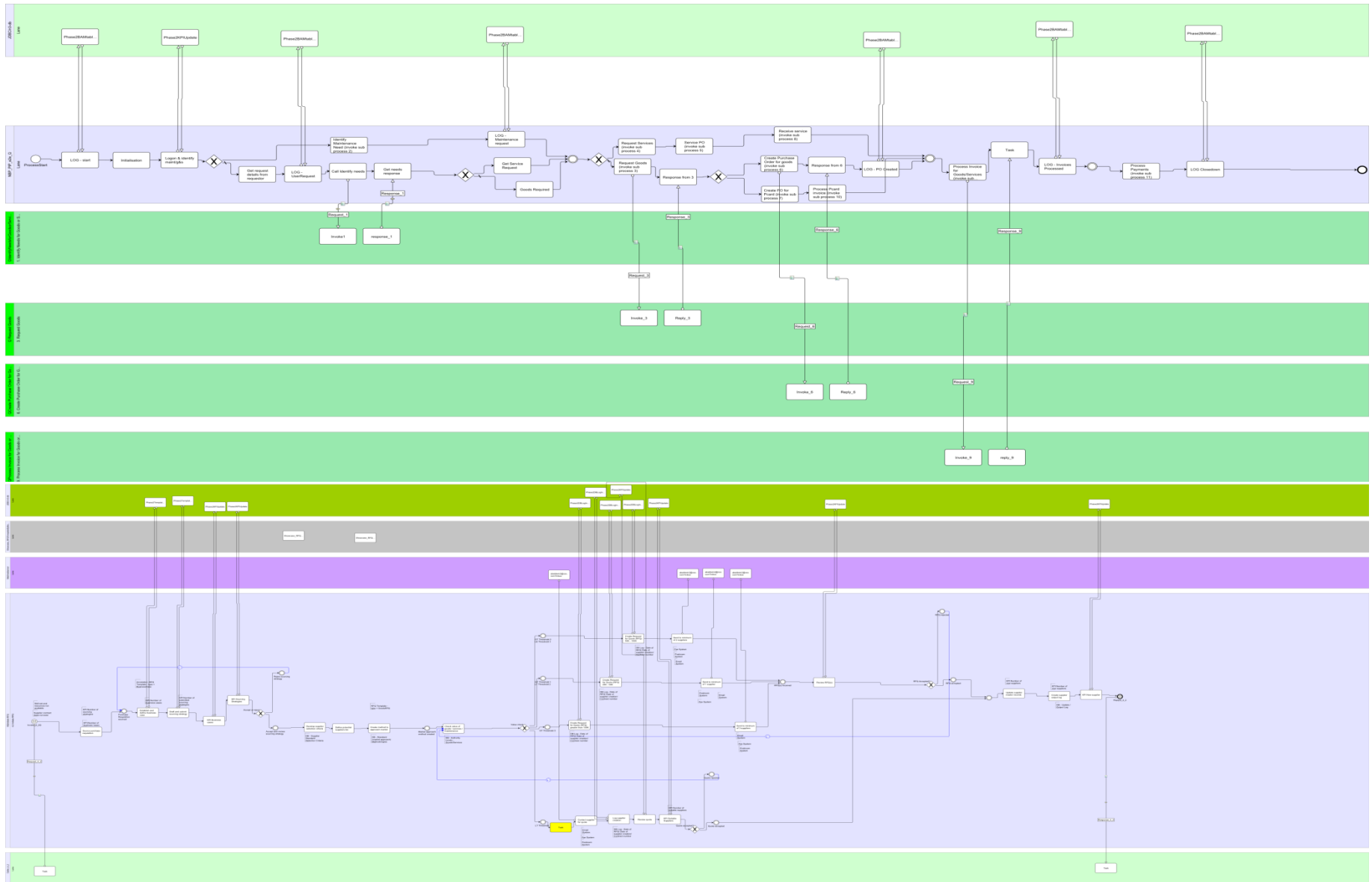
## Financial and qualitative benefits

- Reductions in hardware and software costs
  - Reduced license and maintenance costs, upgrade expenses, interface development costs, third party support costs
- Simplification or application landscape
  - Controlled rationalization of complex application portfolio worldwide, reduced resource requirements for applications maintenance
- Agile process deployments
  - Reduced deployment timelines and costs, standardised process oriented utility on which to deploy “Process Fitness”, simplified process changes
- Business effectiveness
  - Reductions in business interruption, acquisition/divestment costs, transaction costs, improved process and asset reuse, economies of scale
- Business-focussed benefits
  - End to end Process Management
  - Regulatory Compliance
  - Improved Customer Satisfaction/Response Time
  - Automation of administrative tasks
  - Competitive advantage through better market responsiveness
  - Business alignment
  - Acquisition and divestment flexibility
  - Group leverage
  - Culture shift/continuous improvement – process centric thinking
- IT-focussed benefits
  - Managing complexity
  - Localized process variations projected from SAP
  - Standardization where required
  - Controlled instance retirement
  - Isolation and improved replacement of aging assets
  - Open standards/interoperability

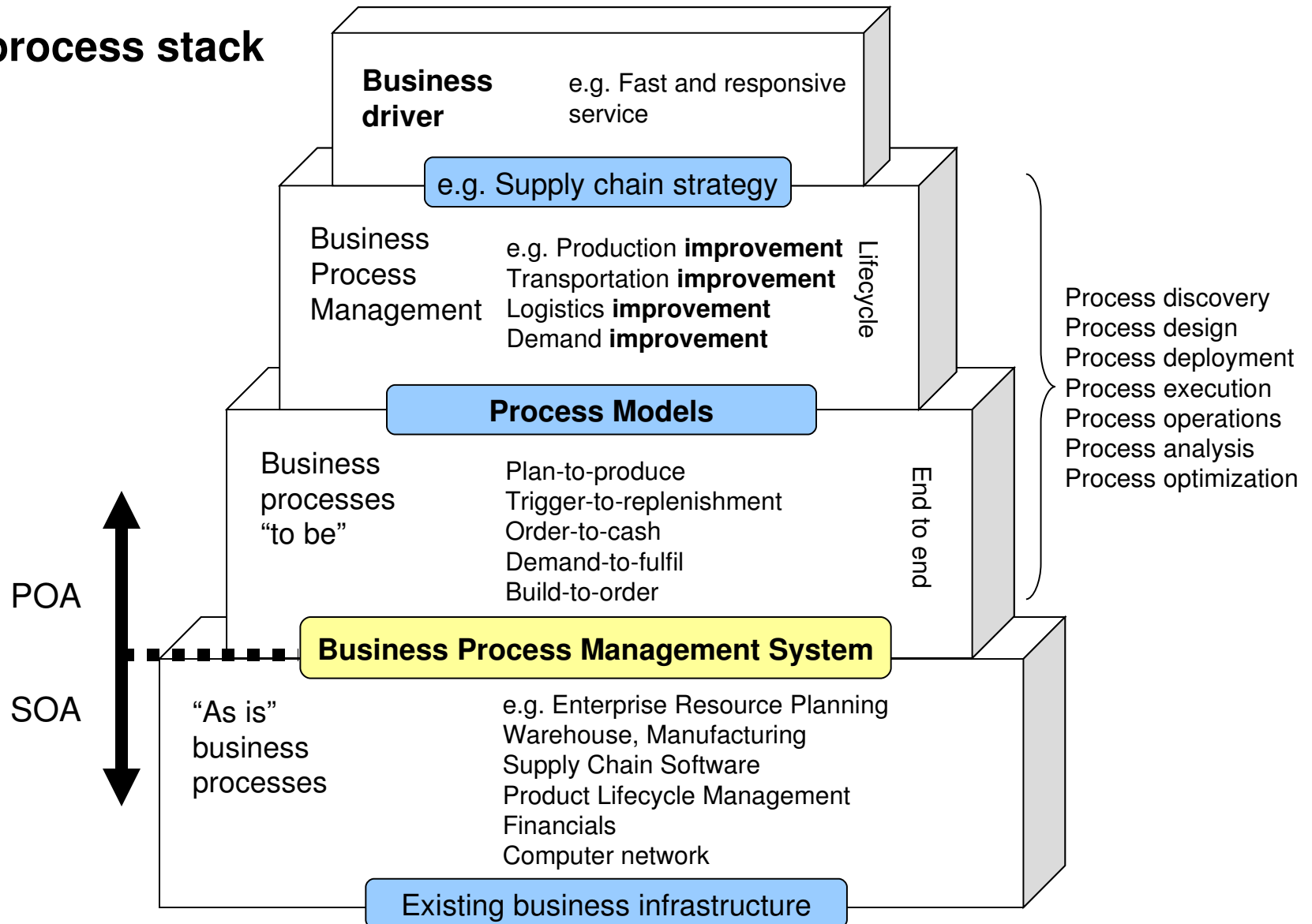




EXPERIENCE. RESULTS.



# The process stack



# Processes

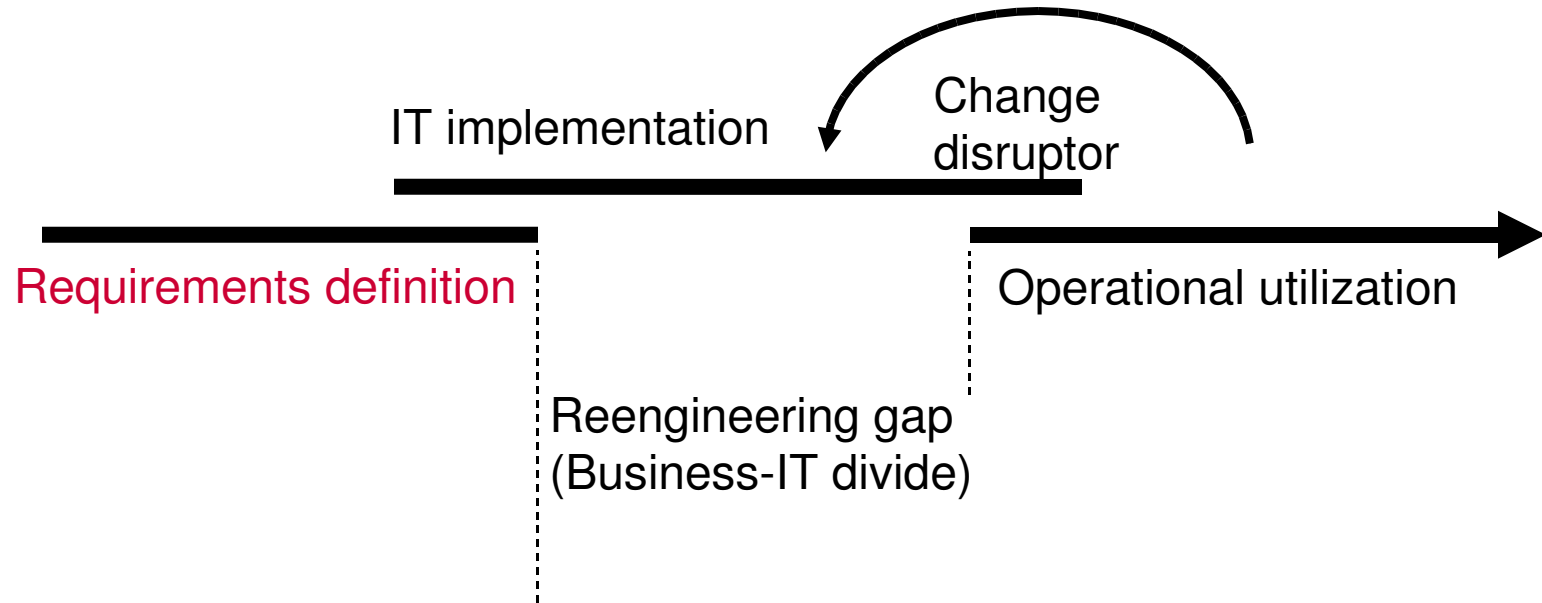
# Examples



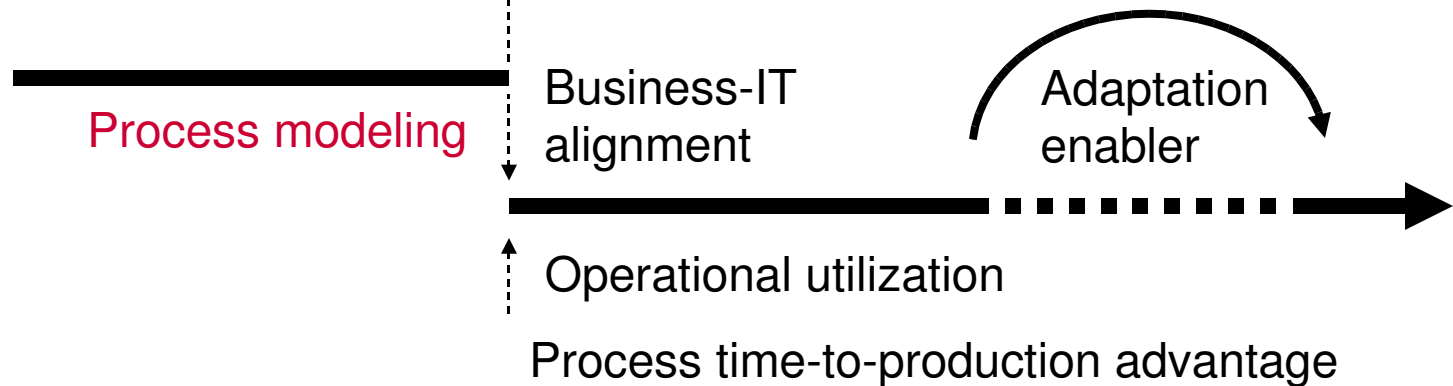
- Incident/Insurance claim
- Life history/Health record
- Logistics/Lost parcel
- Support/Trouble ticket
- Goal/Project
- Emergency response/Incident
- Customer/Service request
- Procurement/Order
- Management/Initiative
- Farm animal certification/Tag
- Provisioning/Service
- On-boarding/Employee
- Publishing/Book
- Change Mgt/Change request
- Public health/Campaign
- Criminal/Case file



