Theory of Constraints Practitioners Alliance www.tocpractice.org





Introduction into the Simplified Thinking Processes

by Jelena Fedurko-Cohen
11 April 2024



What is SIMPLIFIED TP?

SIMPLIFIED THINKING PROCESSES (TOC S-TP) is a set of tools and processes to produce A SIGNIFICANT SHORTCUT TO INJECTIONS.

The TOC S-TP logical tools allow the user to come to an effective Injection and its implementation map within a couple of hours, rather than days using the regular TP.

I have developed and successfully used S-TP for several years with multiple companies and individuals.





A CLUSTER of necessary conditions when one can offer a change to the existing tools/methods:

- One knows very well the techniques, mechanics and underlying principles of the existing tools/methods.
- One has EXTENSIVELY practiced these existing tools/methods:
 - ✓ in VARIOUS environments
 - ✓ over a SIGNIFICANT period of time
 - ✓ has seen and analyzed RESULTS of their applications
 - ✓ has extensively taught and guided others to construct and use these tool
- One has developed expertise and systemized
 - ✓ which tools/methods do not give expected results in which conditions of reality
 - ✓ WHY they do not give results which specific techniques/mechanics do not work in which conditions of reality
 - ✓ which DIFFERENT techniques/mechanics work INSTEAD in these conditions
 - ✓ Checked multiple times in various environment that the new tools/methods work for the identified conditions of reality



If S-TP is a SOLUTION, then what was the PROBLEM?



S-TP is a SOLUTION. What is the PROBLEM?

The ultimate objective of central TOC TP tools is to find a sustainable and risk-free solution (INJECTION) and outlay the way of implementing it.

However, while working brilliantly, regular TOC TP tools take a long time to come to an Injection.

For regular TOC TP tools to be successfully applied and taught, people who go through this process should:

- Enjoy "going inside" their situation for detailed and structured understanding of what drives what in their system;
- NOT feel threatened by examining their own thinking and exposing their assumptions to others;
- Have patience to go through several iterations of the analysis of the same issue and multiple repetitions for the same process for several different issues;
- **Have time** that requires to go through this process. Copyright © 2008-2024 by Jelena Fedurko-Cohen





S-TP is a SOLUTION. What is the PROBLEM?

However, the reality is different:

- The time span that can be used for finding solutions with the help of TP is limited;
- Tediousness and multiple repetitions in the use of regular TP quickly bring people to lose enthusiasm, get discouraged, and disengage.

I have developed and over the last few years extensively used the TOC Simplified TP for various companies and organizations, in the format of solution development sessions.

This allowed those companies to:

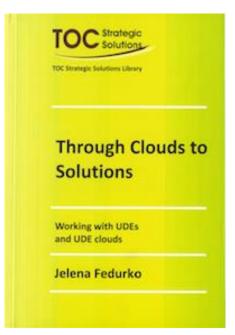
- quickly find effective and immediately doable solutions to their persistent problems;
- maintain high level of involvement and enthusiasms of managers during the process;
- acquire the mechanics of working with the tools straight in the process of solution development.

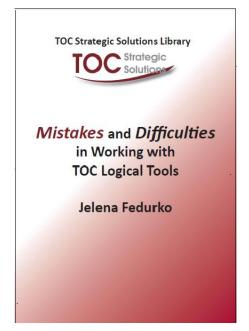


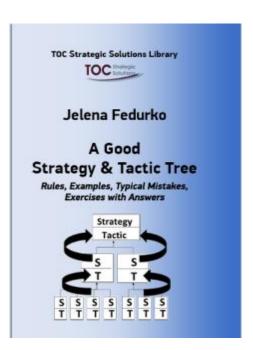


Then what about my four detailed books on TOC logical tools?









