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Breakthrough Accelerators

Accelerating business critical challenges

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This three-day workshop is designed for intact or project teams to:

- generate breakthrough thinking and solutions around a critical challenge or issue
- learn how to release the creative power of the team (individually & collectively)
- develop and practice new skills and capacities

Typically these workshops are run with one or more teams simultaneously.



Accelerated business benefits

- Generating an eight-fold increase in the rate of innovation of a global R&D pipeline
- Halving the annual IT spend without decreasing the quality of service
- Finding a creative way of taking \$100m cost out of a Supply Chain
- Crafting the principles that led to the process simplification of all global functions
- Reducing R&D timelines (from molecule to market) by over 30%
- Significantly increasing the productivity of a strategically vital manufacturing plant

'We all left the workshop thinking that what we achieved in those three days would have taken us at least six months to resolve, if at all.'



An evocative story...

'My team leader took our team on a three-day acceleration workshop. I was initially very reluctant to go as three days is a massive amount of time out of the business, but we really needed some new thinking around a particular issue we had. We had been going around in circles for months, and there was growing pressure from the wider business and from the CEO to crack it.

When we got there we found that there were three teams going through this workshop at the same time – each with their own challenge to break through. The workshop started by showing us a diagram of the different stages of riding the 'creative-rollercoaster', around which the workshop was designed. The first stage was called On-Boarding where we had to deconstruct our team's challenge and start to look at the assumptions and beliefs behind our thinking. Very quickly we let go of the preconceptions we had come with, allowing an even more focused possibility to emerge – and this was only the first morning. For the next twenty-four hours we were introduced to a unique set of frameworks and skills that helped us look at our challenge from many different and interesting angles – including reflecting upon our own individual and team lenses, habits and patterns.

At various stages we paired up with people from the other teams to coach them on what was emerging for them. It was really powerful being coached by someone who wasn't an expert in our own field; and I realised as a coach I could add real value to the other teams even though I wasn't an expert in their field. It was as if each of the three teams started to bounce off one other, as the creative energy become more and more palpable.

By the afternoon of the second day we were given a brief where we had to put everything we had learned together to generate a breakthrough. Before we knew it eight hours had flown by and we had discovered a way forward that none of us had seen before.

By the time we had tested our breakthrough, action planned next steps and claimed our new skills, it was time to go.

We all left the workshop thinking that what we achieved in those three days would have taken us at least six months to resolve, if at all. We executed the 100-day action plan and delivered a great result.

I have subsequently taken my own leadership team on this workshop on two different occasions, each time with huge success.'

What is a Breakthrough Accelerator...?

Designed for either a single team or multiple teams, this three-day workshop is a powerful alternative to more classical and conventional 'brainstorming' or 'jamming' workshops.

Over the three days each team is introduced to what it means to ride the highs and lows of the creative process, and how to apply this learning in real-time to business critical challenges or issues. By slowing-down to speed-up, each team learns to see the problem-space differently and to see themselves and each other differently, enabling them to find elegant solutions and innovative pathways forward.

Some of the Macro-Frameworks and Micro-Skills that we introduce to participants include:

- reframing critical issues
- working with different ways of knowing
- finding and holding breakthrough questions
- seeing our own enabling and disabling lenses, patterns and habits (individually and as a team)
- unblocking invisible entanglements
- coaching and catalysing new insight
- becoming a creative team and/or community of innovation

To learn more about our *Breakthrough Accelerators* email us at catalysts@nowhere.com

Or visit
nowhere.com