# Business Process Reengineering

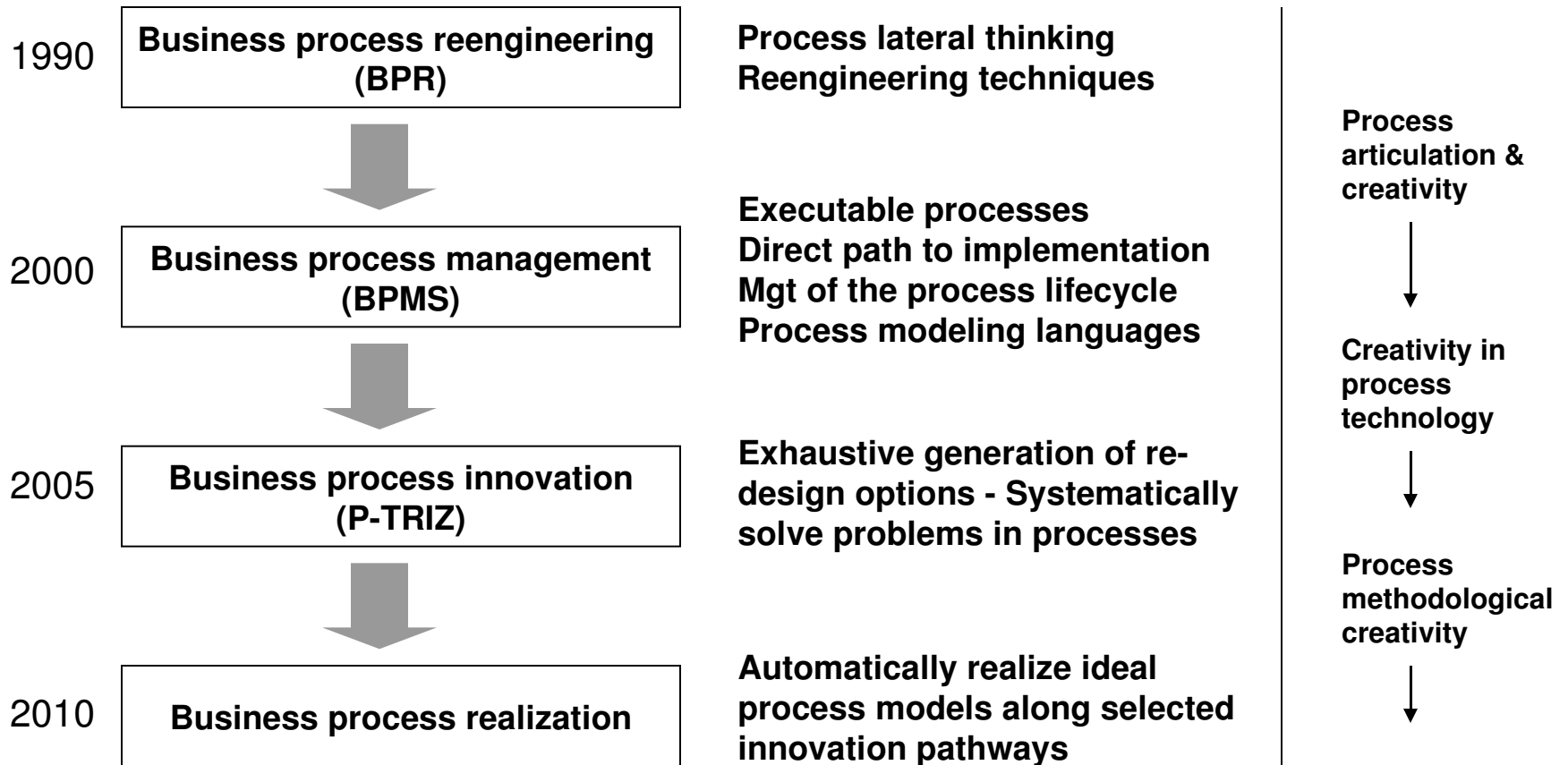


# Business Process Management





# Process innovation: the next step in process thinking





## Computers: glorified adding machines?



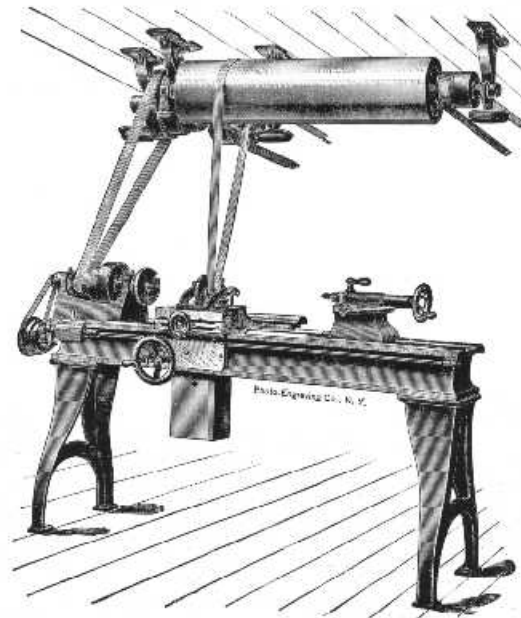
“Don’t let that Mr. Skinner hear you say that. He says a computer is an instrument of the imagination. He says that with another computer, me and Miss Glazier he could run Credit and Settlement single-handed.”

– Miss Prothero, from Alan Bennett’s, *Office Suite*



EXPERIENCE. RESULTS.

## 1900 - Frederick W. Taylor



**Carl Barth**

Innovative business practice  
plus new technology



## 1950 - W. Edwards Deming



**Walter Shewhart**

Innovative business practice  
plus new technology

## Tools = productivity + complexity buster

Can a person extract the cube root of 9834752345624563476?



1000 years ago

Nobody

500 years ago

Only a genius

50 years ago

A long and difficult calculation

Today

Use a calculator, push a button



# Do you have problems?



**Known Problems**  
you must solve and  
for which you have  
no known solution

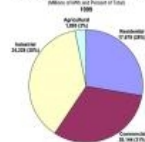


**Unknown Problems**  
preventing progress  
that must be revealed,  
and subsequently solved

New  
concepts



Wholesale Electric Utility Sales, by Economic Sector  
Millions of Dollars and Percent of Total  
1998



Business  
coming in



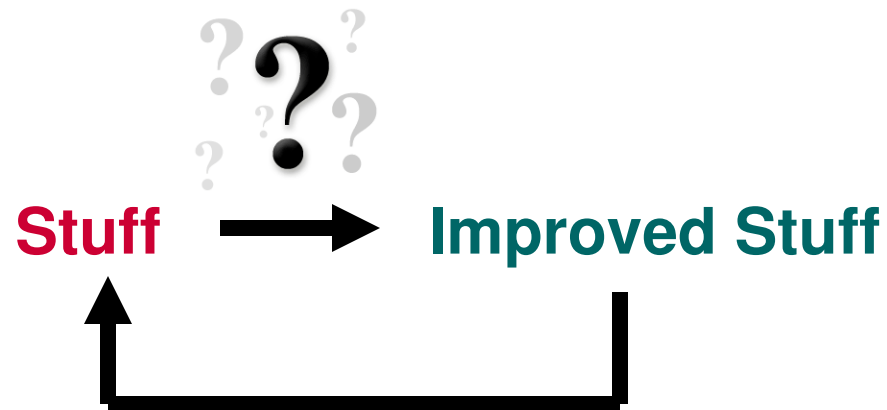
Barriers, obstacles, contradictions, inertia

Research ... Development ... Operations ... Marketing ... Sales ... Distribution



## What Innovation Is

**Innovation is the reliable business process by which firms create significant value from all sources of creativity and knowledge**



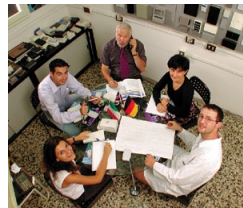
# Stuff can be ...



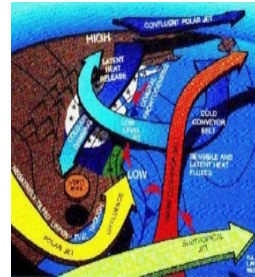
**Products**



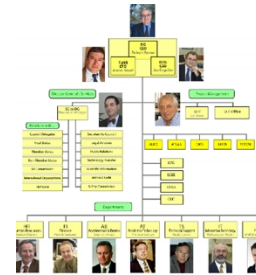
**Services**



**Solutions**



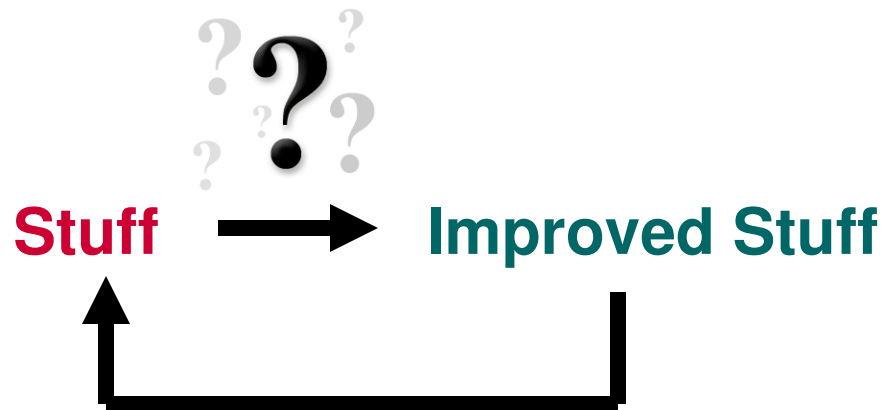
**Processes**



**Organizations**



**Ideas**



To improve stuff, we must decompose

Stuff



# Everything is useful and harmful



Personal transport

Freedom of movement

Pollution

**Useful**

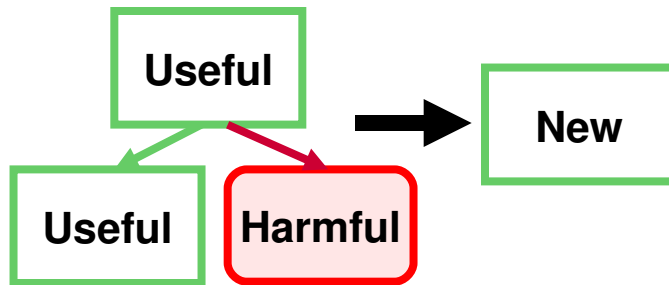
**Harmful**



Is it useful or harmful

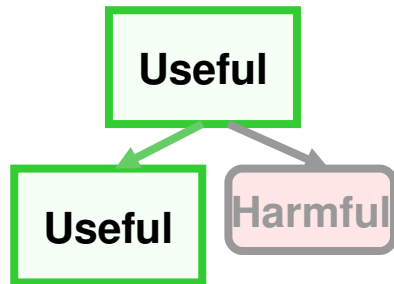


# Decomposition opens pathways to improvement



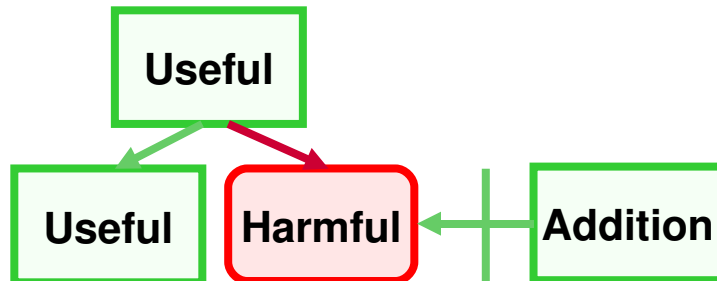
### Example 1

Replace the system with a new system that does not exhibit the harmful function



### Example 2

Find a way to eliminate or reduce the harmful function

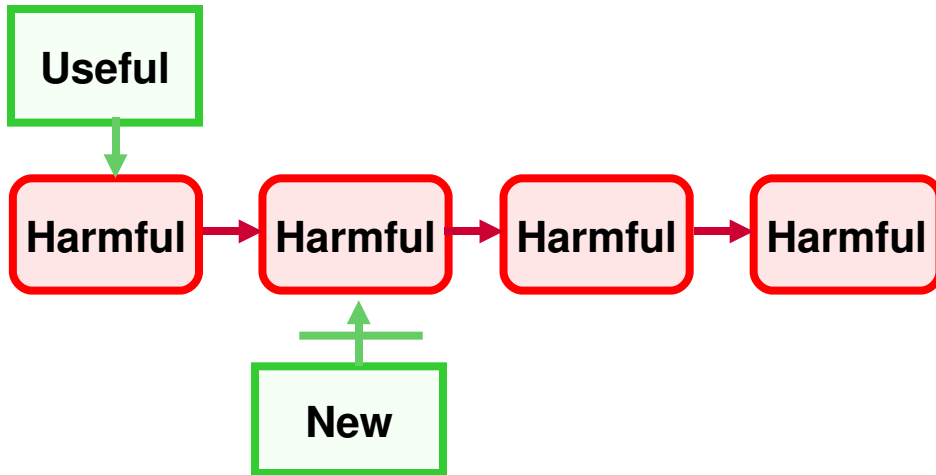


### Example 3

Add a compensating function to limit the impact of the harmful function



## More examples of innovation

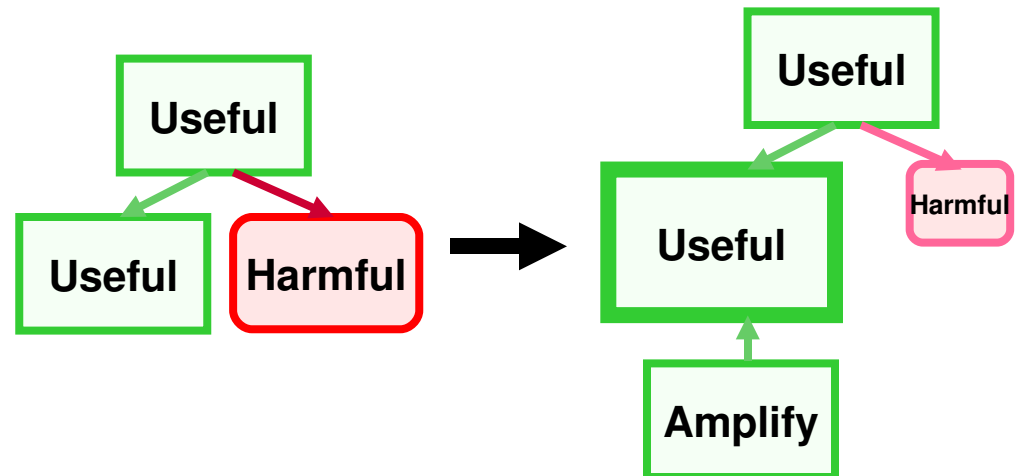


### *Example 4*

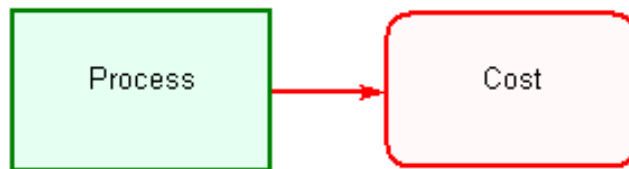
Compensate a harmful side effect to break a chain of harmful knock on effects

### *Example 5*

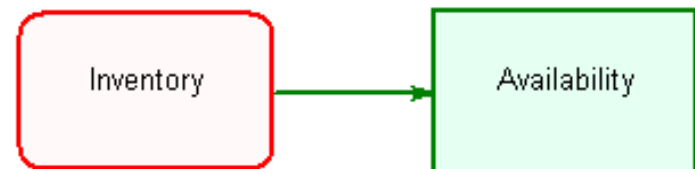
Amplify the useful output, to the extent that the harmful function becomes insignificant



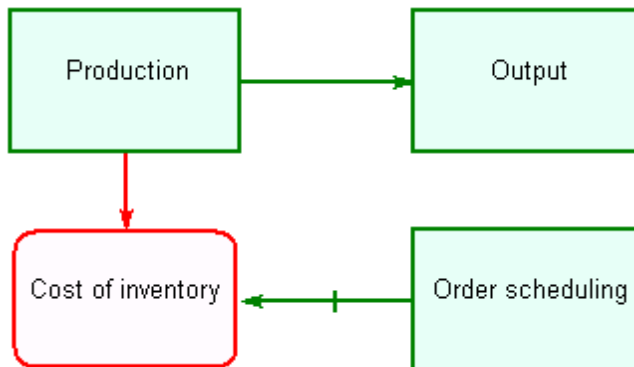
# Modeling processes for innovation (P-TRIZ)



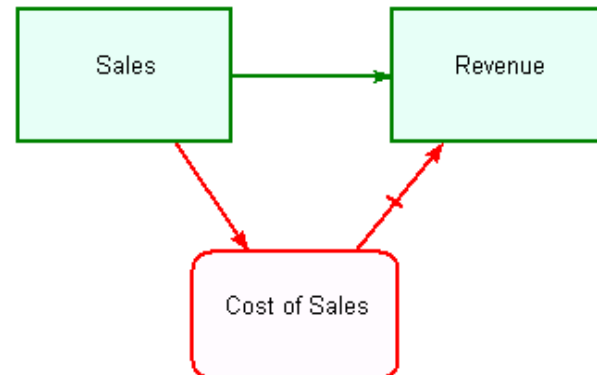
All processes have costs



Harmful functions have useful functions

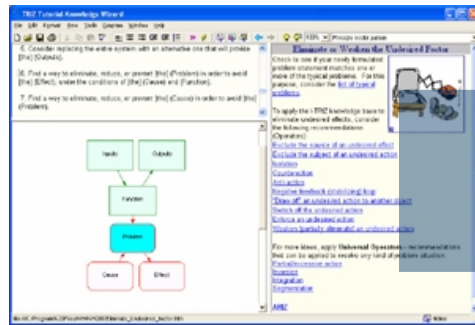


Functions are added to systems to counteract harm



Harmful side effects counteract primary objectives

# We can automate the generation of solution pathways



Personal transport

Freedom of movement

Pollution

Useful

Harmful



1. Find an alternative way to obtain [the] (Personal transport) that offers the following: provides or enhances [the] (Freedom of movement), does not cause [the] (Pollution).

