

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RENEWABLE ENERGY

2017 BTO FOA Kick-off Meeting

Customer Discovery
and Maximizing Impact





- Segway raised over **\$100MM USD** in **2001**.
- Largely based on cult-of-personality of inventor, Dean Kamen.
- Planned to revolutionize urban transportation.
- Projected to sell 10,000 Segways per week.



- Largely used funds for tech development – and it was GREAT technology!
- Hired logistics consultants to work on providing **10,000 Segways per week**.
- At the end of **2 years they sold 6,000 TOTAL Segways**.
- Did not identify and validate a true “unmet need” from CUSTOMER PERSPECTIVE.



In other words,
don't be the next
Segway!



In other words,
*don't be the next
Mall Cop!*

How many of you want
to create a startup?

How many of you want
license your technology?

How many of you want
*increase the impact of
your research?*

Is your solution
*“better and more
expensive”?*

Is your solution
*“better and less
expensive”?*

Is your solution
*“worse and less
expensive”?*

Is your solution
*“worse and more
expensive”?*

To be *continued...*

The *Prequel*



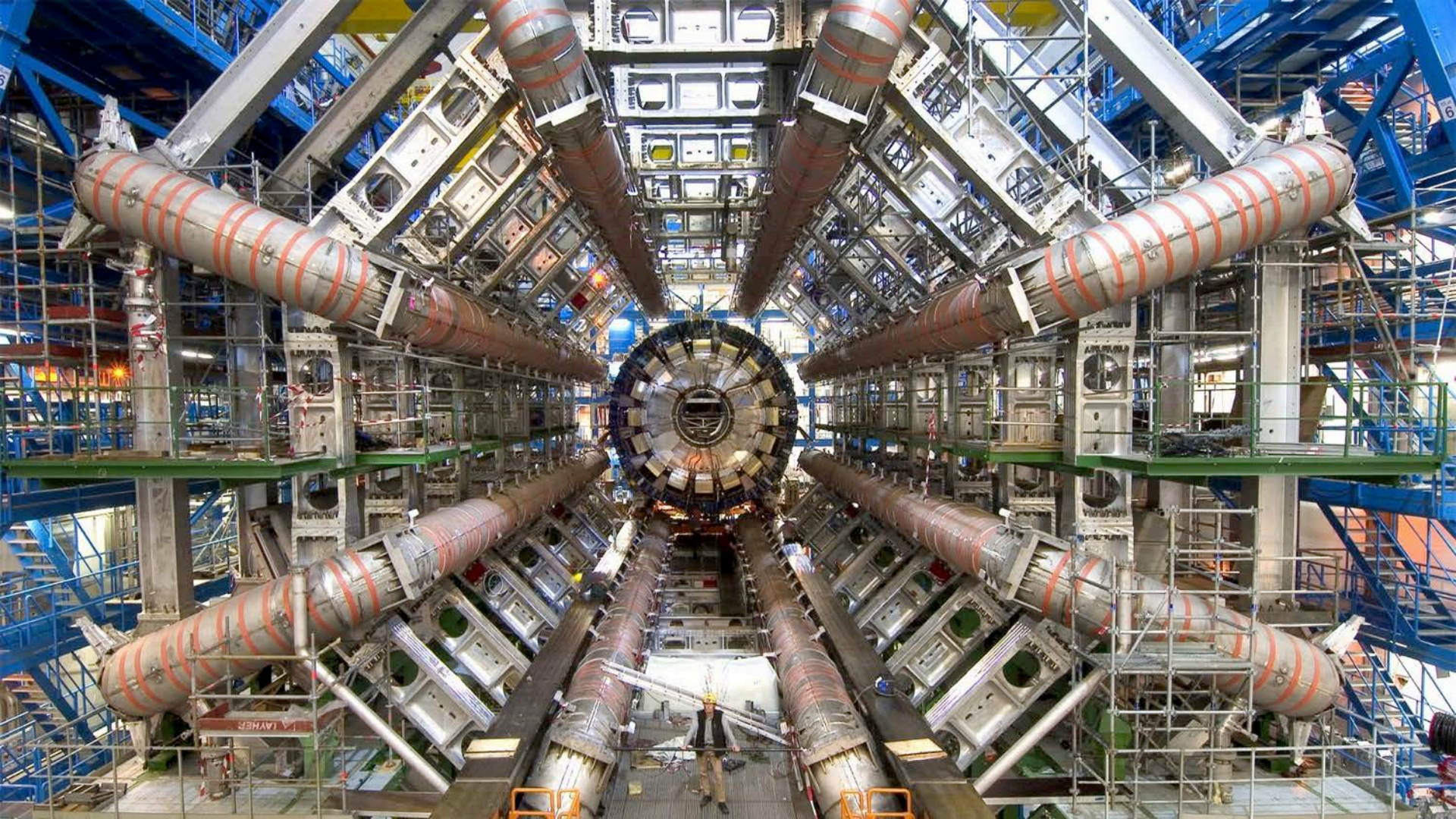
My startup set out to change
an entire industry...

We had a *much*
better way



HOLLYWOOD









What *Happened?*

10 years *\$20M later*



The *Sequel*



2,000+ *Teams*

10,000+ *Hours*

Science and *Technology Focus*

Startups and *Transformational Opportunities*

Two Primary

Examples

Innovation Corps

(I-Corps)



I WANT YOU

FOR  **CORPS**
NSF Innovation Corps

NEAREST RECRUITING STATION



\$7 *Billion*

*“How can we increase the
economic impact of the
research dollars invested
every year?”*







CORPS
NSF Innovation Corps

Lean LaunchPad Course

Developed by
entrepreneurs

Taught by
entrepreneurs

Stanford University and a lecturer and National Science Foundation principal investigator at the University of California at Berkeley and Columbia University. He has participated in eight high-tech start-ups as either a cofounder or an early employee.

Why the Lean Start-Up Changes Everything

by Steve Blank

Harvard Business Review

TURN A GREAT IDEA INTO A GREAT BUSINESS

"Lean" is changing everything you know about starting a new venture [PAGE 63](#)



MAY 2013

55 Idea Watch
The Limits of Social Influence
[Simon Axel](#)

92 Spotlight
In Search of the Next Big Thing
An interview with Marc Andreessen

141 Case Study
The Unmanageable Star Performer
[Abhishek Goel](#)



has emerged, one that can make the process of starting a company less risky. It's a methodology called the "lean start-up," and it favors experimentation over elaborate planning, customer feedback over intuition, and iterative design over traditional "big design up front" development. Although the meth-

"minimum viable product" and "pivoting"—have quickly taken root in the start-up world, and business schools have already begun adapting their curricula to teach them.

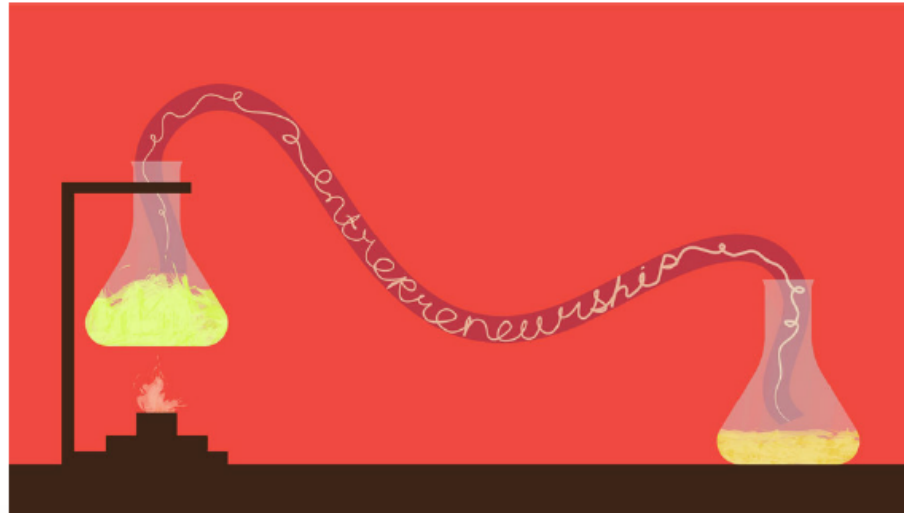
The lean start-up movement hasn't gone totally mainstream, however, and we have yet to feel its full impact. In many ways it is roughly where the big data movement was five years ago—consisting mainly of buzzword that's not yet widely understood, whose applications companies are just beginning to grasp. As its practices spread, they're turning the conventional wisdom about entrepreneurship on its head. New ventures of all kinds are attempting to improve their chances of success by following its principles of failing fast and continually learning. And despite the methodology's name, in the long term some of its biggest payoffs may be gained by the large companies that embrace it.