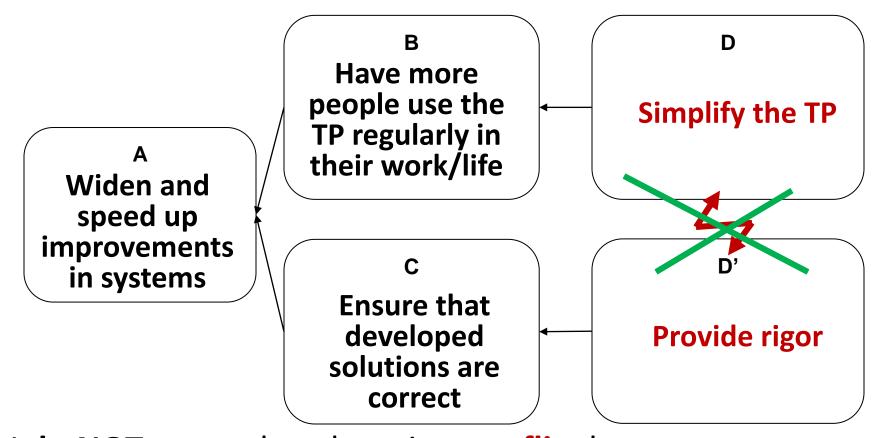
Visit http://tocexpert.com/books/

S-TP is NOT a replacement for the TP – it is an ADDITIONAL SET OF TOOLS.





Jelena: If it is a cloud then it should look like this:



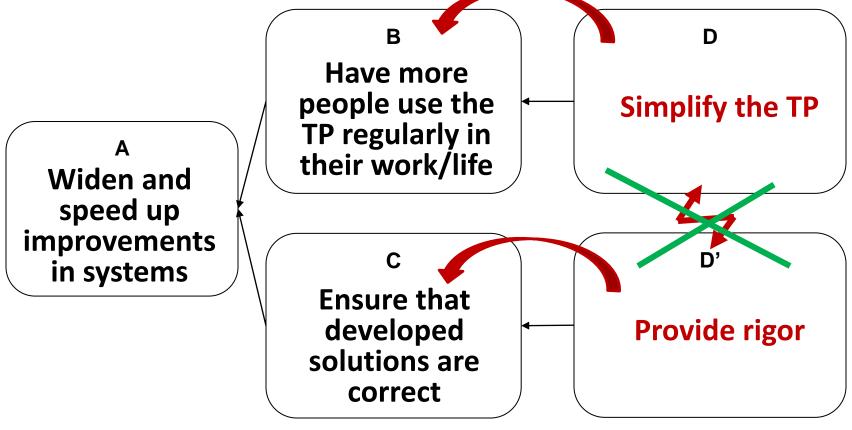
I do NOT agree that there is a conflict between 'simplify the TP' and 'provide rigor'.

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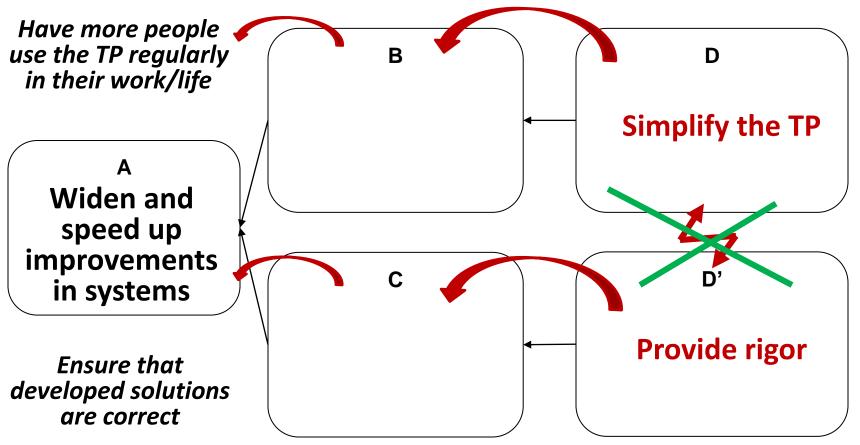


Jelena: The Simplified TP and Rigor are two Necessary Conditions, and NOT conflicting actions!





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Absolute majority of people are not interested in tools & mechanics that require significant investment of time to learn and use.

Widen and speed up improvements in systems

Rigorous logic ensures that developed solutions are correct and bring expected results The set of Simplified TP tools with detailed mechanics and processes is available

The Simplified TP tools provide rigor

It is **NOT a cloud**.