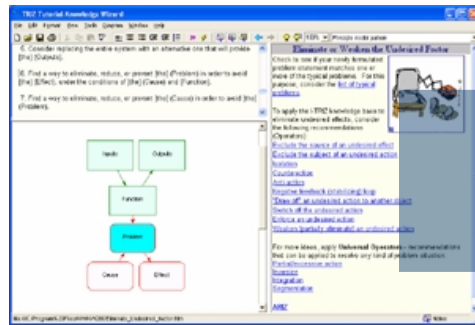
2. Try to resolve the following contradiction: The useful factor [the] (Personal transport) should be in place in order to provide or enhance [the] (Freedom of movement), and should not exist in order to avoid [the] (Pollution).

3. Find a way to eliminate, reduce, or prevent [the] (Pollution) under the conditions of [the] (Personal transport).

4. Find an alternative way to obtain [the] (Freedom of movement) that does not require [the] (Personal transport).

5. Consider replacing the entire system with an alternative one that will provide [the] (Freedom of movement).

# Systematic process opens exhaustive solution options



3.1. Find a way to benefit from [the] (Pollution).

3.2. Try to cope with [the] (Pollution).

3.3. Consider ways to compensate for the harmful results of [the] (Pollution).

3.4. Consider creating a situation that makes [the] (Pollution) insignificant or unimportant.

5.1. Consider transition to the next generation of the system that provides [the] (Freedom of movement), but which will not have the existing problem.

5.2. Consider enhancing the current means by which the primary useful function is achieved, to the extent that the benefits will override the primary problem.

Personal transport

Freedom of movement

Pollution

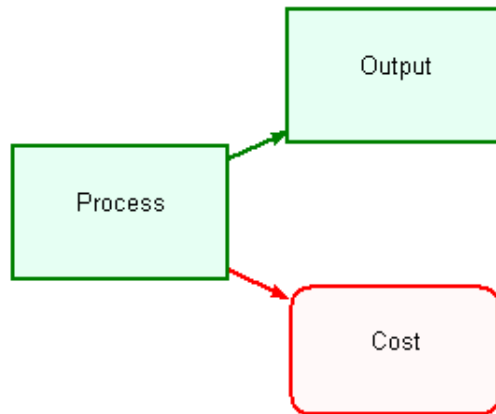
Useful

Harmful





## P-TRIZ formulation



1. Find an alternative way to obtain [the] (Process) that offers the following: provides or enhances [the] (Output), does not cause [the] (Cost).

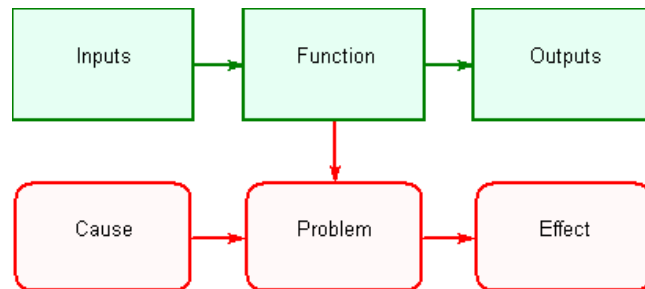
2. Try to resolve the following contradiction: The useful factor [the] (Process) should be in place in order to provide or enhance [the] (Output), and should not exist in order to avoid [the] (Cost).

3. Find an alternative way to obtain [the] (Output) that does not require [the] (Process).

4. Consider replacing the entire system with an alternative one that will provide [the] (Output).

5. Find a way to eliminate, reduce, or prevent [the] (Cost) under the conditions of [the] (Process).

## P-TRIZ exposes abstract process patterns



6. Find a way to eliminate, reduce, or prevent [the] (Problem) in order to avoid [the] (Effect), under the conditions of [the] (Cause) and (Function).

7. Find a way to eliminate, reduce, or prevent [the] (Cause) in order to avoid [the] (Problem).

8. Find a way to eliminate, reduce, or prevent [the] (Effect) under the conditions of [the] (Problem).

1. Find an alternative way to obtain [the] (Function) that offers the following: provides or enhances [the] (Outputs), does not cause [the] (Problem), does not require [the] (Inputs).

2. Try to resolve the following contradiction: The useful factor [the] (Function) should be in place in order to provide or enhance [the] (Outputs), and should not exist in order to avoid [the] (Problem).

3. Find an alternative way to obtain [the] (Inputs) that provides or enhances [the] (Function).

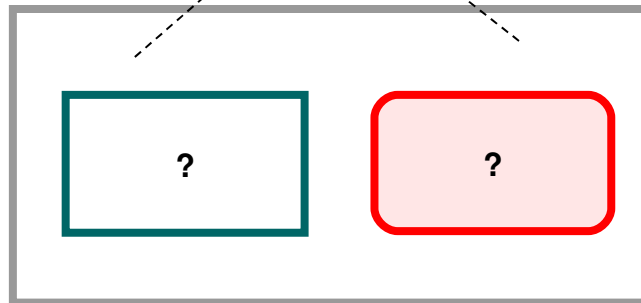
4. Find an alternative way to obtain [the] (Outputs) that does not require [the] (Function).

5. Consider replacing the entire system with an alternative one that will provide [the] (Outputs).

# To whom are things useful and harmful?



- Customer
- Supplier
- Citizen
- Government
- Child



To you

To me

Useful or harmful?



# Everything is useful and harmful from many perspectives

Loss of rural environment

Freedom of movement

Pollution

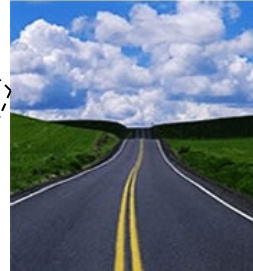
Oil profits

**Harmful**

**Useful**

**Harmful**

**Useful**



High speed economy

Environmental damage







## Selected pathways create the innovation manifesto

**1.3. Find a way to obtain [the] (Freedom of movement) without the use of [the] (Personal transport).**

1.4. Find a way to decrease the ability of [the] (Personal transport) to cause [the] (Pollution).

**3.2. Find a way to obtain [the] (Oil profits) without the use of [the] (Pollution).**

3.3. Find a way to decrease the ability of [the] (Pollution) to cause [the] (Environmental damage).

**5.3. Find a way to obtain [the] (High speed economy) without the use of [the] (Freedom of movement).**

5.4. Find a way to decrease the ability of [the] (Freedom of movement) to cause [the] (Loss of rural environment).

**8.1. Consider transition to the next generation of the system that provides [the] (High speed economy), but which will not have the existing problem.**

8.2. Consider enhancing the current means by which the primary useful function is achieved, to the extent that the benefits will override the primary problem.

9.2. Try to cope with [the] (Loss of rural environment).

9.3. Consider ways to compensate for the harmful results of [the] (Loss of rural environment).

9.4. Consider creating a situation that makes [the] (Loss of rural environment) insignificant or unimportant.

10.2. Try to cope with [the] (Environmental damage).

10.3. Consider ways to compensate for the harmful results of [the] (Environmental damage).

10.4. Consider creating a situation that makes [the] (Environmental damage) insignificant or unimportant.

**11.2. Find additional benefits from [the] (Oil profits).**

**12.1. Consider transition to the next generation of the system that provides [the] (Oil profits), but which will not have the existing problem.**



EXPERIENCE. RESULTS.

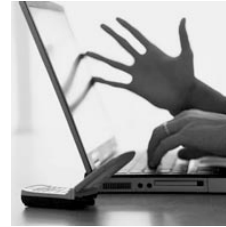
# Aspects



Brand



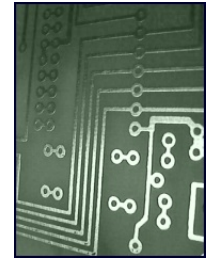
Experience



Usability



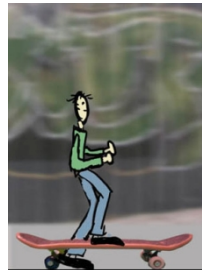
Design



Technology



Performance



Function



Market



Business model



Manufacture



Delivery

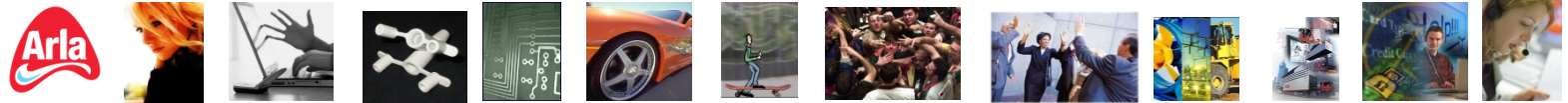


Service



Support

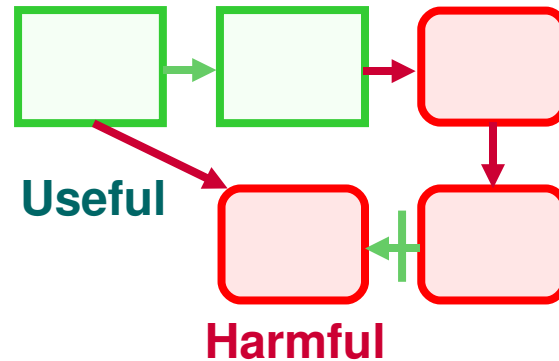
# To improve, we must decompose in many ways



Aspects

Perspectives

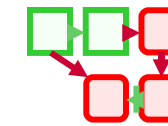
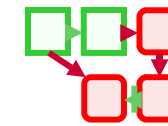
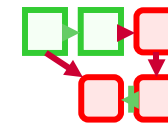
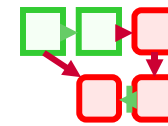
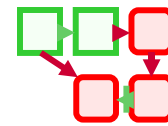
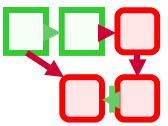
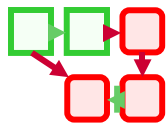
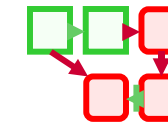
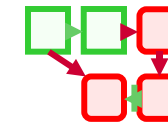
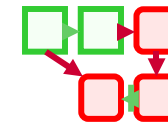
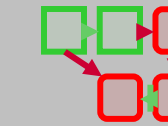
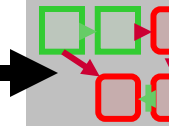
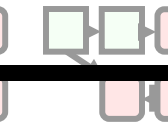
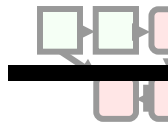
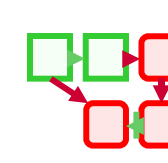
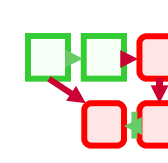
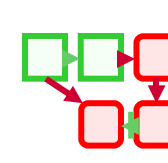
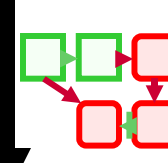
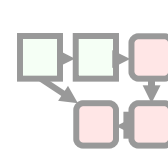
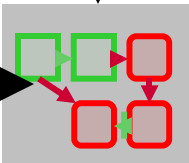
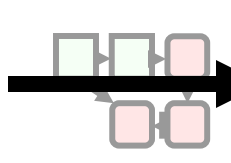
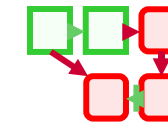
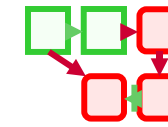
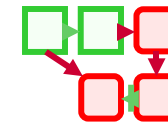
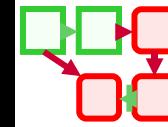
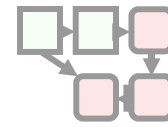
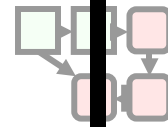
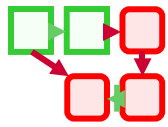
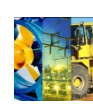
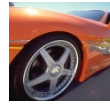
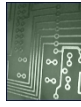
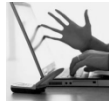
Functions



# Many models are needed – expect contradictions

Usability

Performance





# The more cars the better?



2. Try to resolve the following contradiction: The useful factor [the] (Personal transport) should be in place in order to provide or enhance [the] (Freedom of movement), and should not exist in order to avoid [the] (Pollution).