In this article I'll offer a brief overview of lean start-up techniques and how they've evolved. Most important, I'll explain how, in combination with other business trends, they could ignite a new entre-

This Program Uses Lean Startup Techniques to Turn Scientists into Entrepreneurs

by Greg Satell

MARCH 07, 2017



MIT Technology Review

VOL. 115 NO. 6 | \$5.99 US

HAS QUANTUM
COMPUTING
FINALLY
ARRIVED?

Upright p24

HOW
TOMORROW'S
STARTUPS WILL
BE FUNDED

Business Report p75

TECH
TRANSFORMS
MUSIC, ART,
AND PROSE

Reviews p87



Buzz Aldrin,
Apollo 11
moonwalker,
would like a
word with you.

You Promised Me Mars Colonies. Instead, I Got Facebook.

We've stopped solving big problems.
Meet the technologists who refuse to give up. p26



**You Promised Me Mars Colonies.
Instead, I Got Facebook.**



facebook.®



Getting
Better?





\$22B *Ghost*

Not I - Corps
Focus

I -Corps first program to apply
lean startup principles

*to complex engineering,
technology, and science based
startups*

SBI R/STTR

Bootcamp

Venture Capital

<10% of seed stage investments

Venture Capital

<10% of seed stage investments

SBIR/STTR

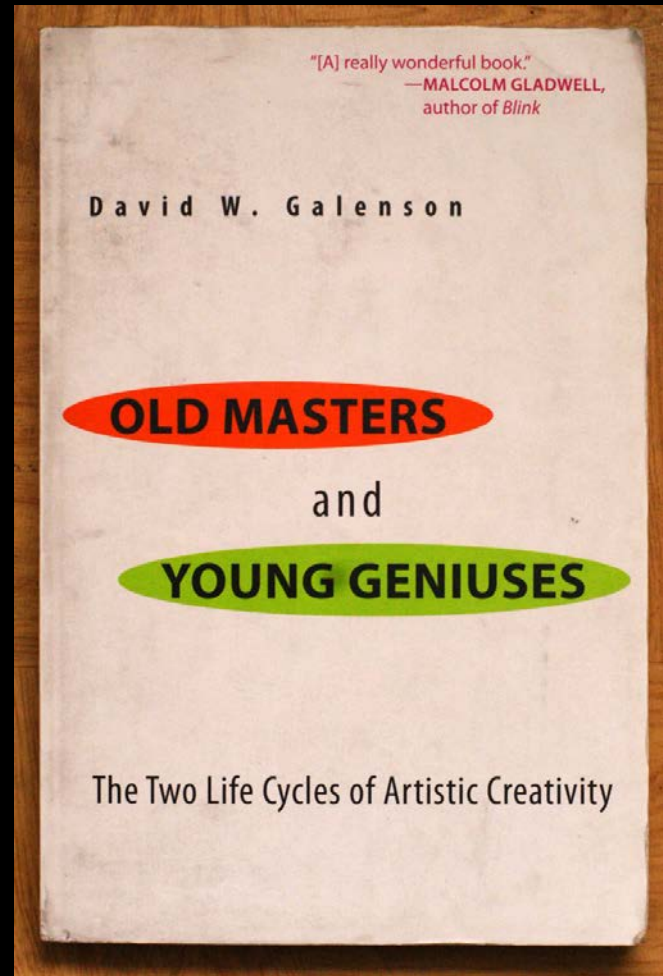
> 90% of seed stage investments

**“Transforming the
world’s largest seed fund”**

*“Transforming the
world’s largest seed fund*

*...into the world’s largest
Accelerator.”*

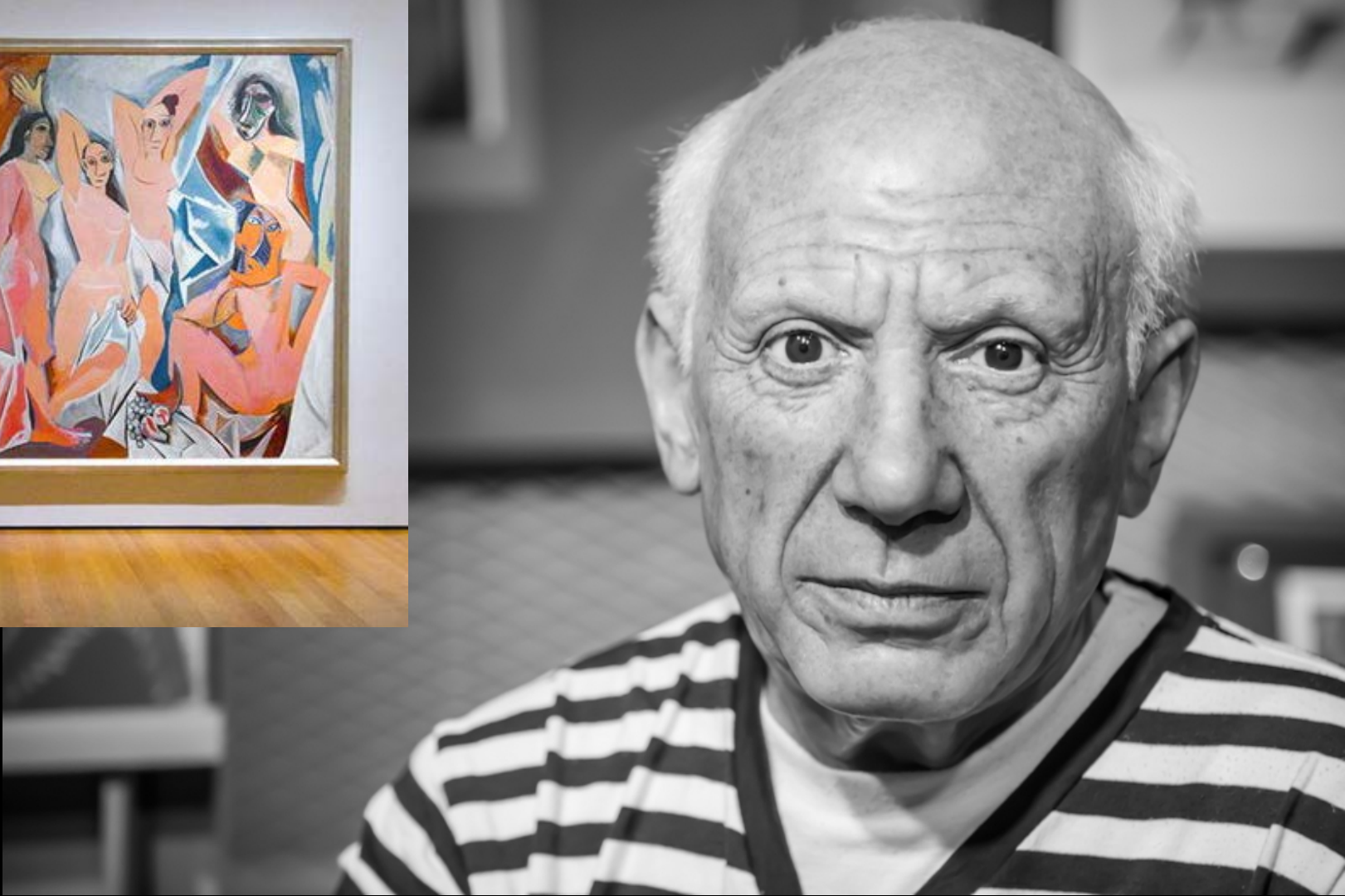
How about a little
Art History?!