Mindset & Basics

Commitment to Logic-based Management

Current Reality

Understanding the problem

WHAT to Change

Future Reality

Establishing the Solution

What to Change TO

Transition

Implementing the Solution

HOW to Change

POOGI

Continuous **Improvement**

How to Grow

- U-Shape
- Cause & Effect
- Categories of Legitimate Reservations (CLR)
- Dilemma Cloud
- Assumptions

- UnDesirable Effects (UDEs)
- UDE Cloud
- Consolidated Cloud
- Core Cloud
- Current Reality Tree (CRT)
- Negative Branch Reservation (NBR)
- Tree (FRT)

- Solution Direction
- Injections

Pivot

- Desired Effects (DE)
- Future Reality

- Ambitious Target / IO Map)
- Prerequisite
- Tree (PRT) **Detailed plan**
- Transition Tree
- (TrT) Strategy and Tactic Tree (S&T)

- U-Shape
- Fire-Fighting Cloud
- Dilemma Cloud
- Organizational **Interest Conflict** Cloud
- Day-to-Day **Conflict Cloud**





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Continuous Improvement

How to Grow

These are NOT the areas of responsibility of middle management!

Let's not forget that it is MIDDLE-LEVEL managers that make the operations run on day-to day basis!

Their job is to DO WHAT THEY ARE TOLD TO DO – TO ACHIEVE TARGETS!



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THE TP TOOLS BELOW ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR MIDDLE LEVEL OF MANAGERS!

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Cloud





Current Reality Commitment to **Management**

WHAT to Change

Future Reality

Establishing the Solution

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HOW to Change

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THE TP TOOLS BELOW ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR MIDDLE LEVEL OF MANAGERS!

Cause & Effect

Assumptions

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What I mean by





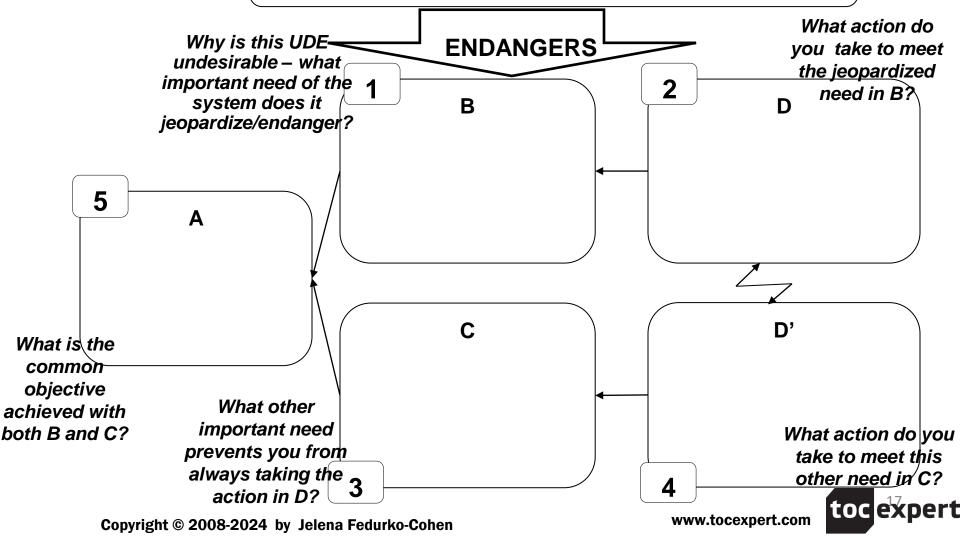
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Let's look closer at one tool and understand

why the UDE cloud does NOT work

for middle managers

UDE:

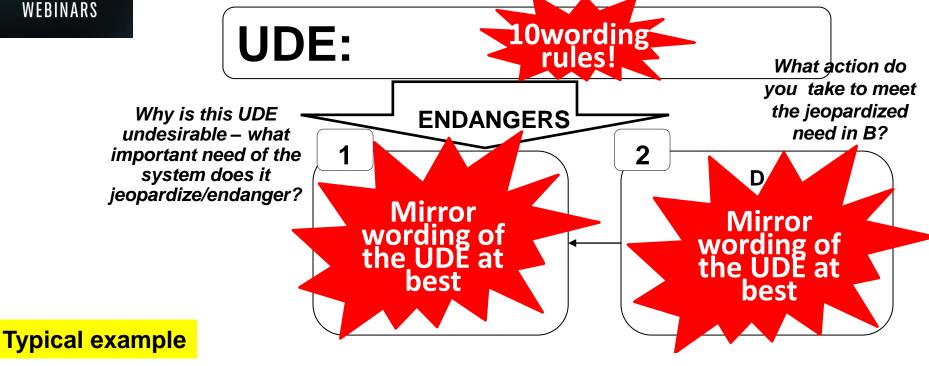




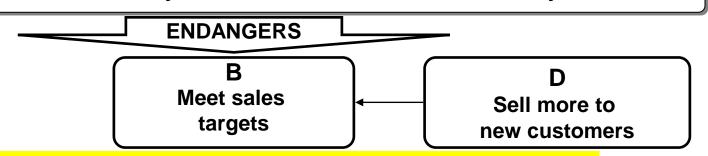
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Why the UDE cloud does NOT work for middle managers

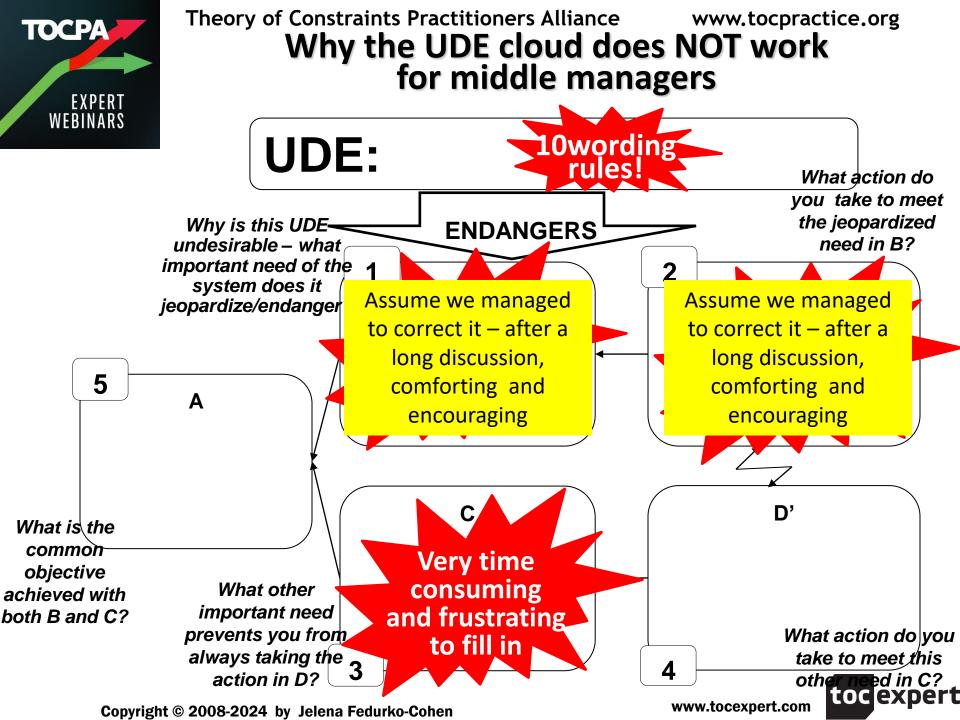


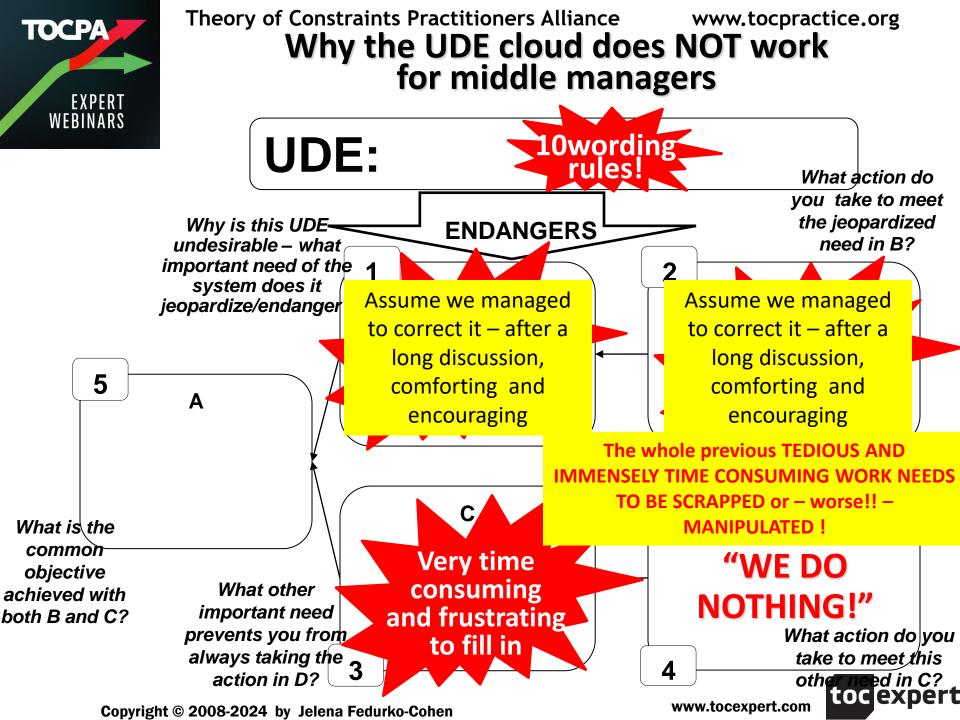
UDE: In the last year sales to new customers were very low.