**Contradiction**

Freedom of movement

Pollution

**Useful**

**Harmful**

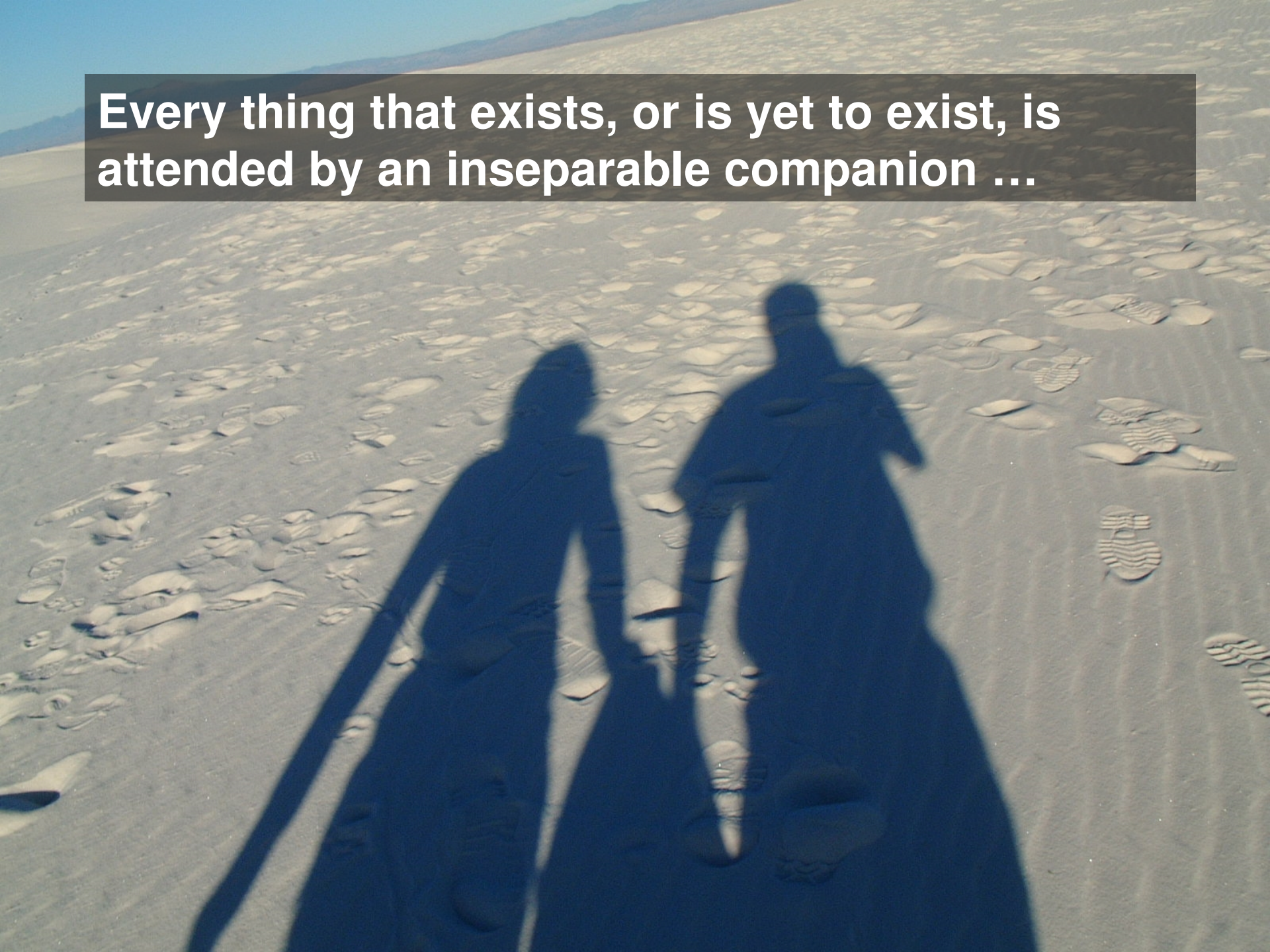


Hydrogen  
Internal  
Combustion

“Air leaving the tailpipe could actually be cleaner than the air coming into the engine”

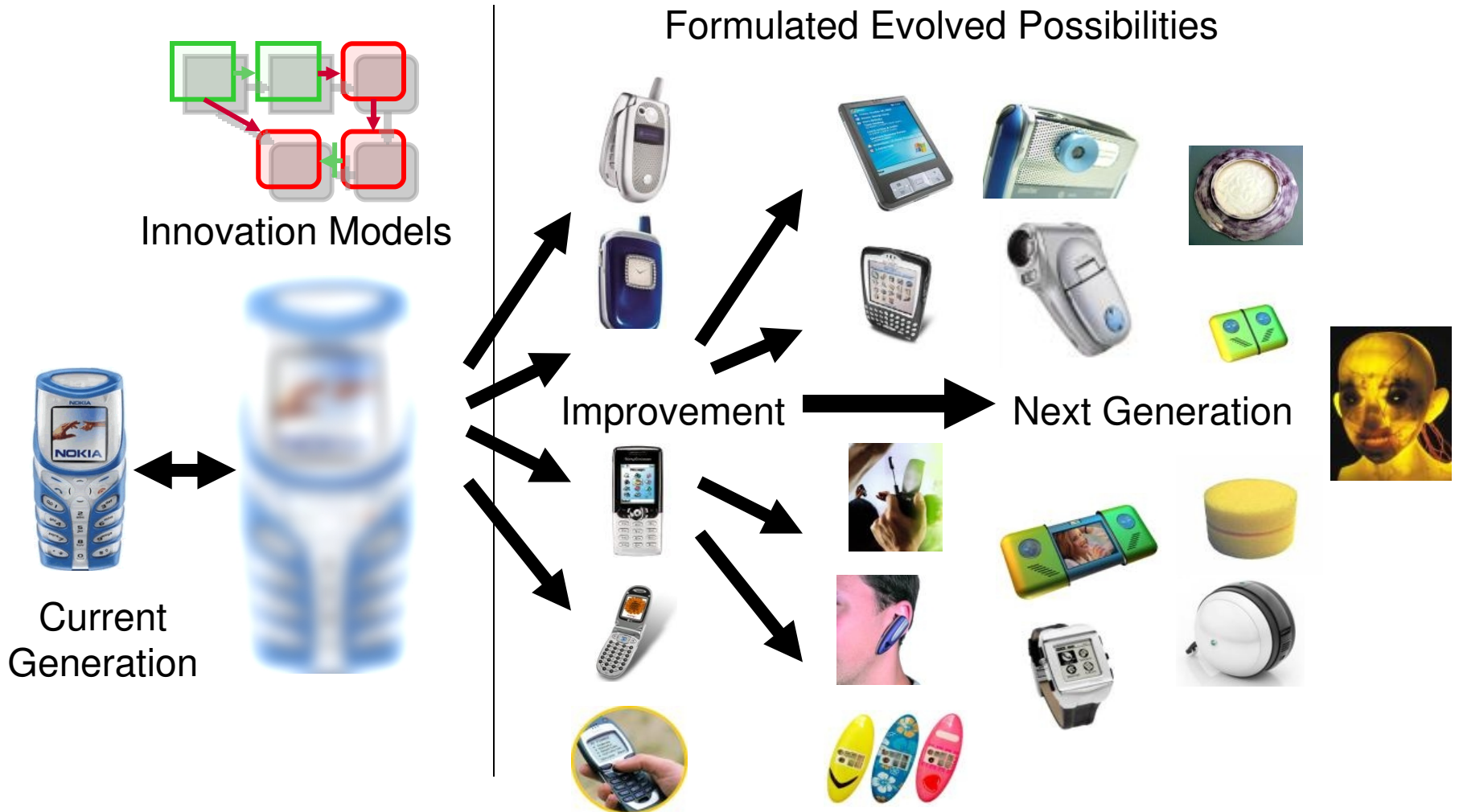
<http://www.ford.com/en/innovation/engineFuelTechnology/hydrogenInternalCombustion.htm>

**Every thing that exists, or is yet to exist, is attended by an inseparable companion ...**

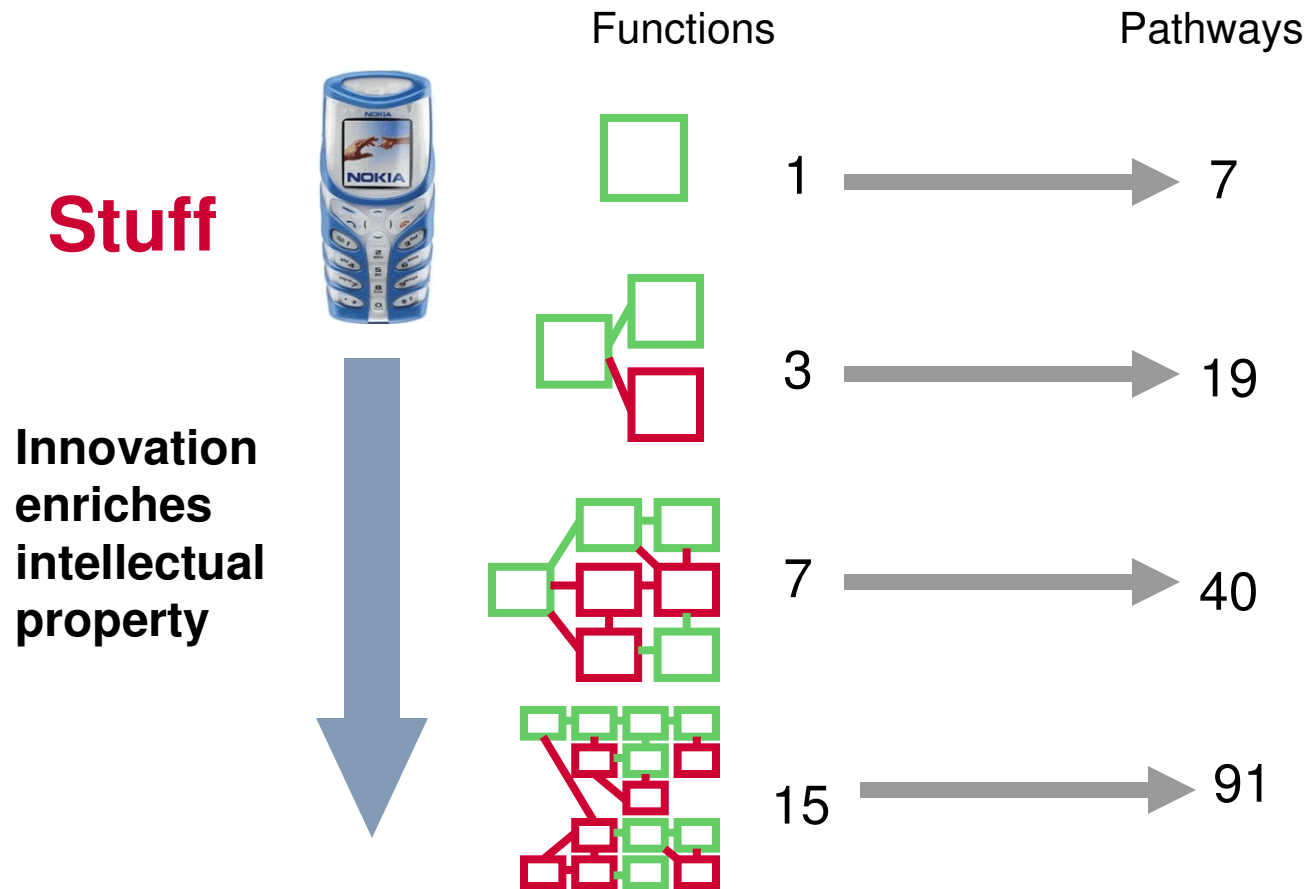




# The innovation shadow-self

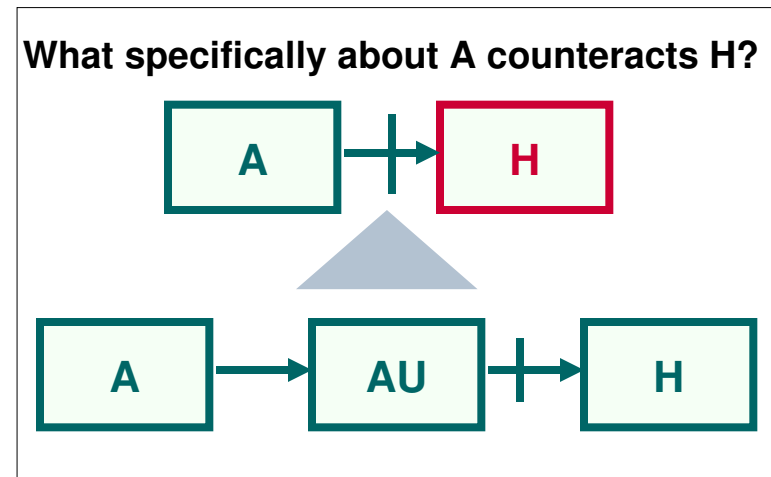
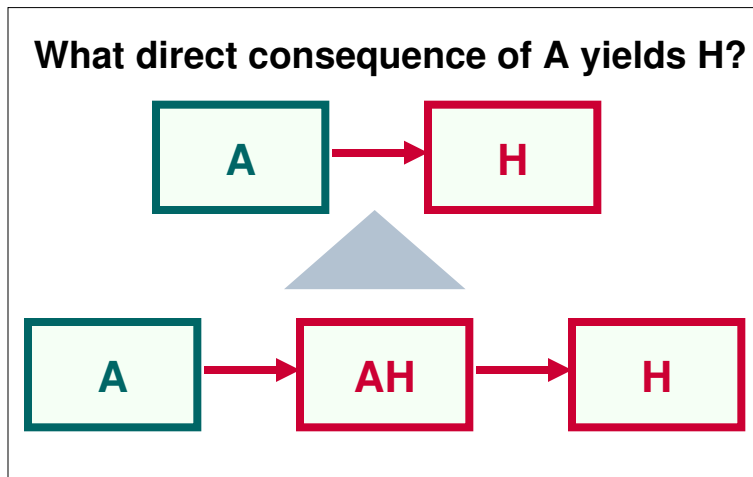
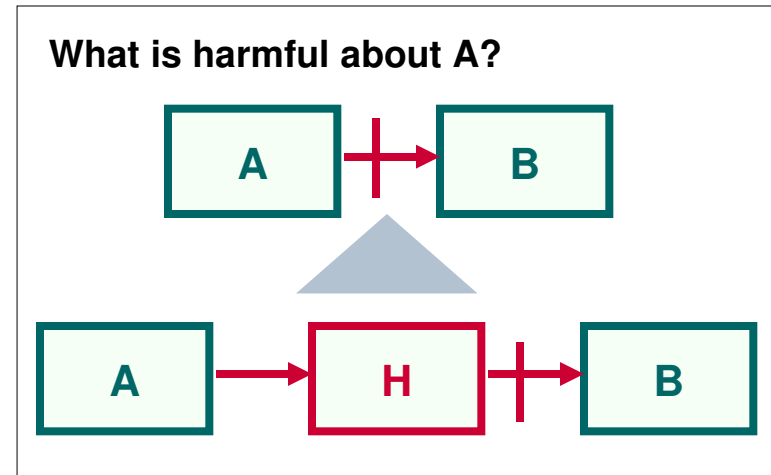
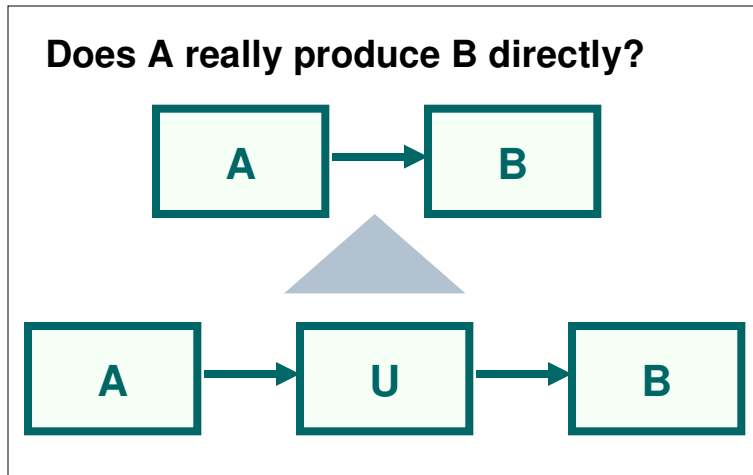


