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Innovation Expedition

INNOVATION EXPEDITION

Bulletin

Introducing the Challenge Dialogue System™(CDS™)

Transforming diverse individuals into high-performing teams

A New Leadership Challenge

With the emergence of an economy that is global, highly competitive, fast changing and based largely on knowledge as an asset, the approaches to planning and problem solving that have served groups well in the past are no longer sufficient.

Leaders in all sectors are facing increasingly complex challenges—challenges that involve collaboration across established boundaries, overturn traditional ways of thinking, and require innovative solutions.

To meet these challenges...

The Innovation Expedition offers The Challenge Dialogue System™ (CDS) - a flexible but comprehensive organizational performance improvement system with a powerful capacity to help diverse stakeholders collaborate to accomplish complex tasks.

With CDS, teams can:

- **Engage in some disciplined thinking about the Culture of Innovation and the nature of an innovation supply chain**
- **Accomplish more in less meeting time**
- **Learn how to use diversity to create breakthroughs**
- **Move from idea to action earlier and with greater chance of success**

The Innovation Expedition is a virtual network organization that serves as a great global connector linking and supporting influential innovators and potential innovators in their efforts to build high performing organizations and to help create sustainable prosperity in their communities (jobs, wealth and well-being).

The Innovation Expedition offers the **Challenge Dialogue System™**, a flexible but comprehensive organizational performance improvement system with a powerful capacity to help diverse stakeholders collaborate and innovate in order to accomplish complex tasks.

CDS Can Benefit:

- *Existing teams in the private, public or not-for-profit sectors interested in learning how to use dialogue in their ongoing efforts to improve their performance*
- *Leaders facing a significant challenge that touches multiple stakeholders across several organizations with little history of effective collaboration.*

It can be applied in one of four different ways

1. Coaching and mentoring in applying the “8 Keys to Productive Dialogue” in team interactions aimed at rapid improvements in performance (RIP) in their organization. (This application of CDS is described as CDS:RIP.)
2. A formal Challenge Dialogue (CD) initiative that takes groups of 10 to 100 people through a structured conversation (3 weeks to 6 months) focused on solving a specific problem or realizing a significant opportunity. (This application of CDS is described as CDS:CD.)
3. Assisting groups to organize and sustain a Hub Unit to support Network Clusters (consortia) on issues of strategic importance. (CDS:Network Clusters.)
4. Assisting individual organizations, professional organizations and/or political jurisdictions to strengthen their capacity to practice Strategic Foresight (CDS:Strategic Foresight.)

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CDS Offers:

Roadmap to Operating a Successful Challenge Dialogue

A disciplined process of defining a Challenge, engaging diverse stakeholders in productive conversation around the Challenge, and moving to action within a defined time frame.

Each step is backed by simple “how-to” templates.

You benefit from what’s been shown to work for thousands of others around the world, while maintaining total flexibility to adapt the process to your needs and preferences.

Customized Resource Kits

Assembled from an extensive database of tools, resources, articles and “think pieces,” the CDS resource kits are tailored to meet the specific needs of each client at each stage of their performance improvement journey.

The **basic resource kit** serves to support the operation of a specific time-based Challenge Dialogue

A more **extensive resource kit** is available for Facilitators who are engaged in mentoring clients for ongoing initiatives aimed at rapid improvement in performance (CDS:RIP).

Knowledgelab

The Knowledgelab provides a set of services that offers a technology platform :i.e., learning, knowledge management and community building technologies (CDS:Network Clusters). primarily to support the creative work of the Network Clusters that the Innovation Expedition is helping to launch.

Elements of the Knowledgelab can also be drawn upon to support both Challenge Dialogues and initiatives for rapid improvement in performance.



CDS has been successfully used to:

Assist a Canadian food industry create in a matter of weeks a global leadership team to implement a new strategy built around relationship sales.

Mentor 350 scientists, government officials and community leaders in 17 Asian countries to speak with a collective voice in influencing the agenda and approach of an international conference on health research for development.

Help private sector CEOs, research centre heads and senior government ministers collaborate as a Board to create a provincial science and research authority, defining operating principles, strategic plan and processes.

Launch a continuous improvement movement that helped a U.S. Fortune 500 company integrate 44 independent subsidiaries into a collaborative four-sector business.

Assist a national Office of Technology Foresight to strengthen its capacity to engage diverse stakeholders in engaging in Foresight exercises in Biohealth and Future Fuels.

Engage global participants from academia, NGO health service providers and policy groups in exploring the creation of an academic NGO concerned with reducing health disparities in low-income communities.

Assist 12 non-for-profits in the health sector in East Africa to create a web-enabled network to support community health change agents.

Guide a 2.5-year transformation in a Canadian financial services company, taking them from the bottom rung to first in customer, employee and shareholder satisfaction.

Bring researchers together with those who fund and apply research to co-create an innovation agenda and a network committed to implementing nationally an integrated energy strategy.

Provide a process and mentoring support for reaching alignment among over 3,000 leaders in a provincial agricultural and food industry on a plan for transforming the sector from a commodity-based approach to a value-added approach.

Engage provincial and national centres of excellence in working with diverse stakeholders to transform their strategic plans to move from research project oriented agenda to mission oriented innovation programs aimed at dramatically increasing the outcomes of these programs.

Note: a more complete list of examples is available.