The three boxes repeat the same 3 times. NOTHING further can be done!







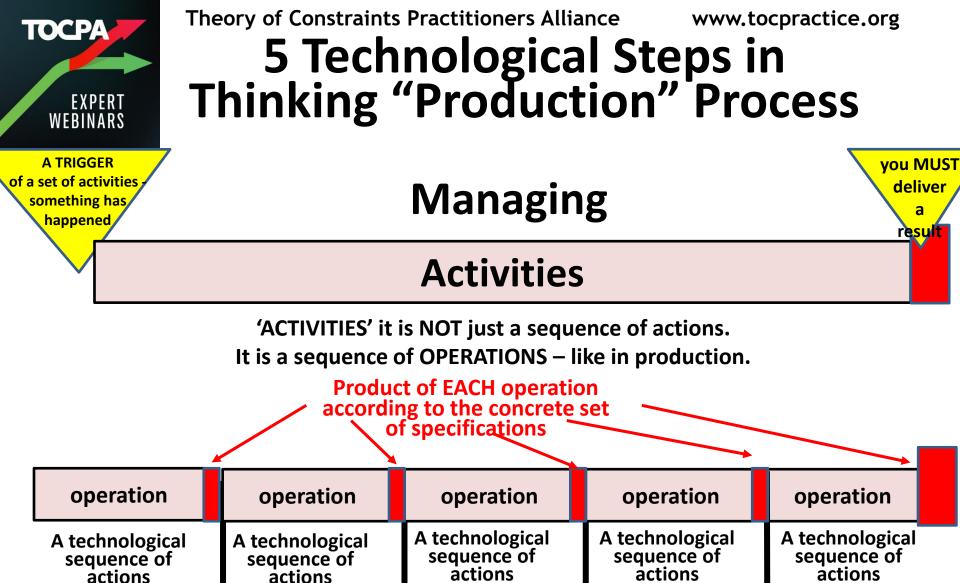


- Why the UDE cloud does NOT work for middle managers is only one example.
- The same goes for the consolidation process and the consolidated UDE cloud.
- The same goes for the full NBR.
- The IO map is usually of the quality of:
- Obstacle: 'We do not have xxxxx'.
 IO: 'WE HAVE xxxxx'.
 Needless to say it does NOT help.
- I am not even starting to speak about CRT, FRT, and all other trees. THE MIDDLE LEVEL MANAGERS DO NOT NEED THEM, do not have time to build them, and do not have anything to do with them.