# Our options expand as we add knowledge



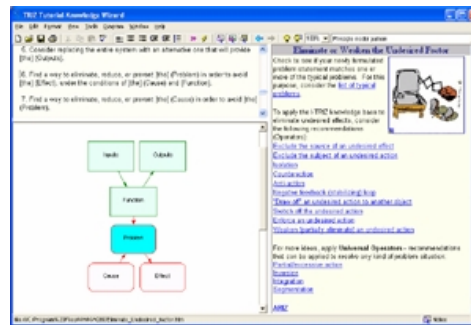
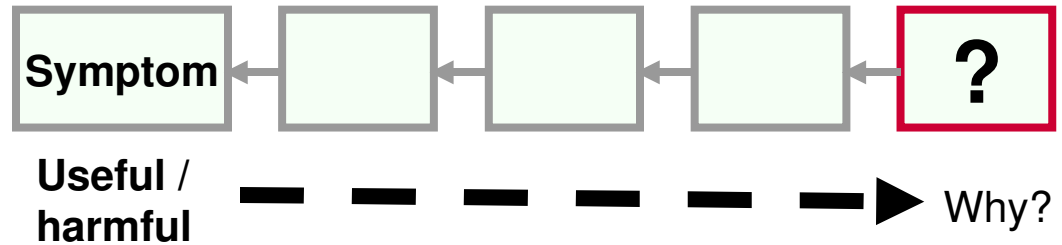
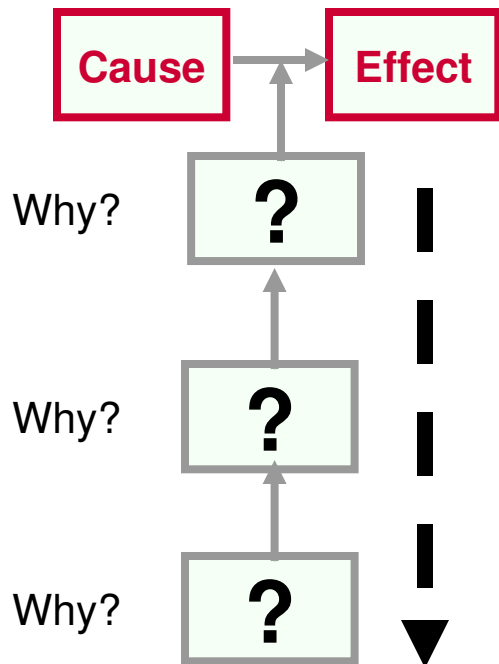


# Innovation expands by asking questions, e.g.

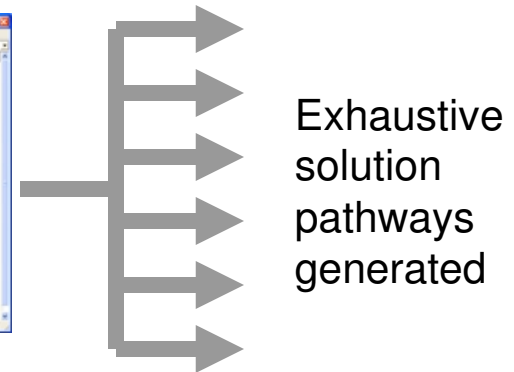


# Lateral thinking and systematic methods are complementary

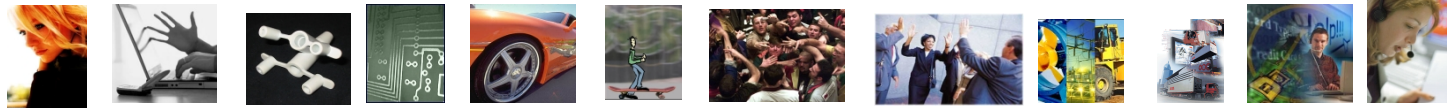
Example technique:  
**Five Whys**



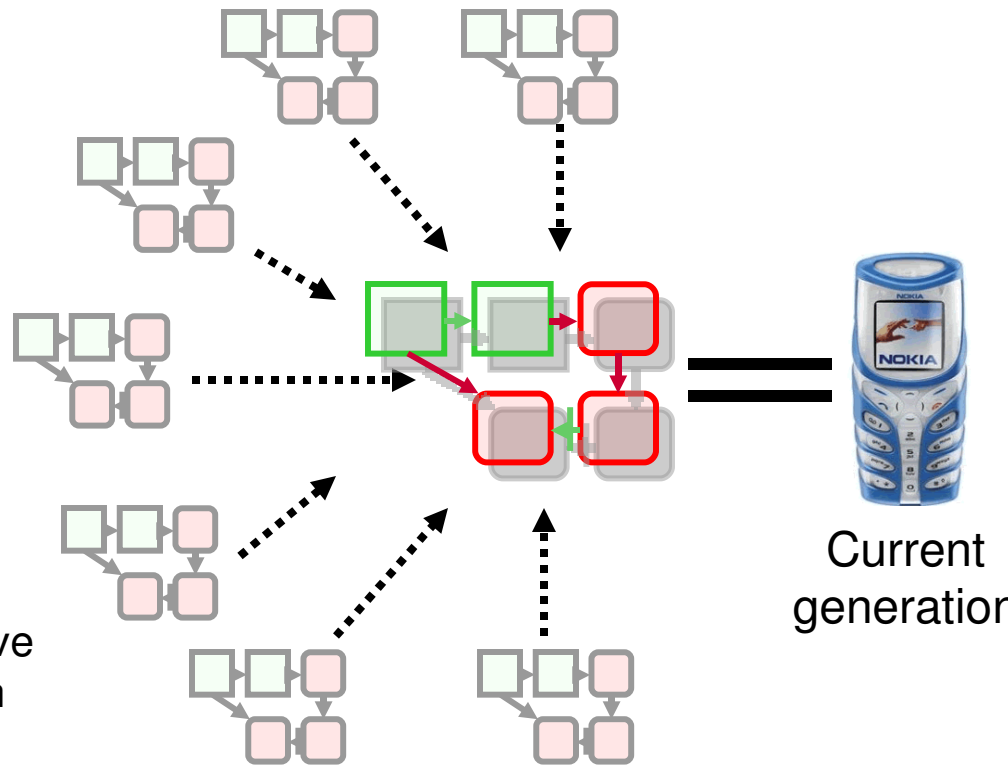
Formulator expands intellectual property



# An alignment of many models is required



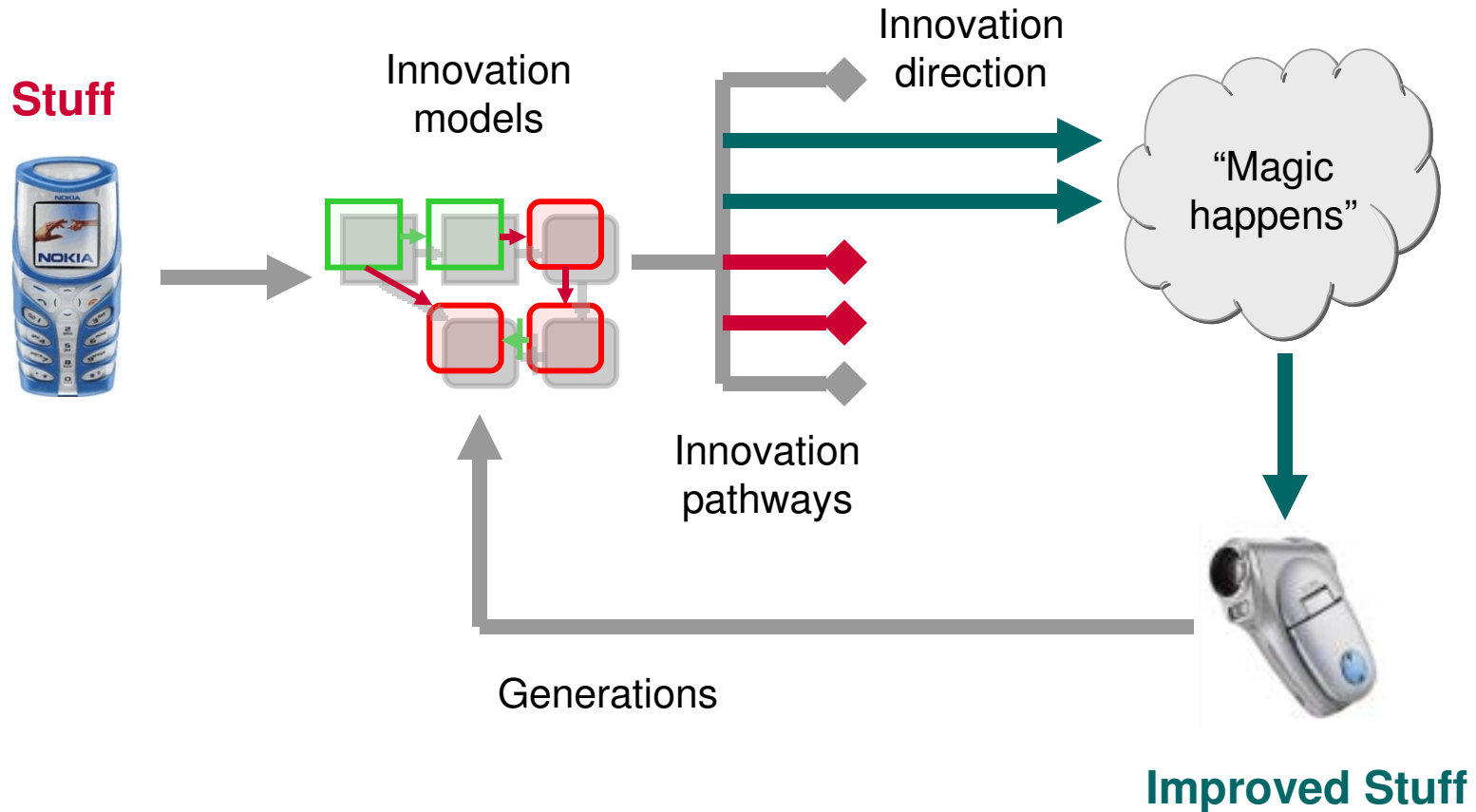
Perspective innovation models



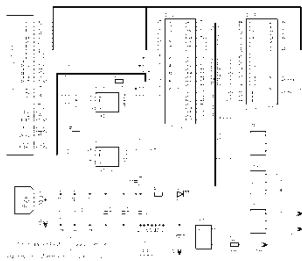
Aspect innovation models

Current generation

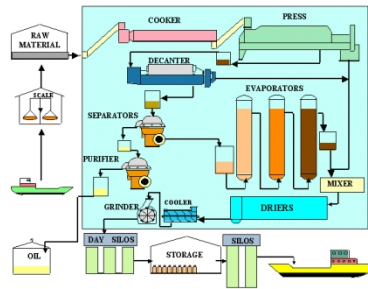
# The high level innovation process looks like this



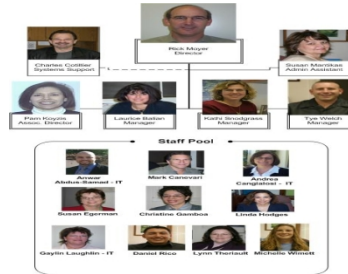
# We must improve everything always



Engineering design



Process design



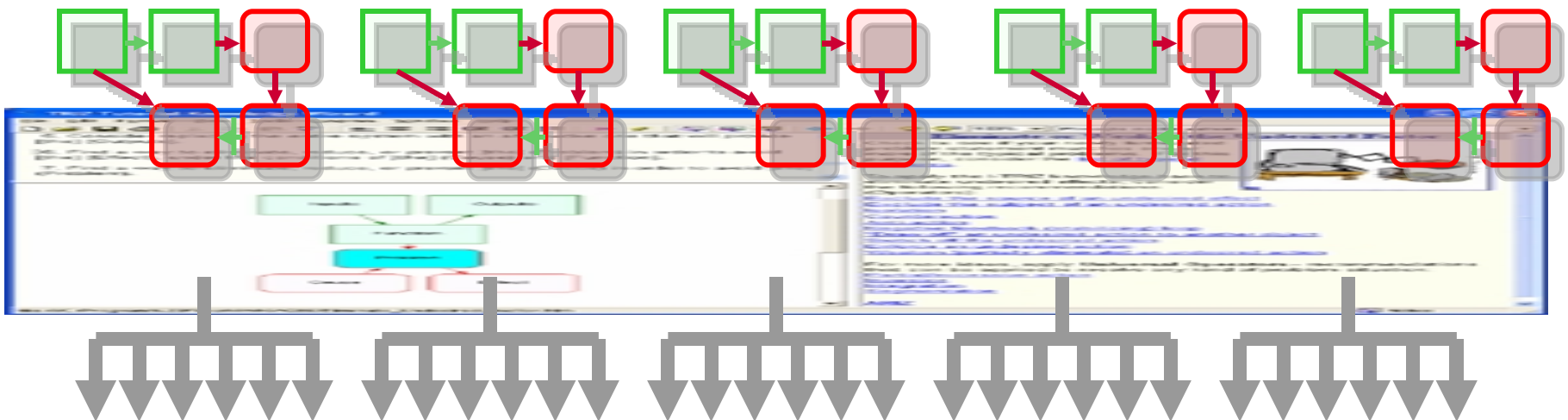
Organizational design



Production design



Operations design

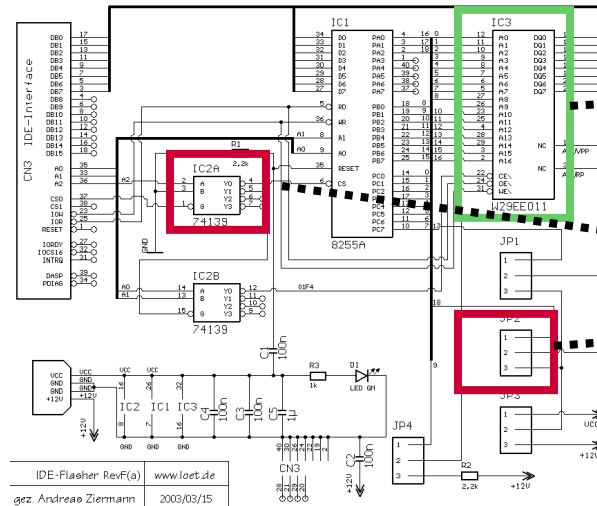


Improvement, renewal, replacement

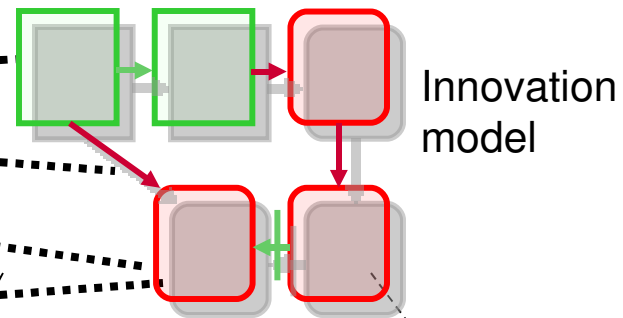


# We can open existing intellectual property to innovation

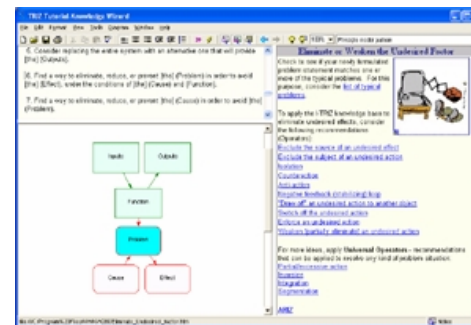
Schematic, document, etc.