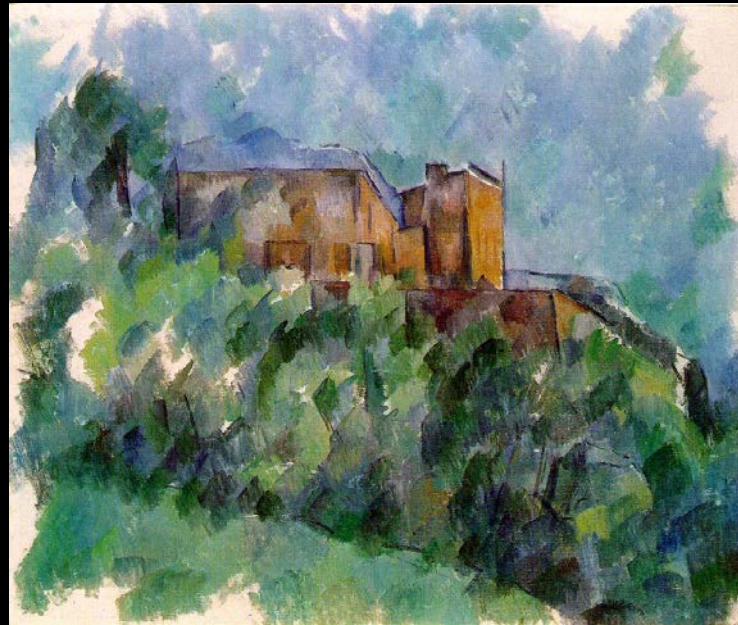
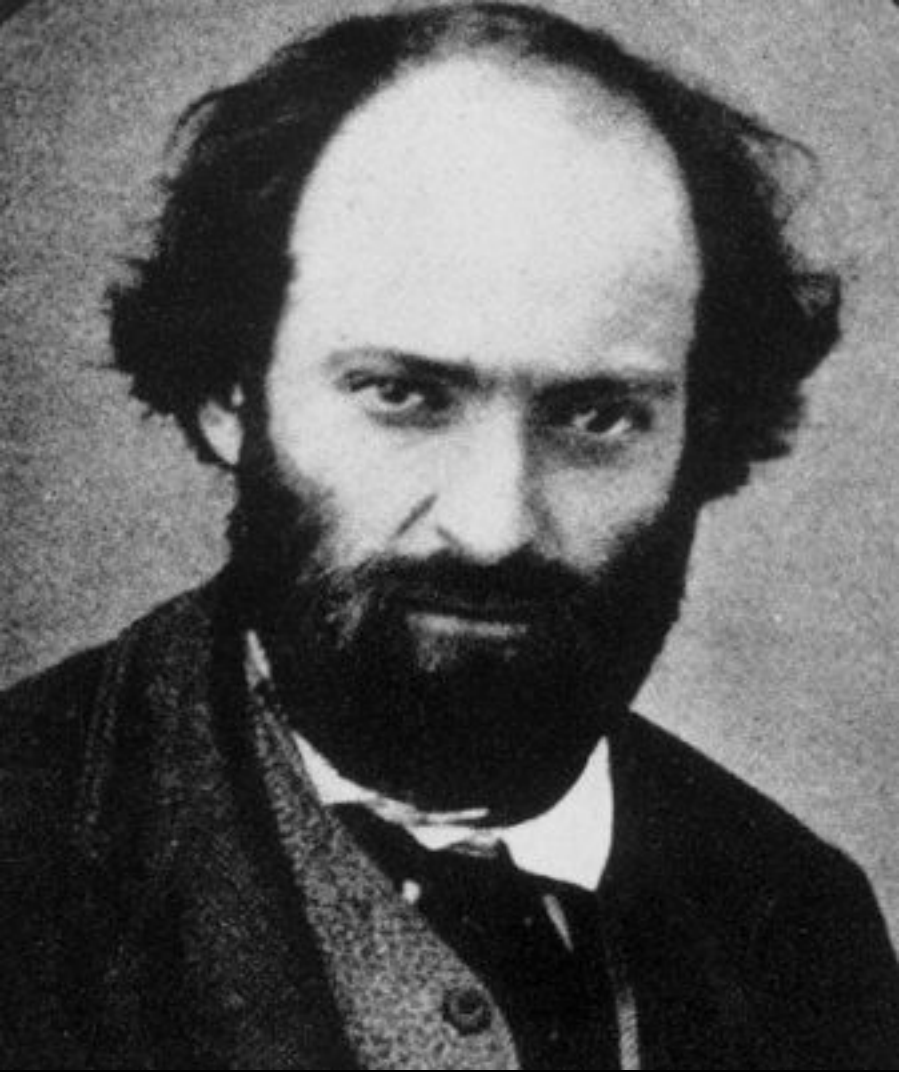
Two Extremes *of Innovation*

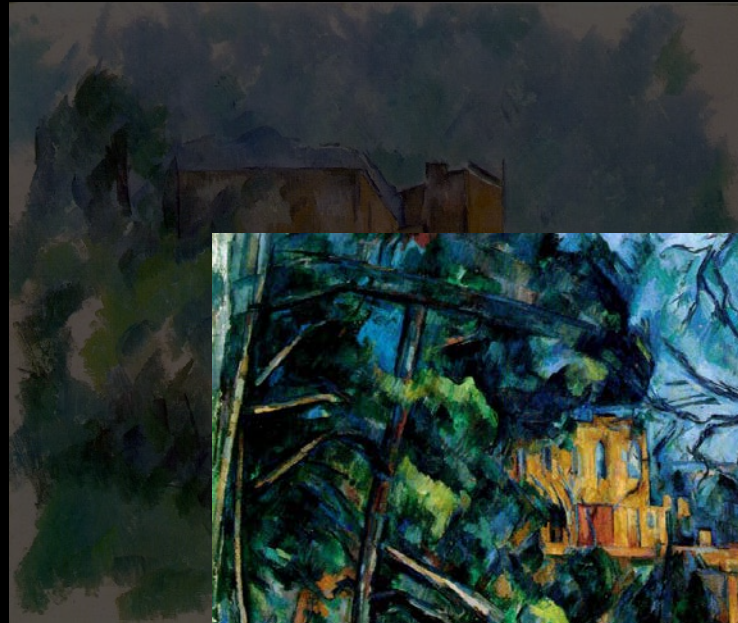
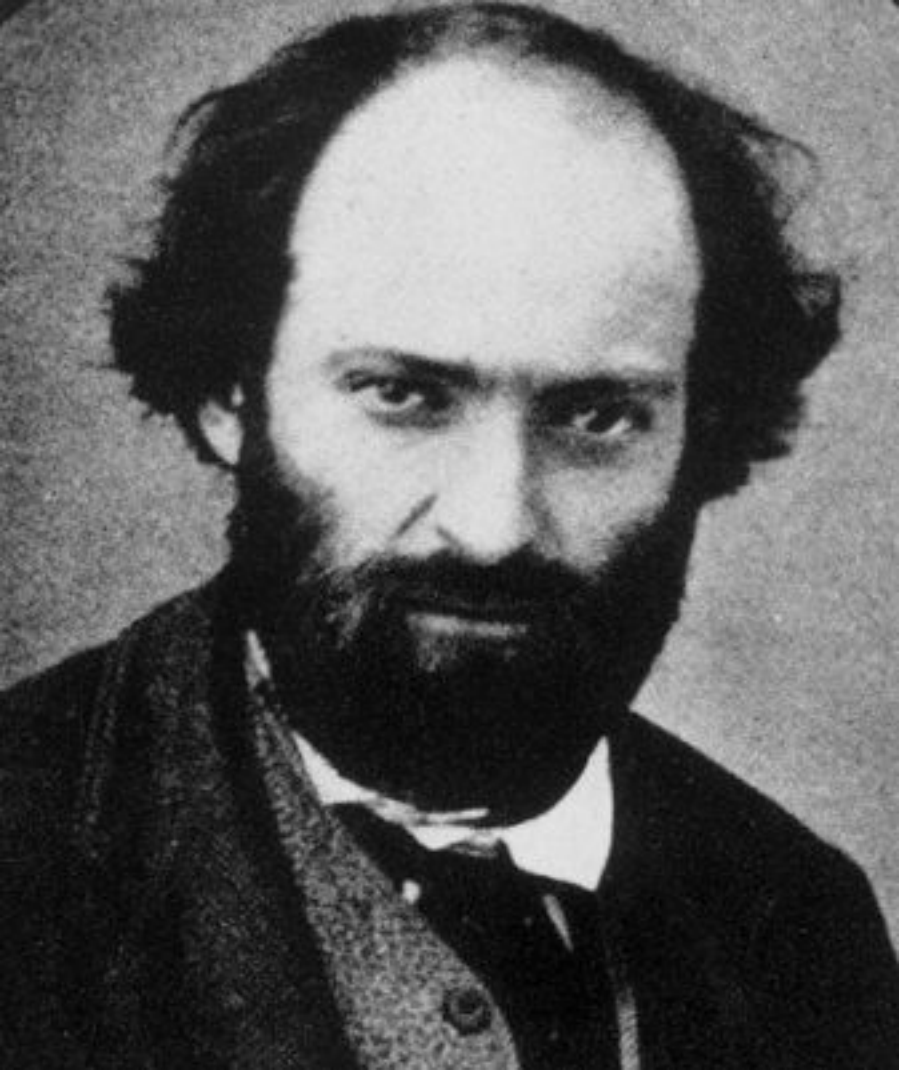
The Innovation *Continuum...*