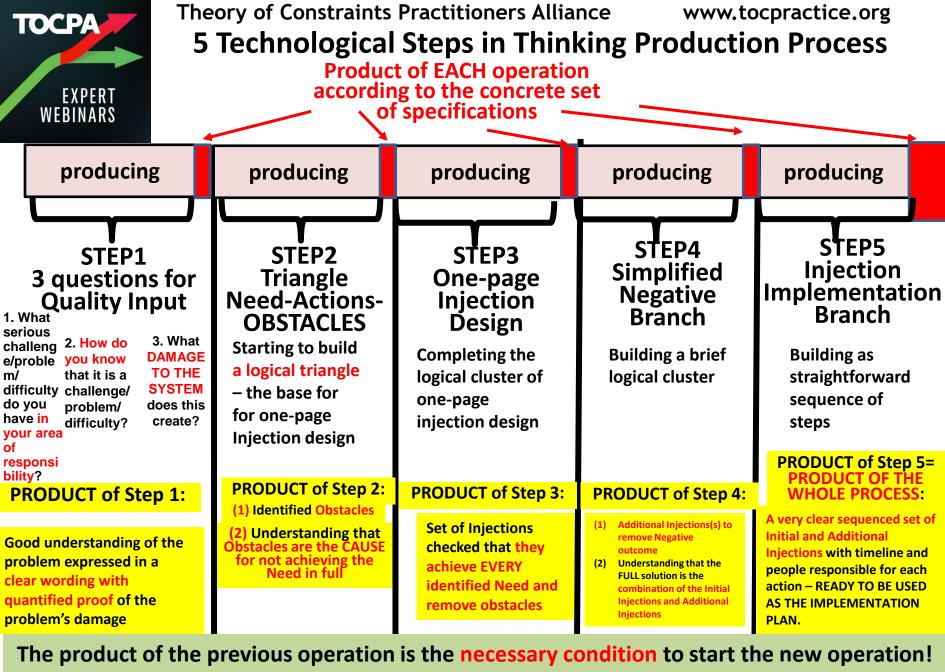


What is the change that I offer with the Simplified TP?



How is the product of the previous operation is connected to the next operation? It is the necessary condition to start the new operation!





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Just one example

Triangle Need-Actions-Obstacles (an 'unfinished' UDE Cloud)



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Triangle Need-Actions-Obstacles (an 'unfinished' UDE Cloud)

STEP1 3 questions for Quality Input

1. What serious challenge/probl em/ difficulty do you have in your area of responsibility?

2. How do you know that it is a challenge/ problem/ difficulty? 3. What DAMAGE TO THE SYSTEM does this create?

Collect from people PERSISTANT PROBLEMS in their system that DO NOT ALLOW THEM TO ACHIEVE THEIR TARGETS. Get answers to the 3 questions of Step 1. YOU YOURSELF REWORD these problems into the format of UDEs. DO NOT violate 10 rules of UDE wording. Check with the people that you correctly got the CORE of their problem.

WHERE IS ALL THE WORK WITH ASSUMPTIONS??

STEP2 **PERSISTENT PROBLEM: Need-Actions** -OBSTACLES **ENDANGERS** Does your system currently do anything to WHAT MECHANISM(S) What **IMPORTANT NEED** meet this need? If yes -**INSIDE YOUR SYSTEM** important (start with the verb) what exactly does your INTERFERE INTO need of the WHAT YOU DO IN THE system do? system **YELLOW BOX AND** does this PUMP BACK IN THE problem SYSTEM THIS 2. STEP5 endanger? PROBLEM? 3. **Injection** STEP3 STEP4 **Implementation** What is the wa One-page Simplified **Branch** actions! - to CO Injection **Negative** Branch Design **INJE**(

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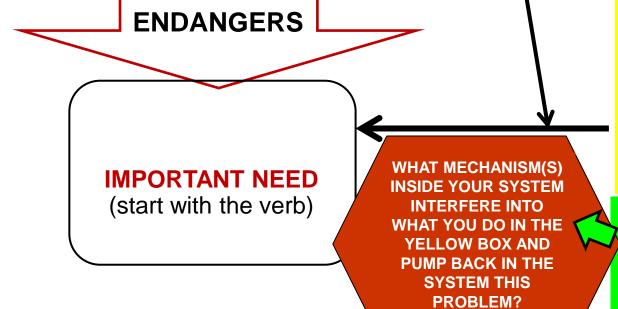


Where is the work with assumptions?

PERSISTENT PROBLEM:

NO NEED TO DEVELOP THE ASSUMPTIONS – THEY ARE KNOWN:

- (1) **We do not have any** procedures/ system behaviours/ measurements/ motivation systems/ etc. that may block this action from achieving the important need.
- (2) **We have all** necessary resources, capacity, capabilities and authority to do the action in the way and to the degree that is sufficient to achieve the important need.



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Does your system currently do anything to meet this need? If yes – what exactly does your system do?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

This check is the regular part of the standard process of working with the Cloud: challenging assumptions.

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Your thoughts?