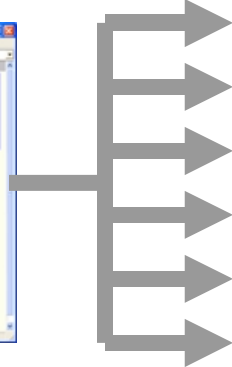
**Innovation mark-up**



**Innovation model**

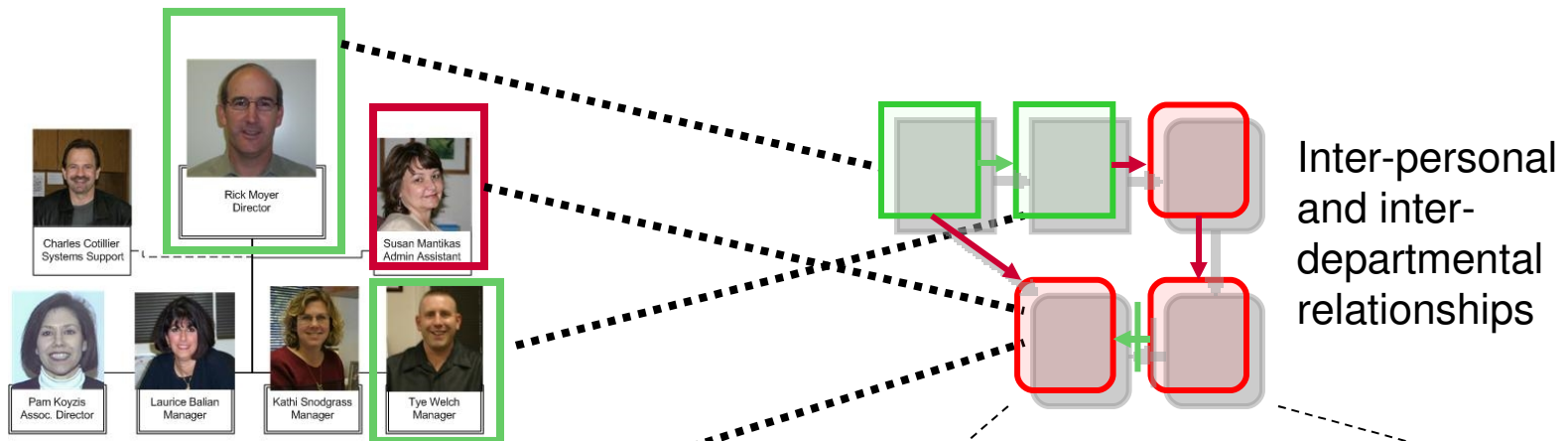


**Formulator**



**Innovation pathways**

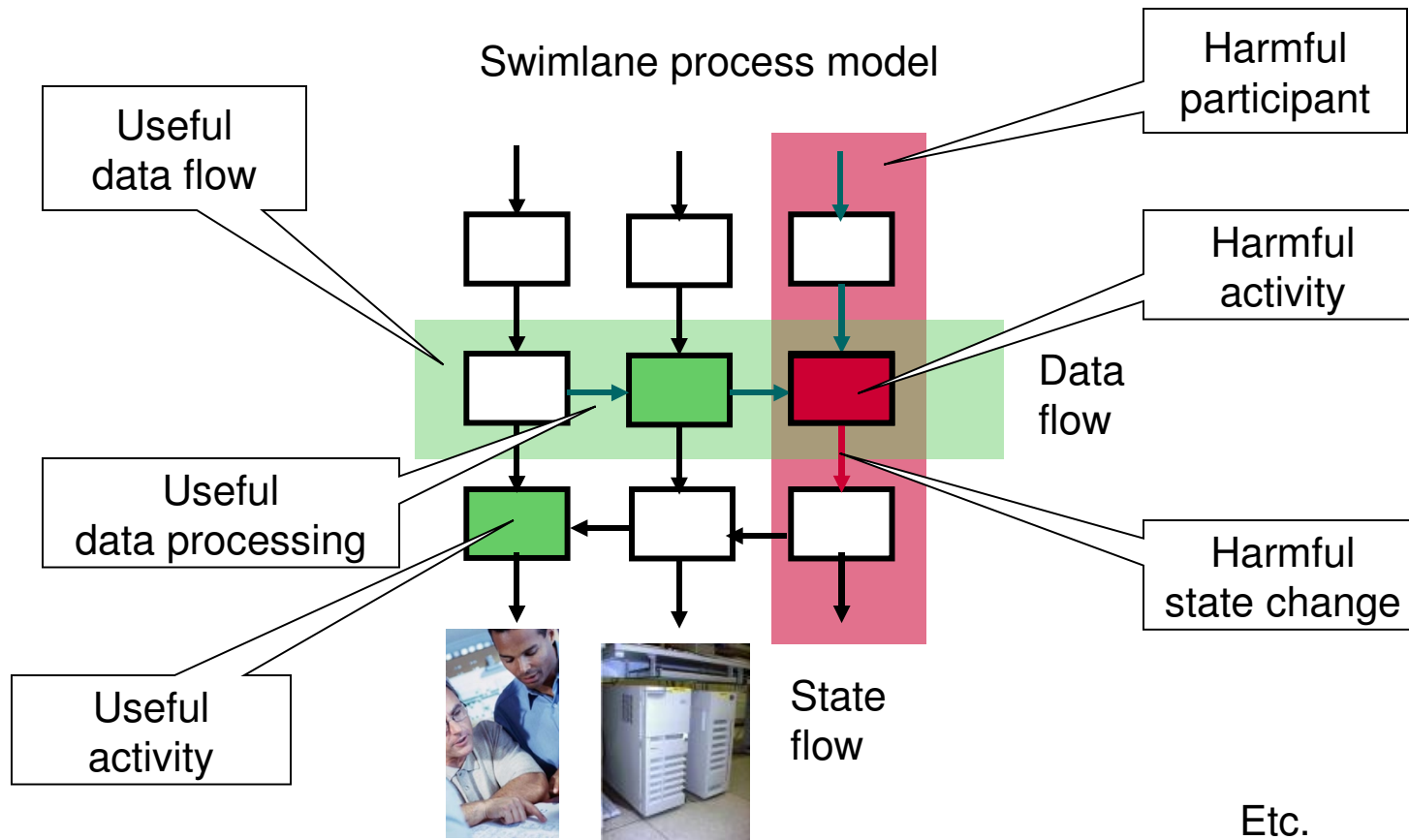
# We can mark-up any artefact to create innovation



Org chart innovation mark-up

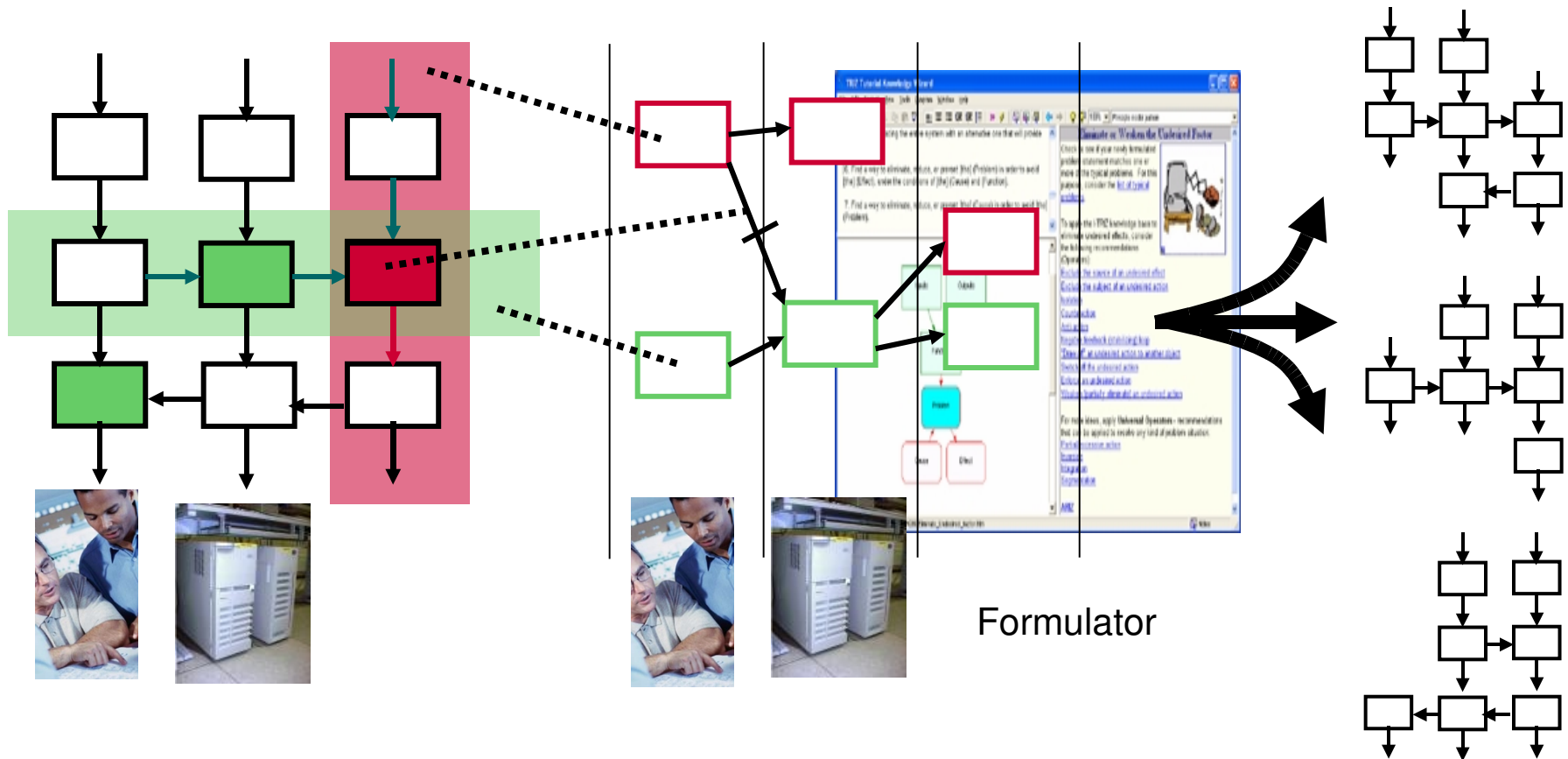
3. Find a way to protect [the] (Direction) from the harmful influence of [the] (Mid Management).
  - 3.1. Try to compensate for the harmful influence of [the] (Mid Management) towards [the] (Direction).
  - 3.2. Try to reduce the sensitivity of [the] (Direction) to the harmful influence of [the] (Mid Management).

# Processes can be analyzed for innovation



# ... opening pathways to alternate process designs

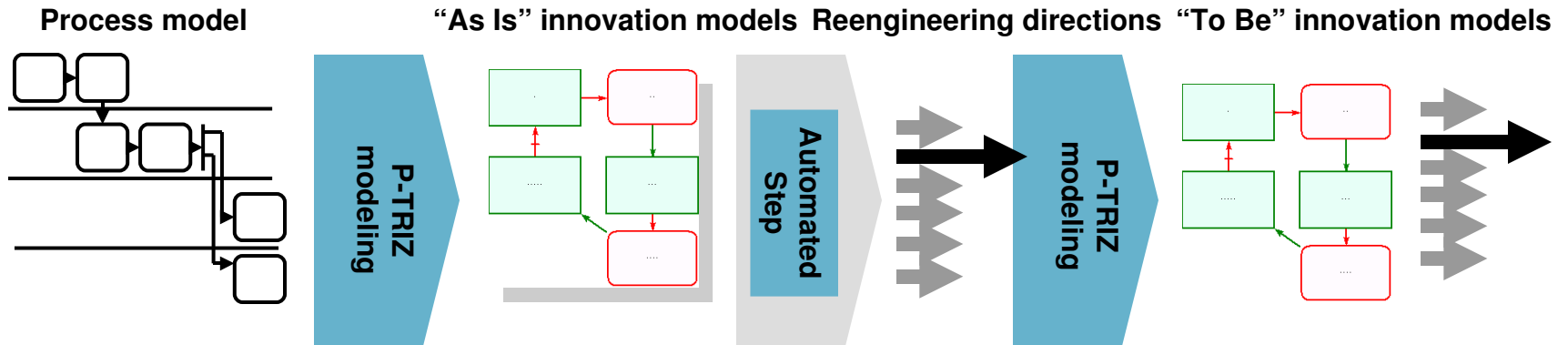
“As Is” Process model → Innovation model → Reengineering options



