# **Problem and Solution**

**Problem:** Traditional ways of thinking are to slow and ineffective to keep up with rapid and accelerating change. Successful organizations and individuals need to quickly apply innovative thinking to constantly changing information to create continuous strategic advantage.

**Solution:** The solution Nth Degree is proposing is to put in place an environment that helps harness the creative talent and improve thinking performance of every employee in a systematic way for the betterment of the organization and its customers. MindSights from Nth Degree Software, Inc. (Nth°) is such an environment.

MindSights is Facilitated Thinking Environment (FTE) that will enhance performance in the following ways:

- 1. Use as a personal environment to improve employee competencies in creativity, problem solving, decision-making and overall thinking abilities.
- 2. Use as a team environment to harness collective intelligence to better manage complexity.
- 3. Use as a corporate innovation environment that promotes constant innovation and on-going improvements.

# **Concept of Facilitated Thinking Environment:**

Facilitated thinking is the process of providing intellectual guidance that supports and amplifies natural human thinking to arrive at higher level ideas, thoughts, solutions and understandings. Conceptually, facilitated thinking is based on the premise that intelligence can be aided and thinking made more effective when the right cognitive tools at applied.

Facilitated Thinking Environments contain all the tools needed to help improve knowledge worker thinking productivity. Having and using the right cognitive tools is as important for a "thinker" as having the right physical tool is for the "craftsperson" and follows the same principle that underlies the selection of any manual tool: choose one appropriate for the task at hand.

In general, FTEs are designed to function much like a skilled consultant, teacher or facilitator who provides intellectual guidance by asking just the right questions, offering the right tools to use, and putting at a person's fingertips successful methods at just the right moment for the thinking task at hand.

Competitors	MindSights' Distinguishers
People	Thinking Emulation Grid
(Consultants, Facilitators and Trainers)	(Remembers everything, used anytime-anyplace, at a fraction of the cost of a consultant)
Hard-copy Books	SoftBooks
(Training, self-help books, videos)	(USE them, rather than just <b>READ</b> them)

### **MindSights Competitor Distinguishers**

### **Standalone Software Products**

TRIZ, eThink, Path Maker, Group System-Meeting Works, Idea Fisher. Memory Jogger, **Mind Jet**, Goal Pro, Team@Work, Serious Creativity, Inspiration, Business Insight, Decision Pro.

- Structured "single purpose" Thinking.
- Difficult/Impossible User Customization.
- Generally Training is required to use.
- Potential installation/deployment issues.
- High Cost: **\$6,720**

### **Fully Integrated Environment**

18 integrated softBooks that include over 70 frameworks steps, 150+ thinking tools, 80 questions sets (1600+ facilitator questions) and a total of 987 (editable and customizable) pages.

- Flexible "multi purpose" Thinking.
- Very Easy User Customization.
- Intuitive to use.
- No Installation/Deployment even needed.
- Low Cost: **\$185**

### MindSights Corporate/Profession MindSights Version 2.0

This product includes the following 18 softBooks that run in Windows on MS WORD 2000 and 2003. Note: MindSights can run in other operating systems that run MS WORD, such as MACs, but it is not guaranteed to run on all operating systems.

	Start MindSights olve-it Fast	System navigation and integrator. Respond quickly to an immediate need (90 minute problem solving).
3. So	olve-it:	Resolve a complex problem or situation.
4. In	nnovate-it:	Develop creative ideas and turn them into value or profit.
5. Fi	ix-it:	Restore a situation to an original, past, or standard condition.
6. In	nprove-it:	Improve upon current levels of performance (based on Six-sigma).
7. Pl	lan-it:	Anticipate and prepare for future problems/opportunities.
8. C	hange-it	Master constant change by improving personal problem solving.
9. O	bserve-It	Promote awareness of unrecognized problems or opportunities.
10. D	efine-It	Gather, filter, and organize relevant data into useful information.
11. A	nalyze-It	Understand problem details by knowing specific problem parts.
12. Sy	ystems Think	Understand the whole problem by knowing how the parts interact.
13. Su	ubconscious Think	Tap into the enormous potential of your subconscious mind.
14. C	reate-It	Power up personal or team creativity thinking abilities.
15. D	ecide-It	Enhance personal or team decision making and effectiveness.

16. Manage-It	Achieve project objectives: quality, on time, and within budget.
17. Team Thinking	Harness the collective intelligence and genius of your team.
18. Meeting Productivity	Significantly improve the productivity of your meetings.

## **Return on Investment:**

MindSights is a very low cost, low risk investment, AND, the ROI potential is at the hundreds of times investment. See Addendum for ROI details.

## Nth Degree Software, Inc.

After six years of research and development, our flagship product MindSights has recently come to market. As a new type of product, early adaptors will gain competitive advantages from its use. MindSights fits in the emerging field of Corporate Performance Management (CPS). MindSights will rapidly evolve along with new document technology. Also see Competitive Distinguishers in addendum

### **Other MindSights benefits and uses:**

- New managers of all types can speed learning by accessing tools from the masters.
- Experienced Project managers can speed execution and shorten project life cycle.
- Line managers can use feedback mechanisms to prevent problem recurrence.
- Sales managers and staff can better solve their client's problems.
- **Quality control manager** can use tools like FMEA to produce higher quality products.
- Senior managers can use tools like balanced scorecard to ensure the right problems are being worked-on and are aligned with corporate goals.
- Strategic Planners will anticipate and prepare for the future better.
- Decision makers will make more certain decisions leading to fewer costly mistakes.
- Business Analysts more quickly understand complex situations.
- Systems Analysts will produce superior cross-organizational solutions.
- Methods Analyst will better analyze complex problems.
- **Process Engineers** apply Six-sigma for process efficiency.
- Help desk and trouble shooters can quickly find root causes and resolve urgent problems.
- **Organizational Developers** can facilitate innovative thinking and life-long learning.
- Team Leaders can improve team performance via group tools.
- **Project leaders** focus team energies to achieve high performance results
- Supervisors and Administrators can better promote collaboration and teamwork
- **Trainers** quickly develop just-in-time training courses or distance learning courses.
- Product Developers can use strategies like Innovate-It to turn creative ideas into profit.
- Directors and HR Supervisor can promote more effective communications.
- **Everyone** can strengthen their systems and whole-mind thinking skills.

- **Everyone** can become more empowered by improving creativity, problem solving and having more and better questions to ask.
- **Everyone** can use tools to find ways to improve personal job performance.
- Everyone can learn how to access and use their subconscious mind.
- **Everyone** can use coaching type tools to help resolve personal problems at work or home.
- **Everyone** can have a ready reference library of thinking tools for on-demand use.
- Everyone can improve observation skills to recognize problems & opportunitie