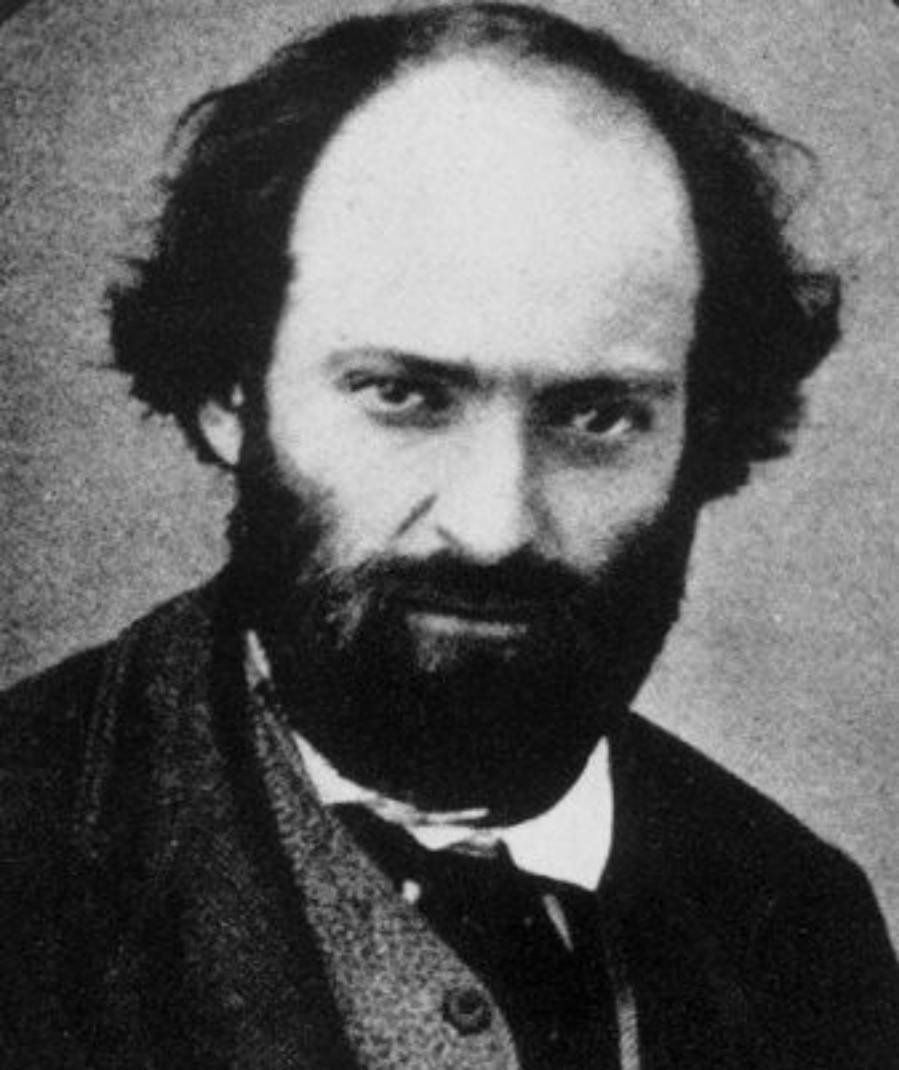
Conceptual *Innovation*

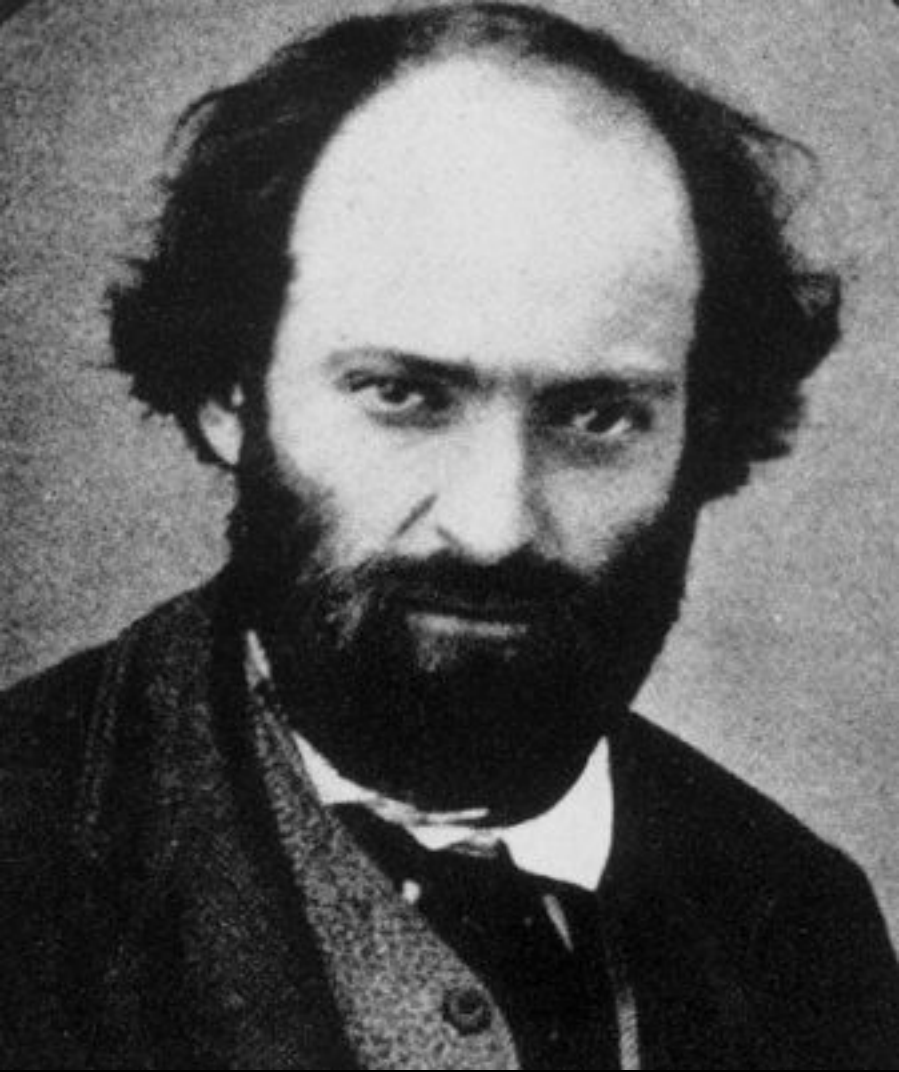


Experimental *Innovation*









Not Just
for Art!