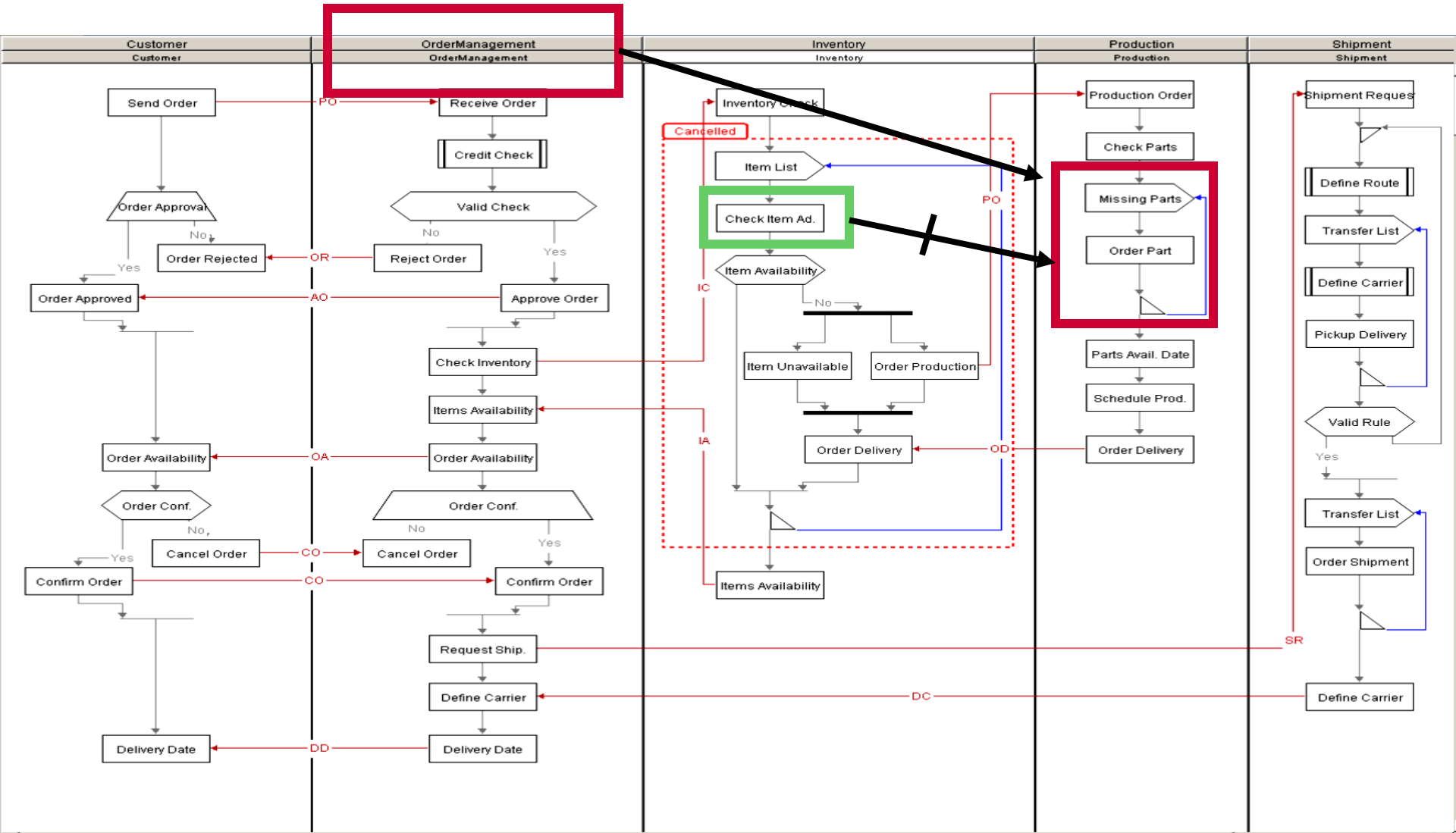
Formulator



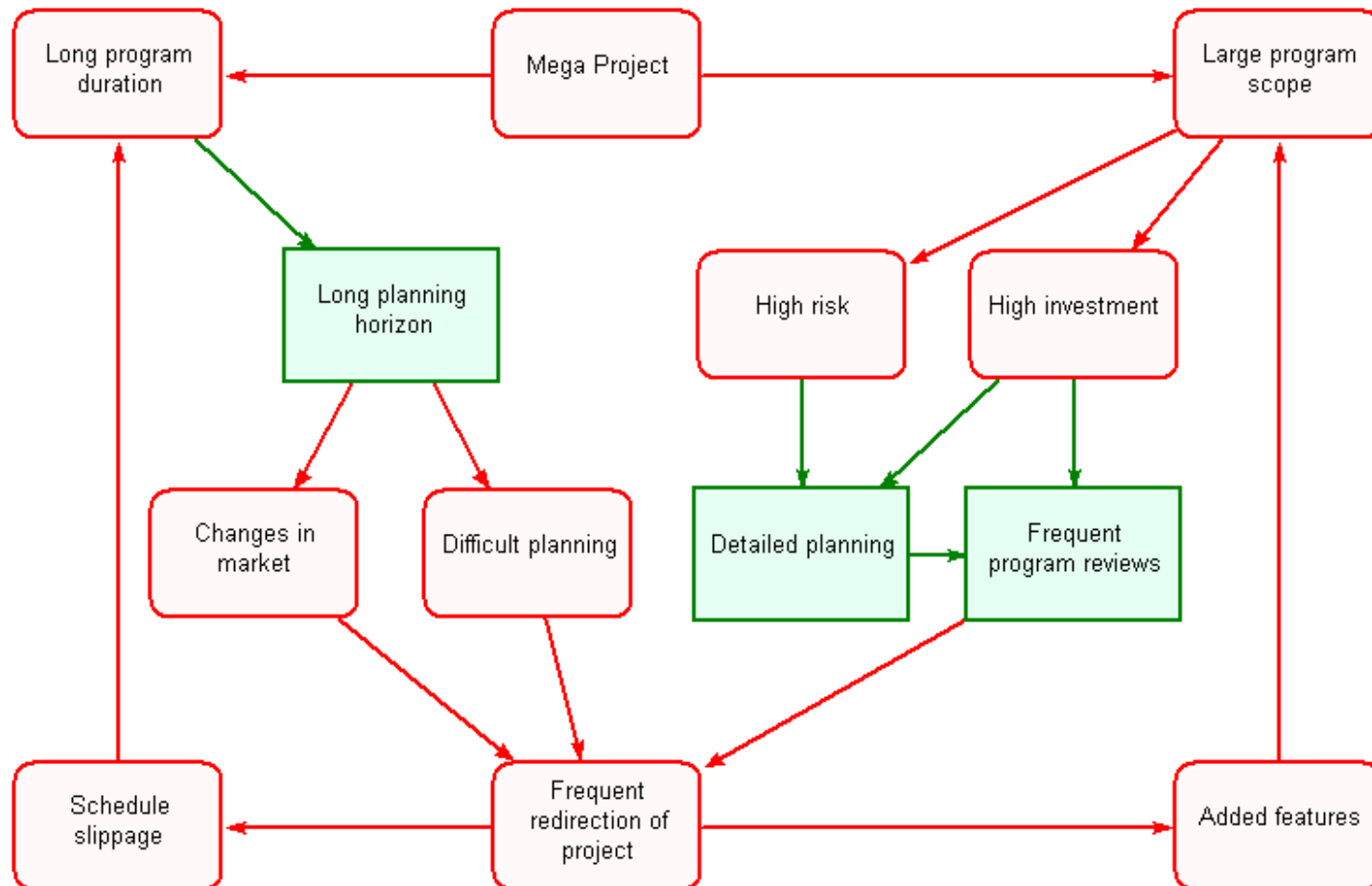
# The P-TRIZ process



# P-TRIZ and BPMN



# P-TRIZ can also cope with fuzzy processes not amenable for formal process modeling

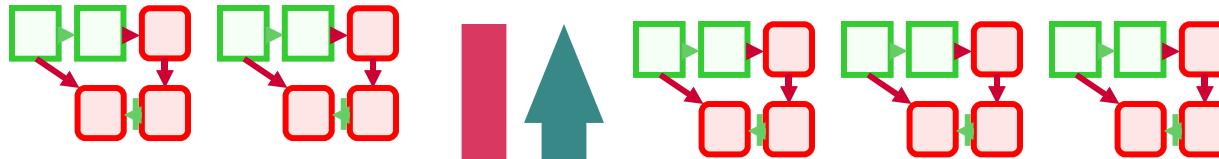
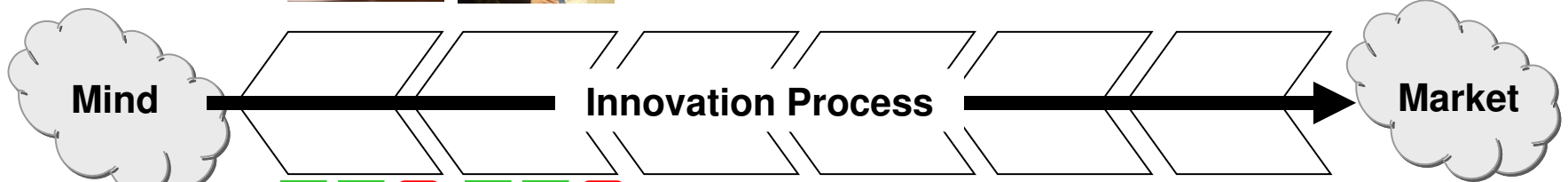


# The innovator is a problem solver

Resources few  
Projects many



Projects few  
Resources many



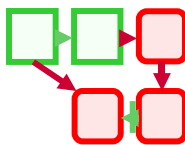
Problem

Solution



Improved Stuff

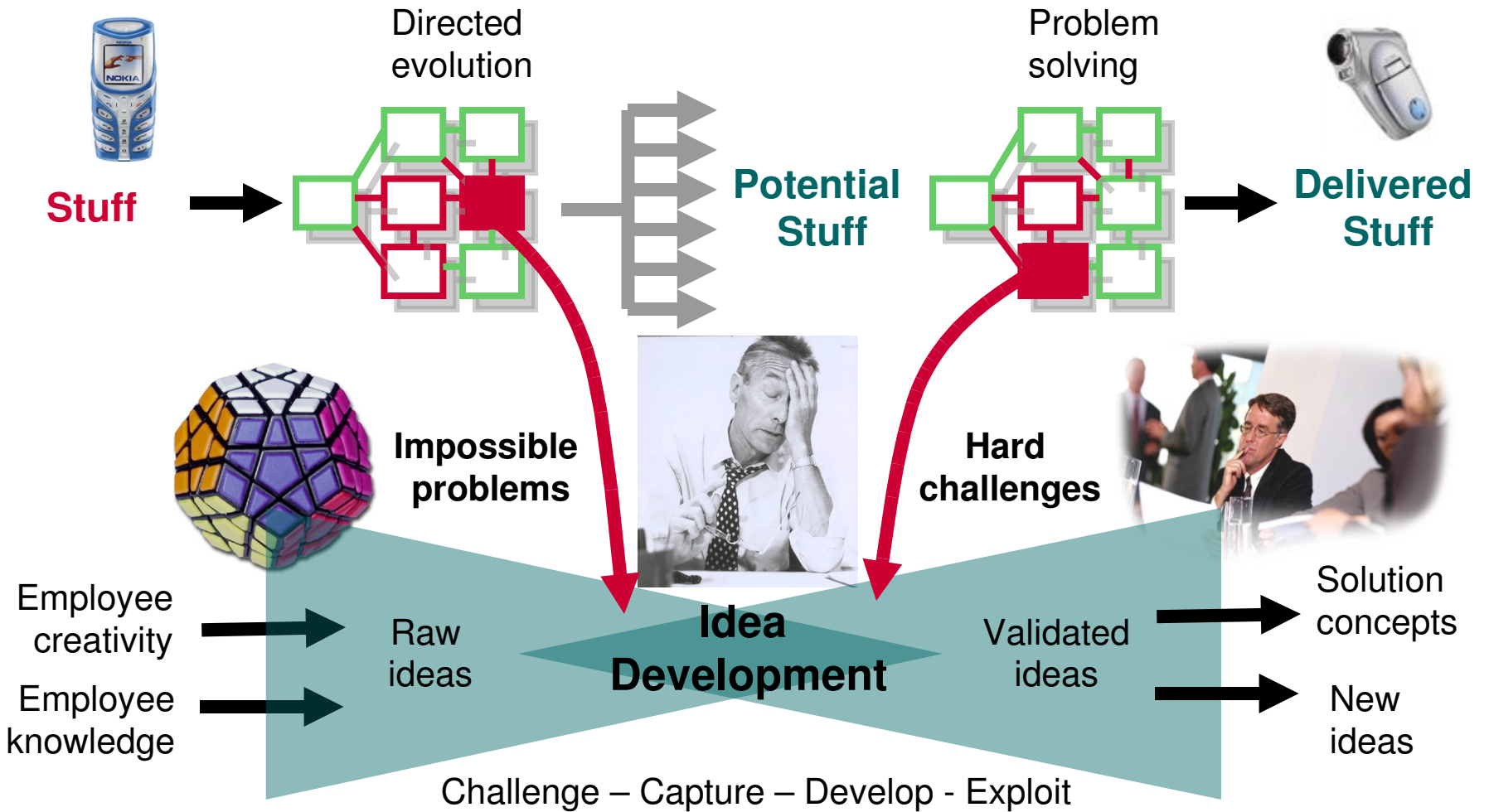
Delivered Stuff



Technical feasibility ... Market feasibility ... Manufacturing feasibility ... Delivery feasibility

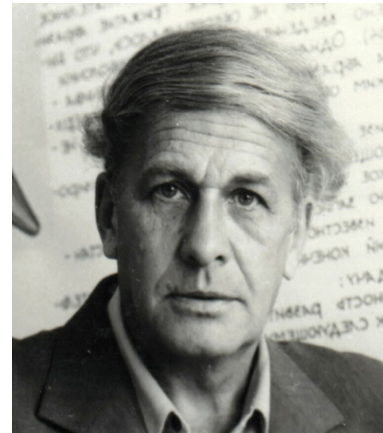


# Because we are talent limited, it's all hands to the pump



## The roots of systematic innovation should be acknowledged

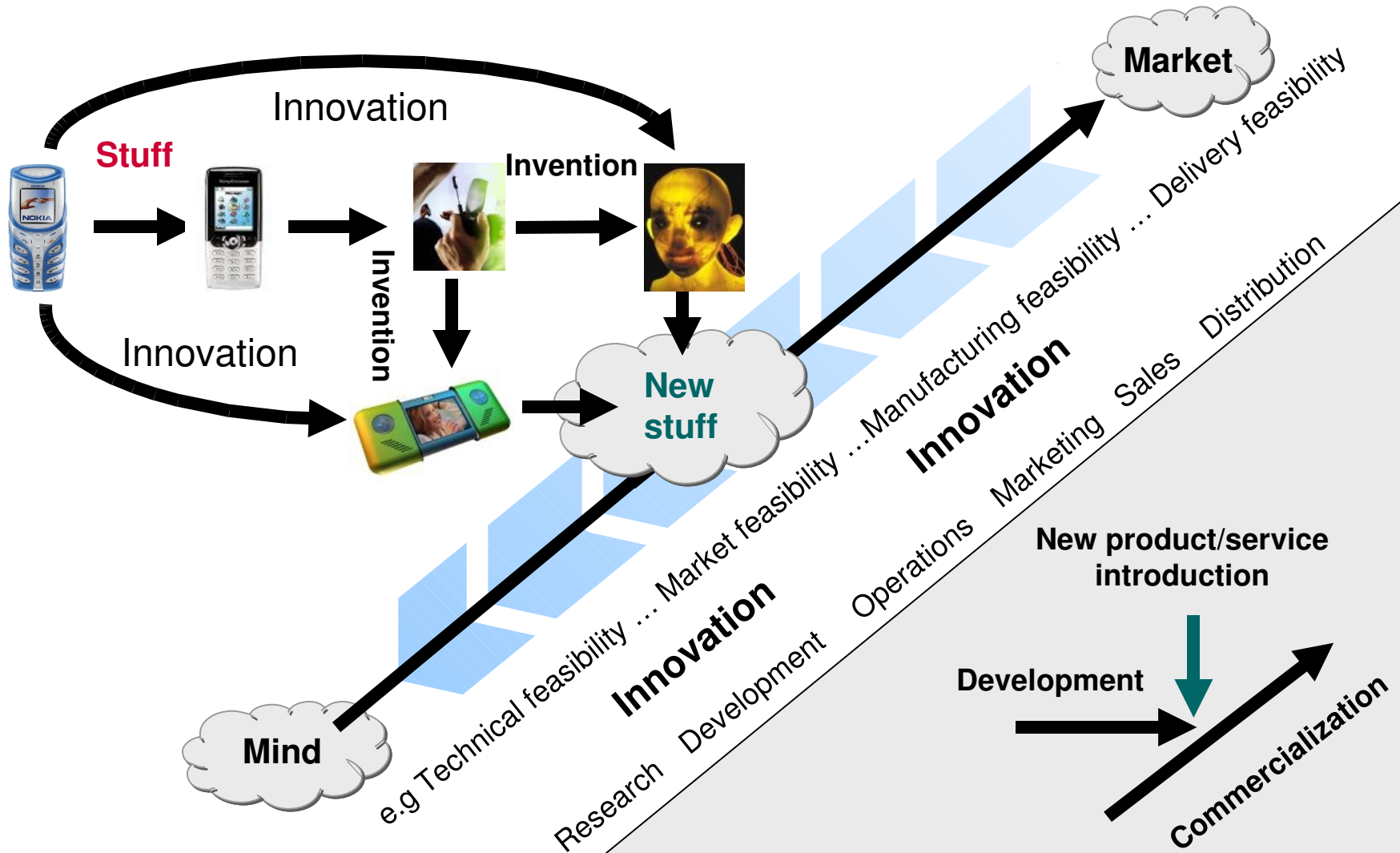
- Genrich Saulovich Altshuller
- Father of TRIZ
- Controlling and predicting innovation
- 15 October 1926 – 24 September 1998



- Boris Zlotin and Alla Zusman
- TRIZ masters and inventive methodologists
- Pioneering the foundations for the development of a modern TRIZ methodology
- Ideation International



# So innovation is more than just a good idea







EXPERIENCE. RESULTS.

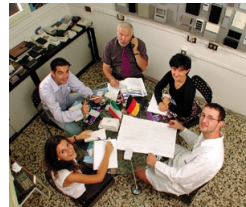
# Remember... stuff can be:



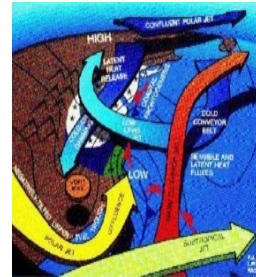
**Products**



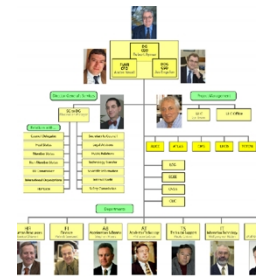
**Services**



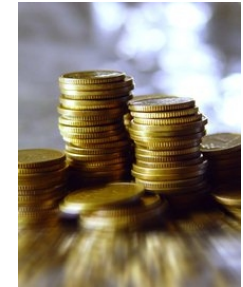
**Solutions**



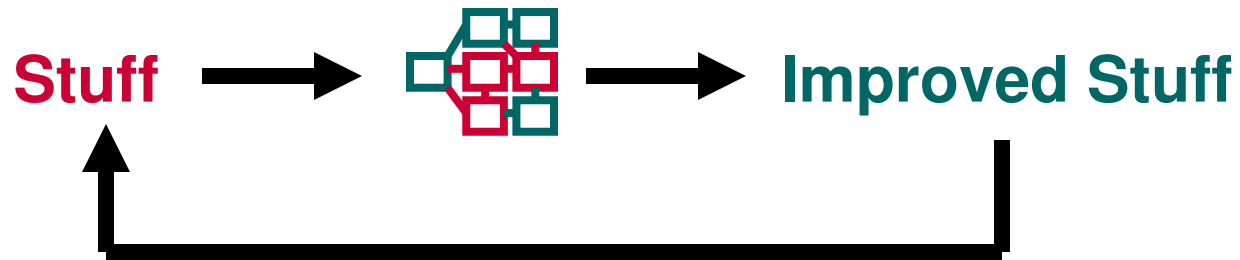
**Processes**



**Organizations**



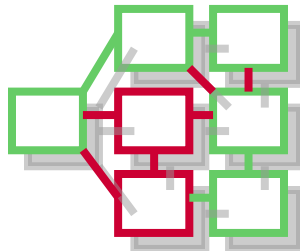
**Ideas**



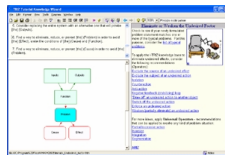


# So what's this "magic happens" stuff?

Impossible problems

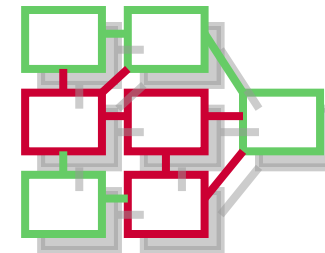
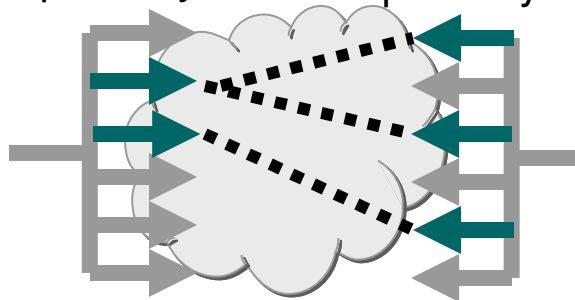


Problem mark-up

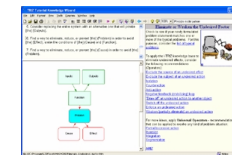


Solution pathways

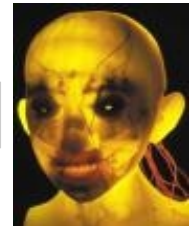
Problem pathways



Solution mark-up

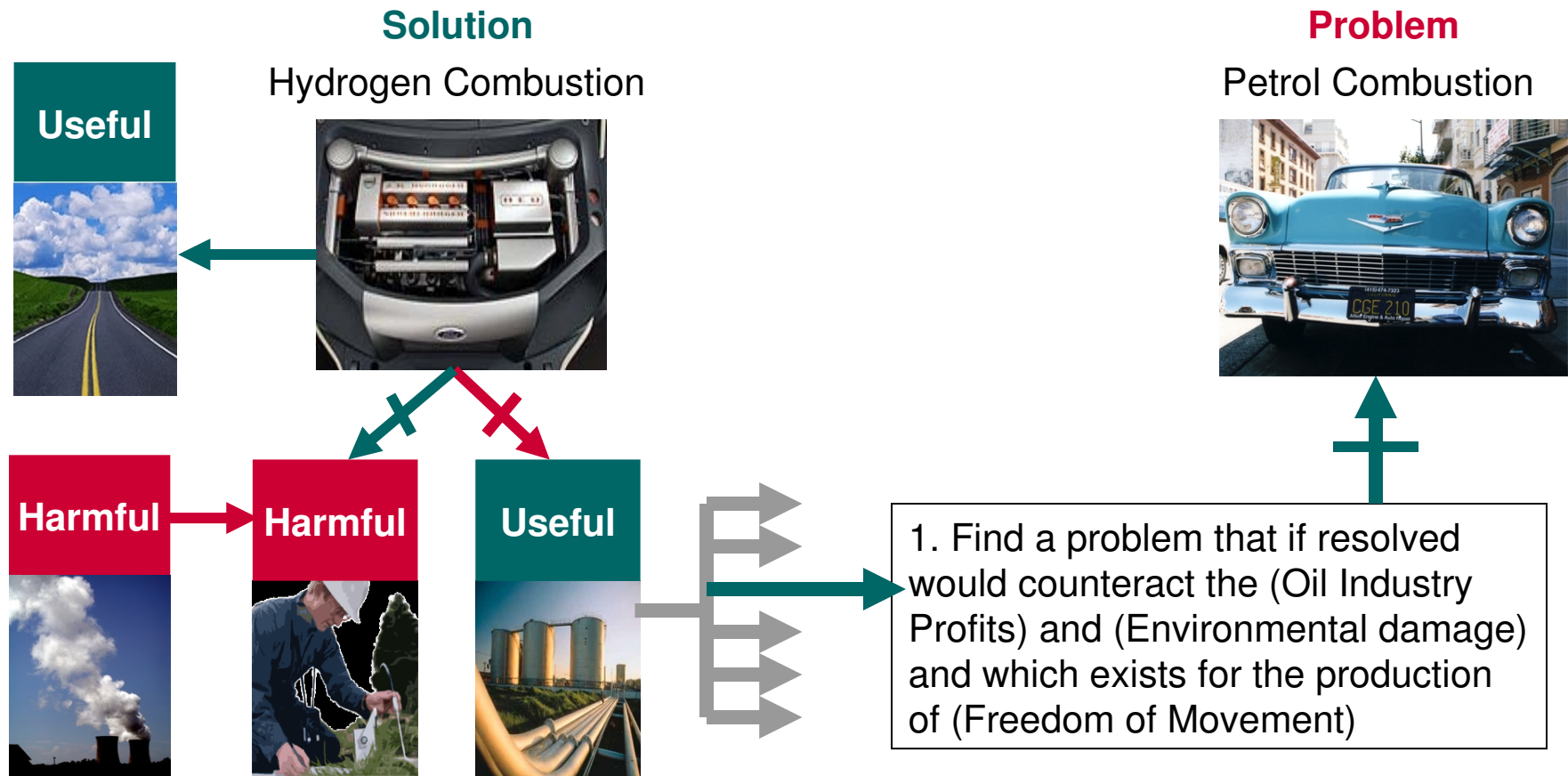


Unlikely solutions



## Combinatorial innovation

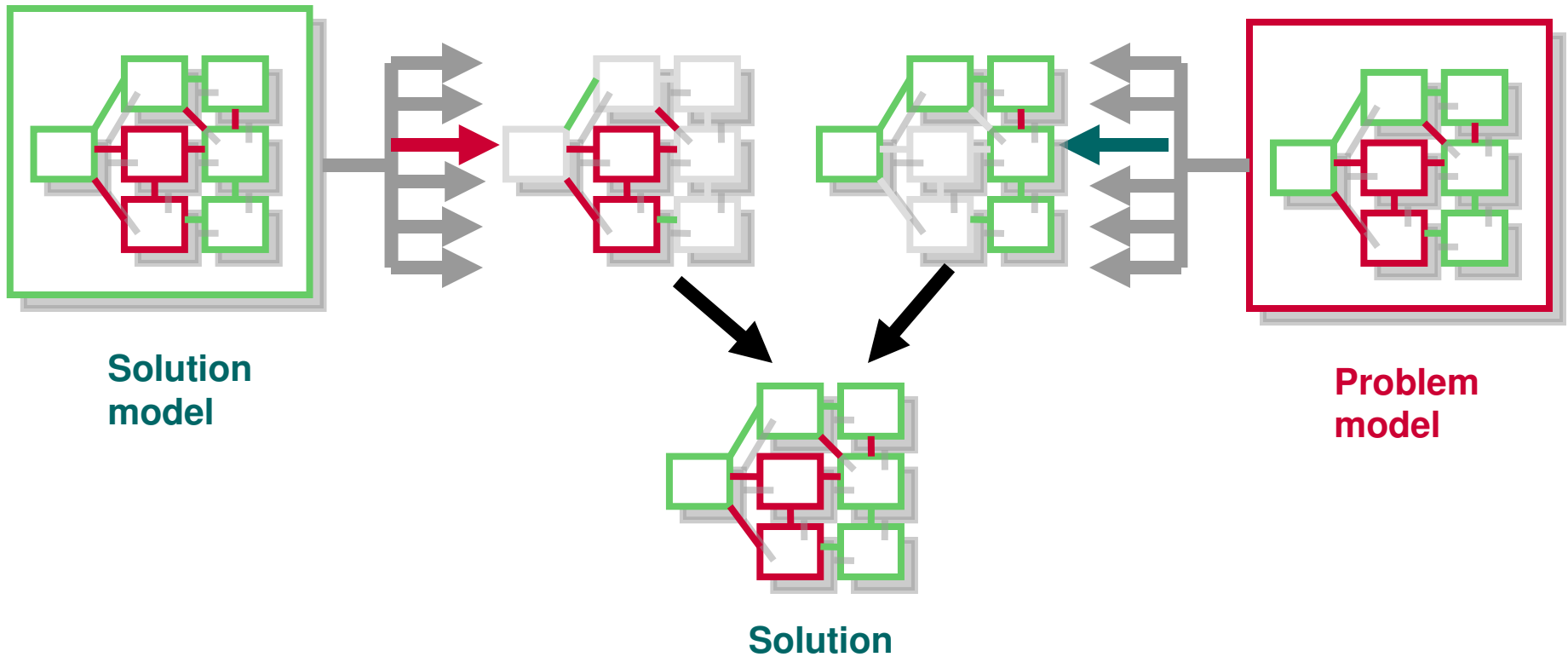
# The same models can describe solutions leading to problem-finding pathways



# The next generation of knowledge management for innovation

Problem-finding pathways

Solution-finding pathways





<http://howardsmith.editme.com>  
<http://trizmethods.blogspot.com>



## The Innovator Is A Problem Solver

## Do You Have Problems? A modern TRIZ Overview



### Do you have problems?

An obscure methodology originating in Russia in the 1940s, which has mainly been applied in engineering, is nevertheless being used today by CSC's solution architects working on their customers' most complex problems. It's called TRIZ. This article explains how TRIZ works and why we think it will become an important tool for the CIO and across the IT organization.

**Howard Smith and Mark Burnett**  
 Howard Smith, a research associate of the Leading Edge Forum, is CTO for CSC European Group and a leader of CSC's global BPM and enterprise architecture centre of excellence. An early advocate of process technology and a co-founder of BPM@IT, Howard is a regular columnist at BPM Trends and author of two books about IT and business processes.  
[hsmith23@csc.com](mailto:hsmith23@csc.com)

The IT portfolio brings a problem portfolio

Think back to the last time you delighted the business. Was it the result of systematic effort or someone unexpectedly solving a key problem that was hindering progress? The problems you inherited from your predecessor are the solutions they created to counteract older problems buried deep in the history of your organization. How will you avoid leaving a similar legacy to your successor? If you must now cut further costs from IT budgets and at the same time develop valuable new business processes, there is no way out: problems associated with the existing legacy must be resolved. Can you



## What Innovation Is

White paper  
38 pages

## P-TRIZ Formulation

### A BPT COLUMN

### P-TRIZ Formulation

#### Process Innovation

March 2006



**Howard Smith**  
 CTO CSC European Group  
 Corporate Office of Innovation  
 Computer Science Corp.

[hsmith23@csc.com](mailto:hsmith23@csc.com)

Last month we introduced readers to Process-TRIZ (P-TRIZ), a new method of use to anyone documenting, analyzing, or re-designing business processes. Developed by Mark Burnett and Howard Smith at Computer Sciences Corporation, P-TRIZ is a methodology for identifying process reengineering options and the associated solutions.

While workflow, rules engines and BPM systems are proving effective at introducing new processes, the design of such processes has to be determined before they can be deployed – with or without new technology. That's where P-TRIZ can help. In this article, I show how a P-TRIZ model is used to generate an exhaustive list of re-design options. This first step in P-TRIZ is called *formulation*.

In P-TRIZ, every process model (swimlane model, BPMN diagram etc.) can be accompanied by one or more corresponding *process innovation models*. Where the swimlane model describes how the process should execute, the process innovation model describes how the process can be *improved or re-invented*.

Process innovation models are easy to read and are a great aid to communicating what is good and bad about any process. The notation requires only two types of boxes and two types of lines:



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<http://howardsmith.editme.com>  
<http://www.southbeachinc.com>



EXPERIENCE. RESULTS.