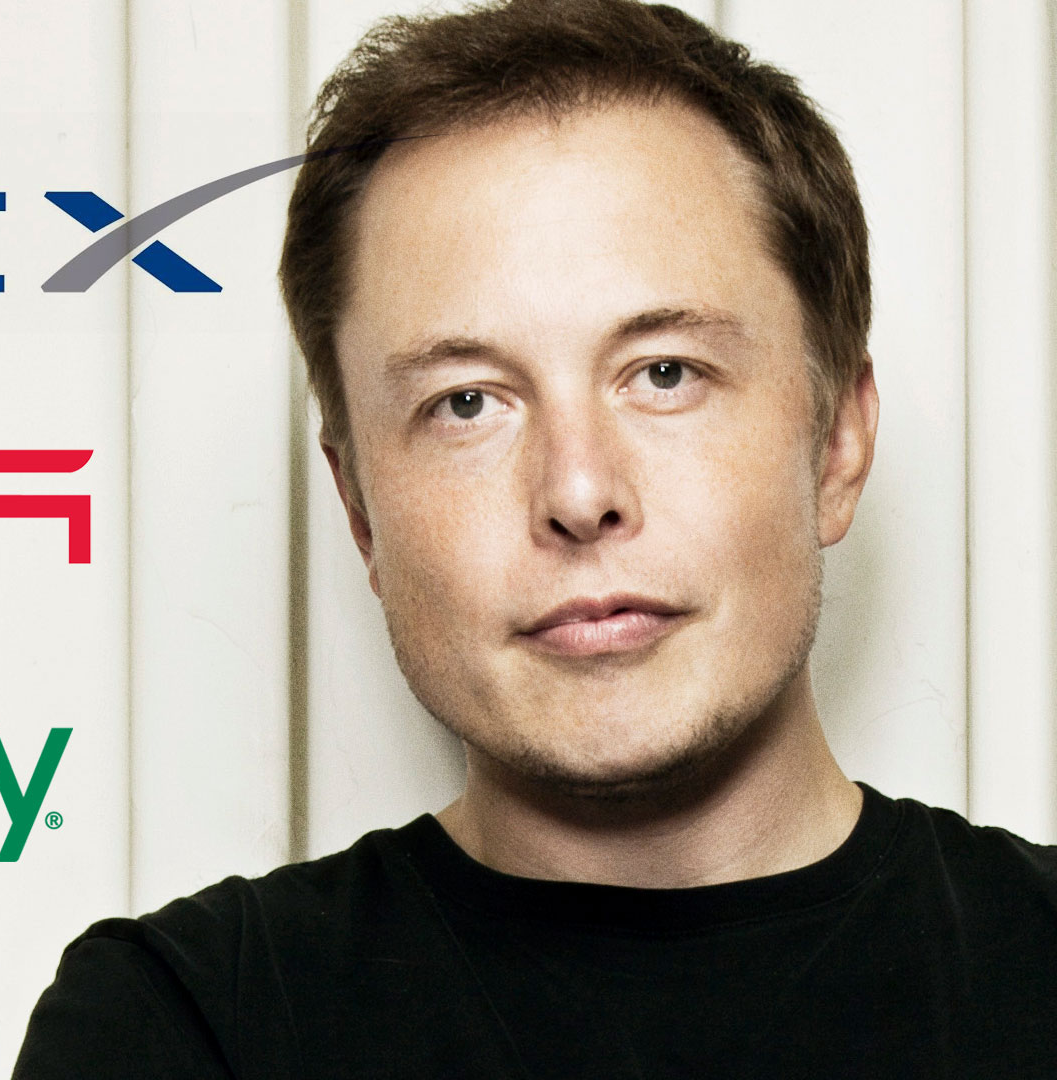
Rethinking

*Technology
Innovation*

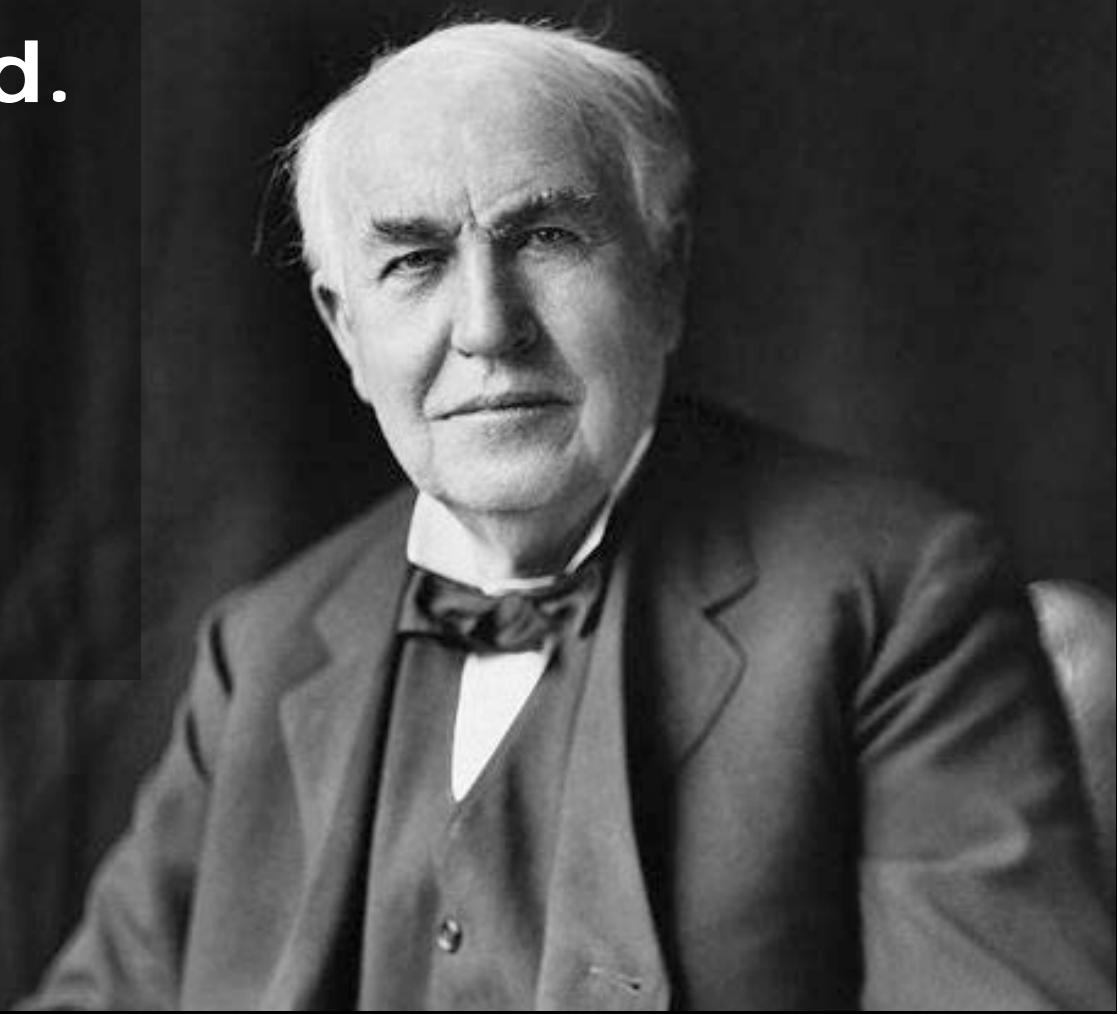
SPACEX

TESLA

 SolarCity®

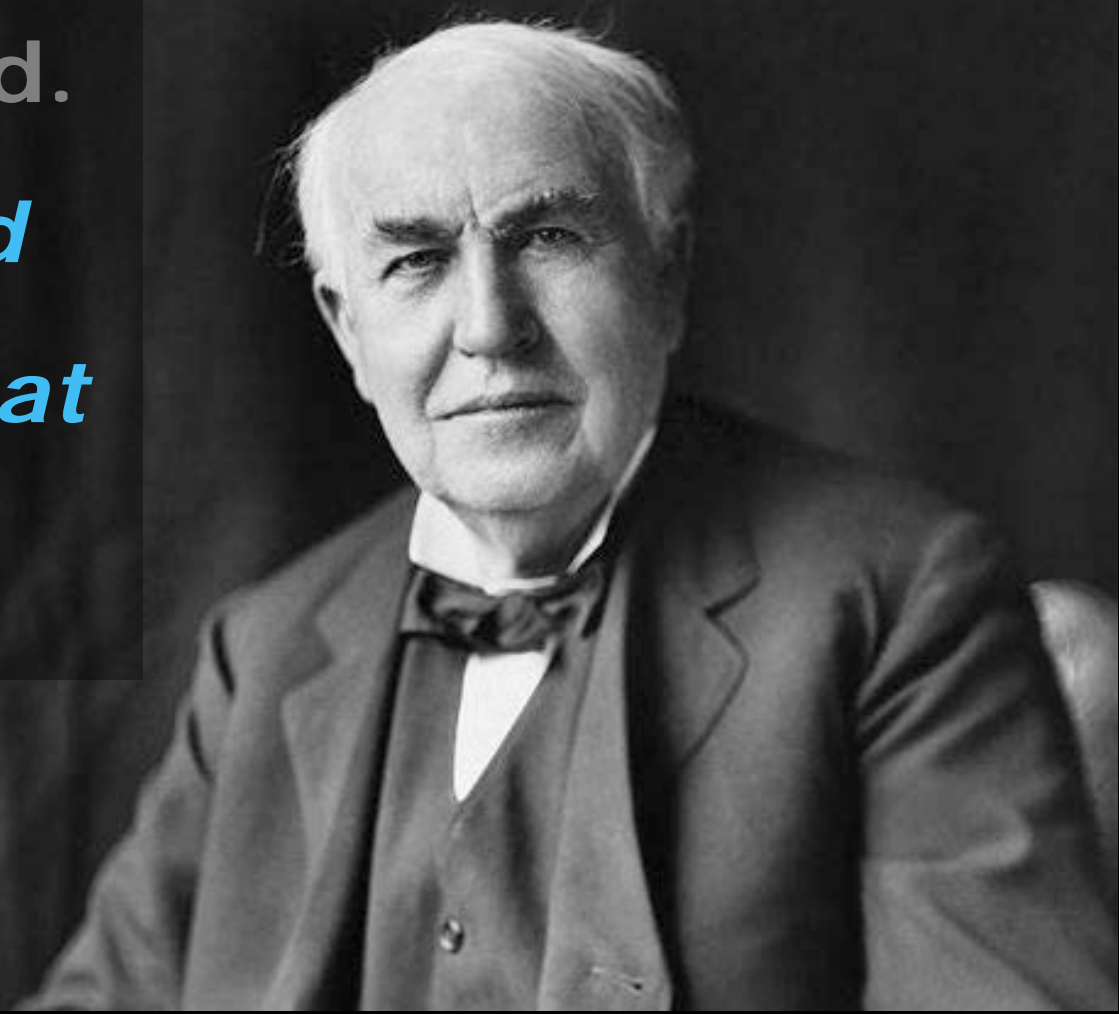


“I haven’t failed.



**"I haven't failed.
*I've just found
10,000 ways that
won't work."***

– Thomas Edison





Conceptual or
Experimental?



***"People don't know
what they want..."***



***“People don’t know
what they want...
until I show it to
them!”***



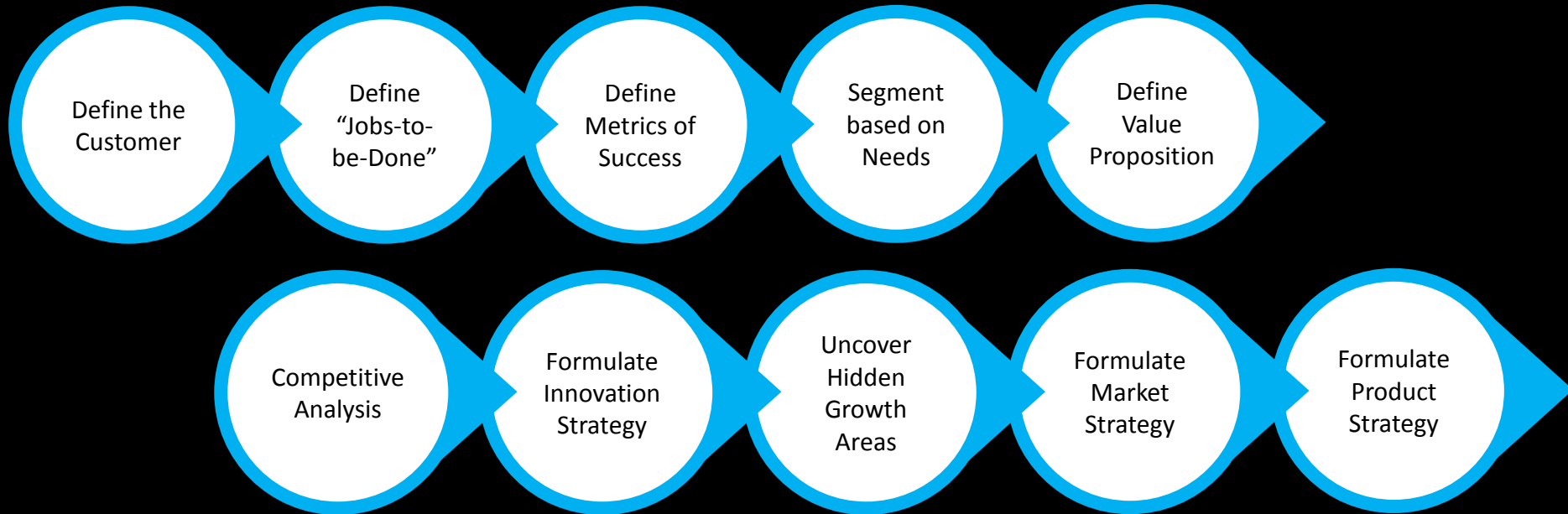
*“People don’t know
what they want...
until I show it to
them!”*



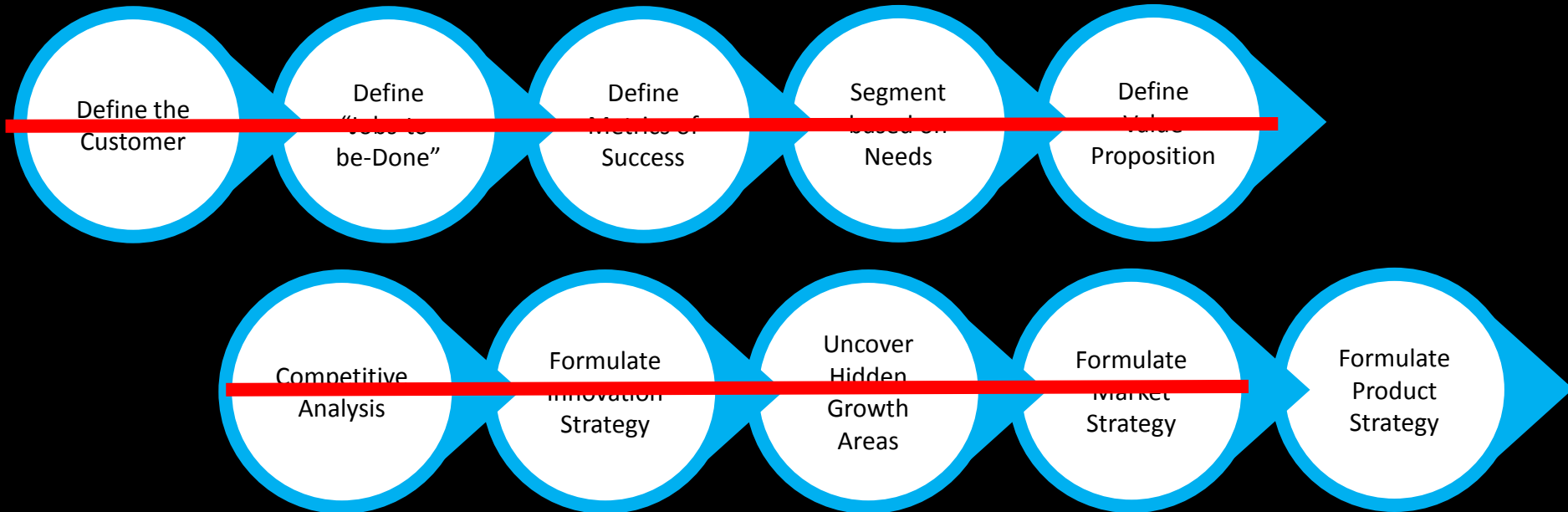
Experimental *Innovation*

Experimental Innovation

Process Steps

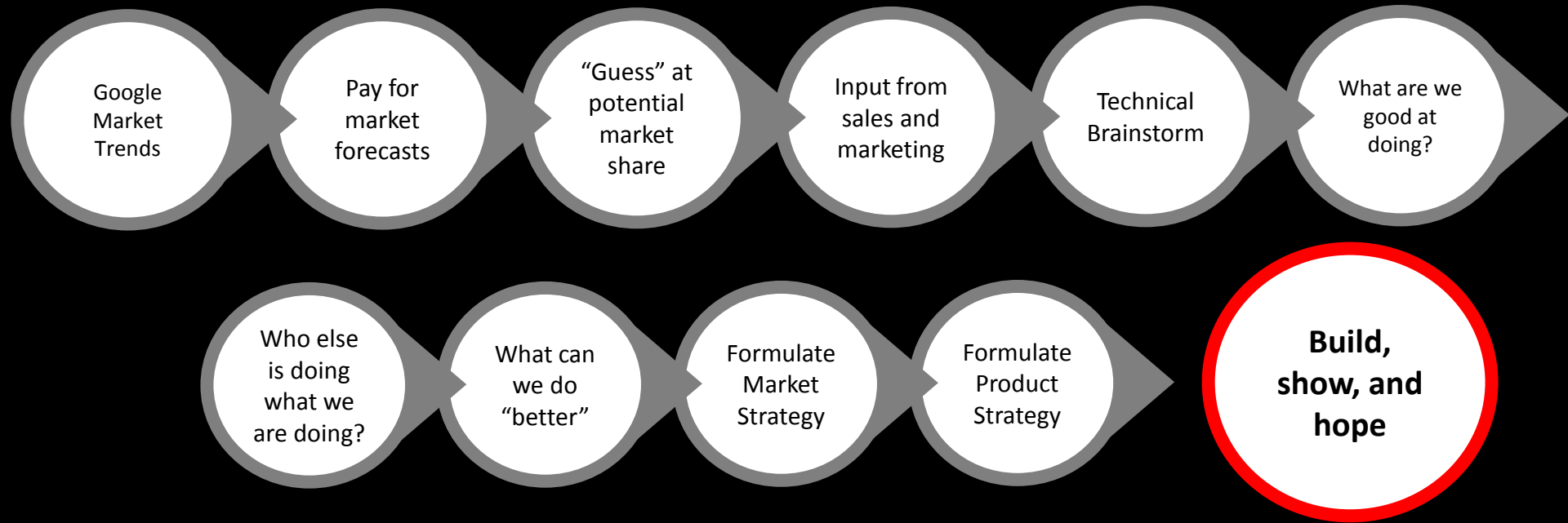


Steps we tend to Ignore!!!



Conceptual *Innovation*

Product Development as *Conceptual Innovation*



OR...



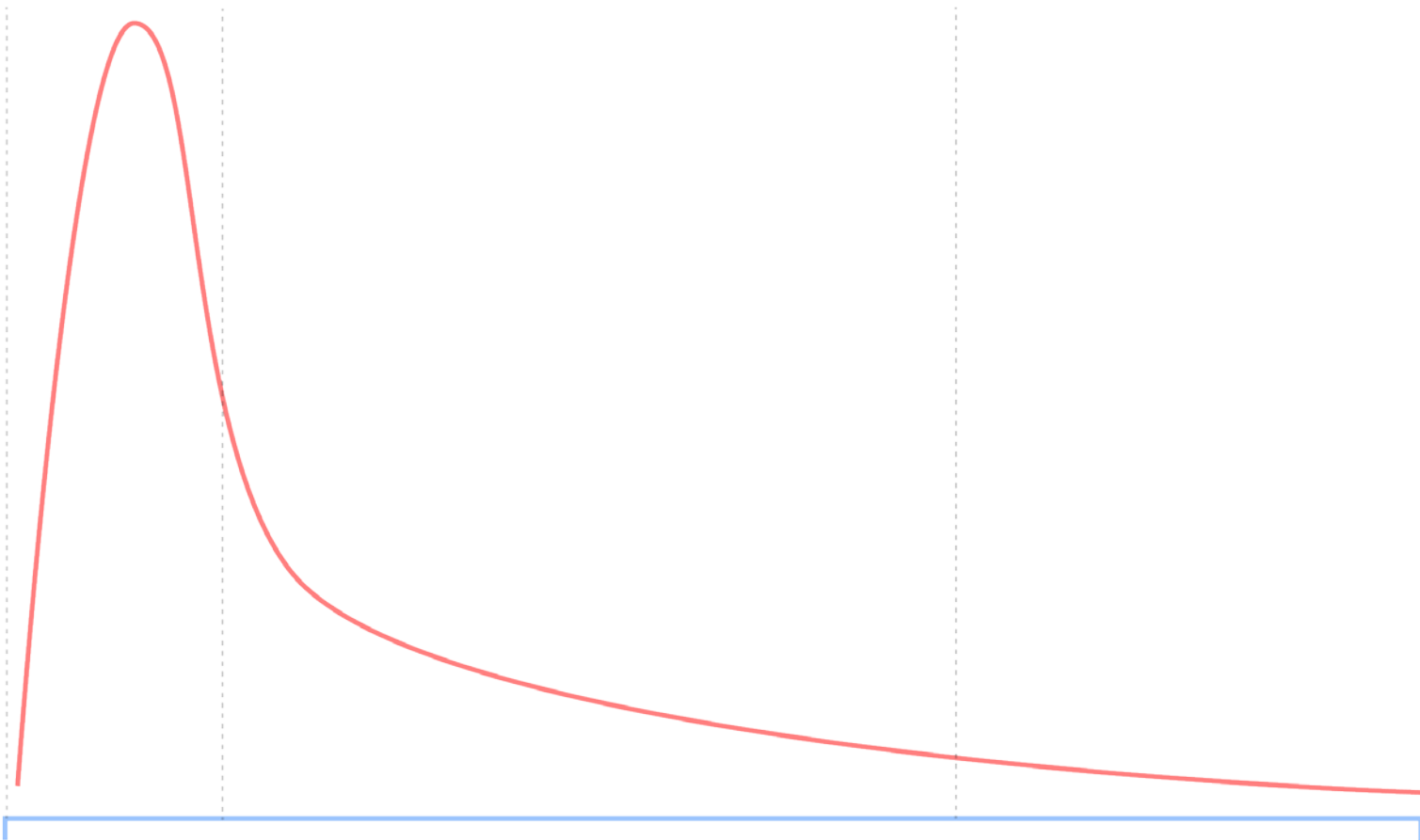
Sobering *Statistics*

Strikeouts

Base Hits

Home Runs

Frequency



Outcome (ROI)

More startups fail from a

lack of customers

than from product failure

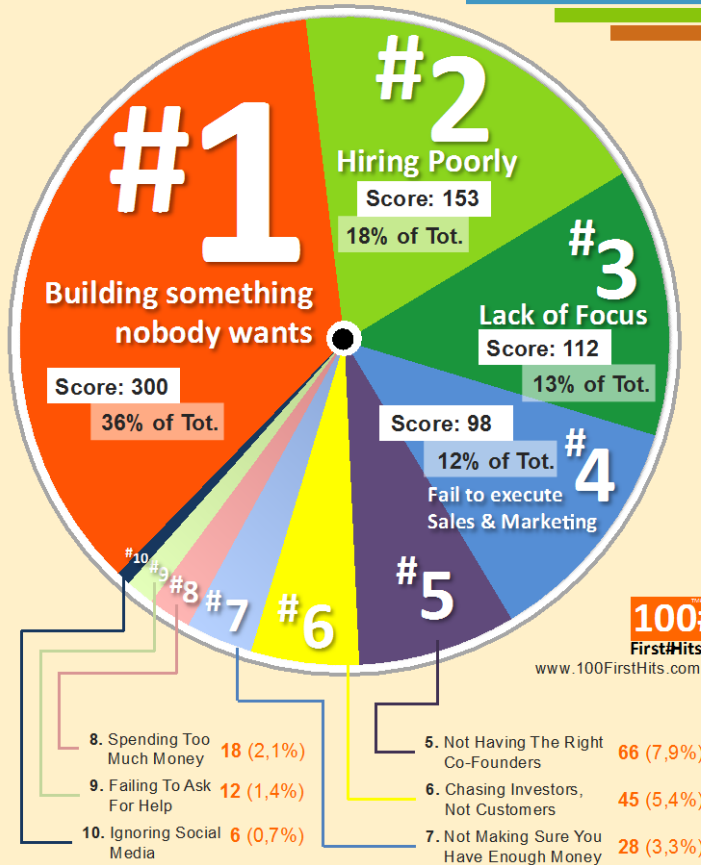
More startups fail from a

lack of customers

than from product failure

TOP 10

STARTUP MISTAKES





#1

Building something
nobody wants

Score: 300

#2

Hiring Poorly

Score: 153

18% of Tot.

#3

Lack of Focus

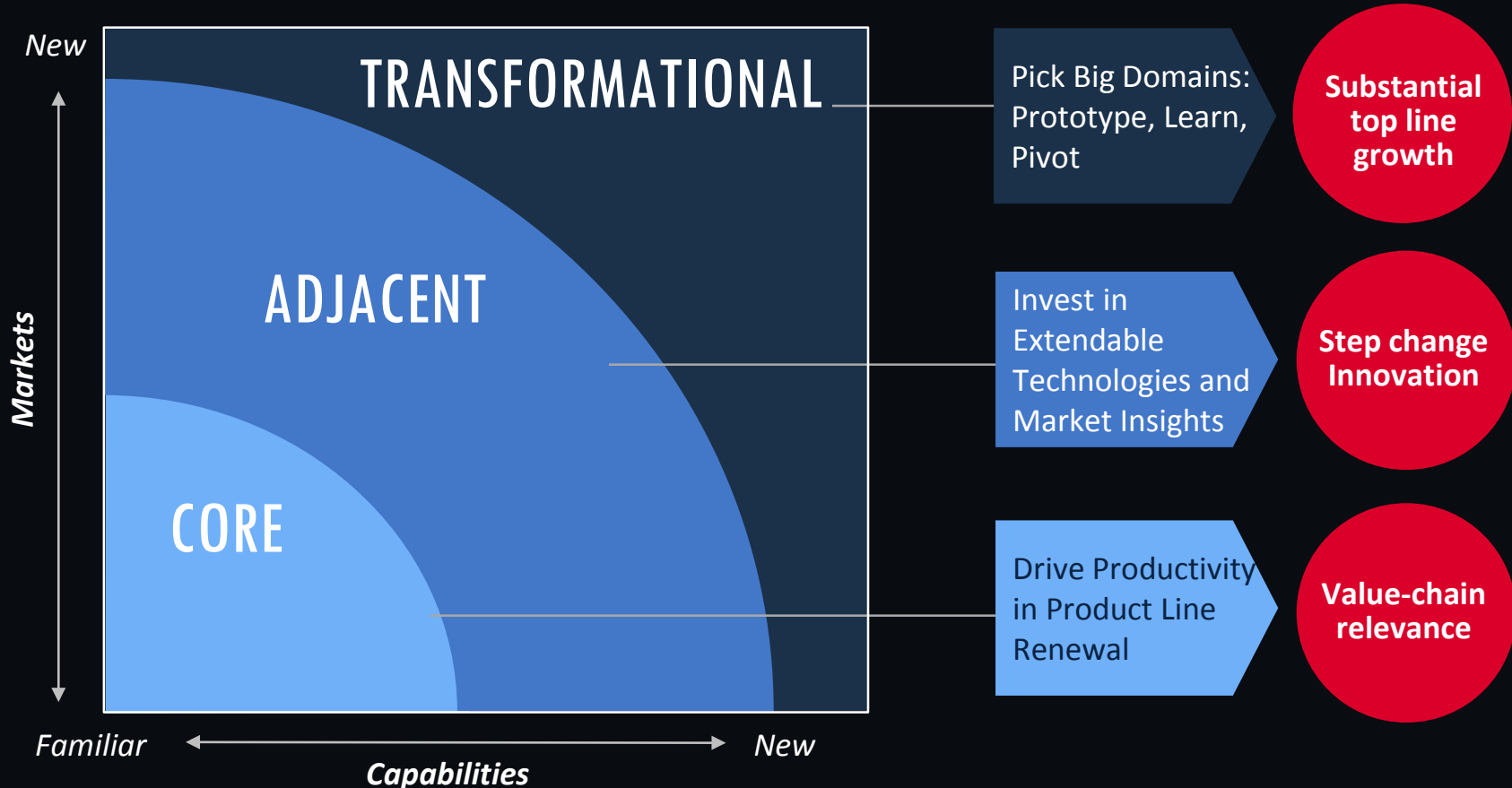
Score: 112

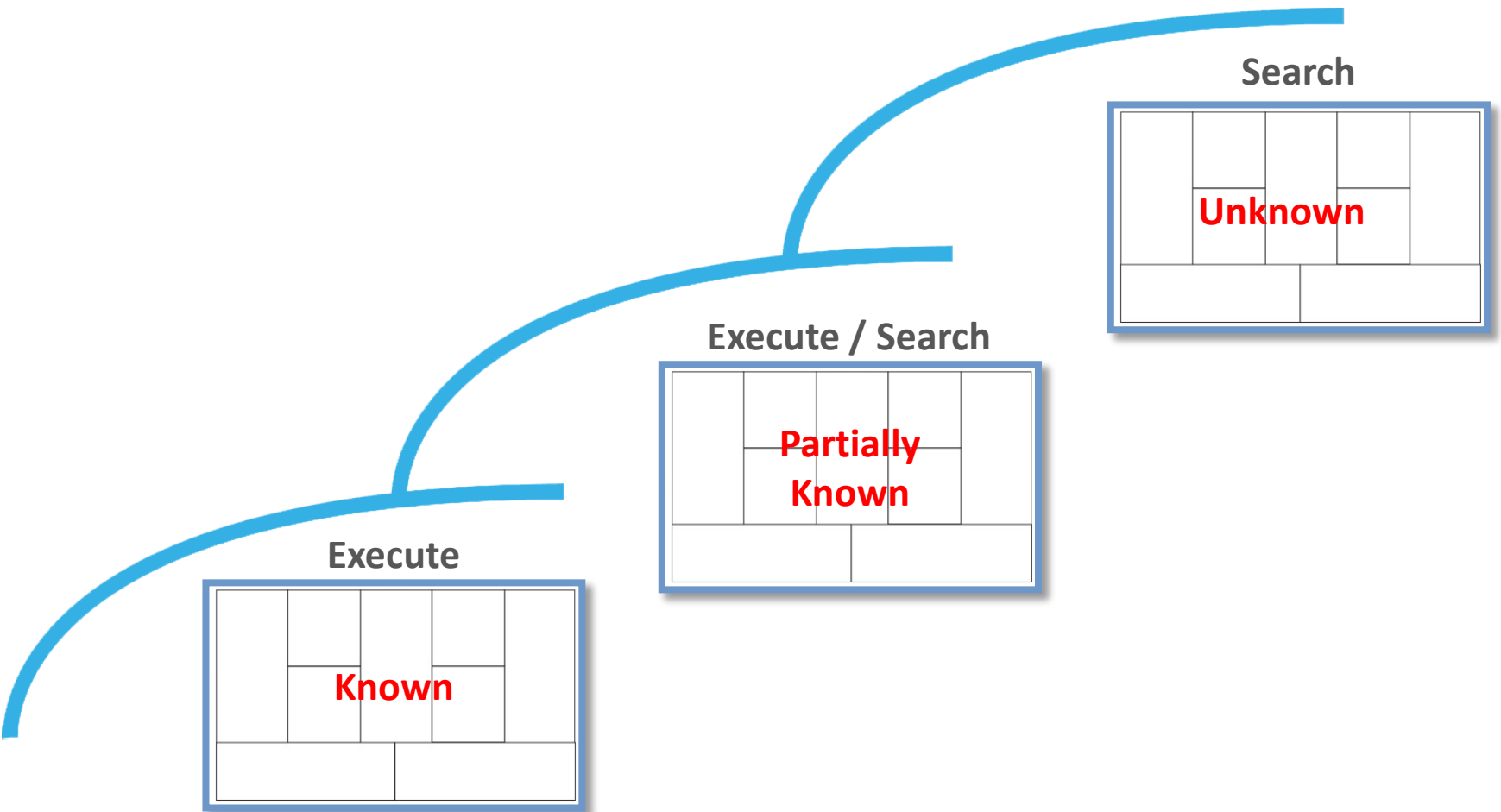
13% of Tot.

Not Just
for Startups

Where do companies
look for growth?

GROWTH OBJECTIVES REQUIRE A PORTFOLIO APPROACH





Our *Goal*

Improve *Odds*

Reduce *Customer Risk*

Create *More Winners*

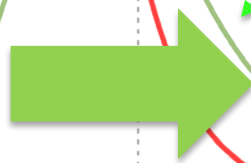
Strikeouts

Base Hits

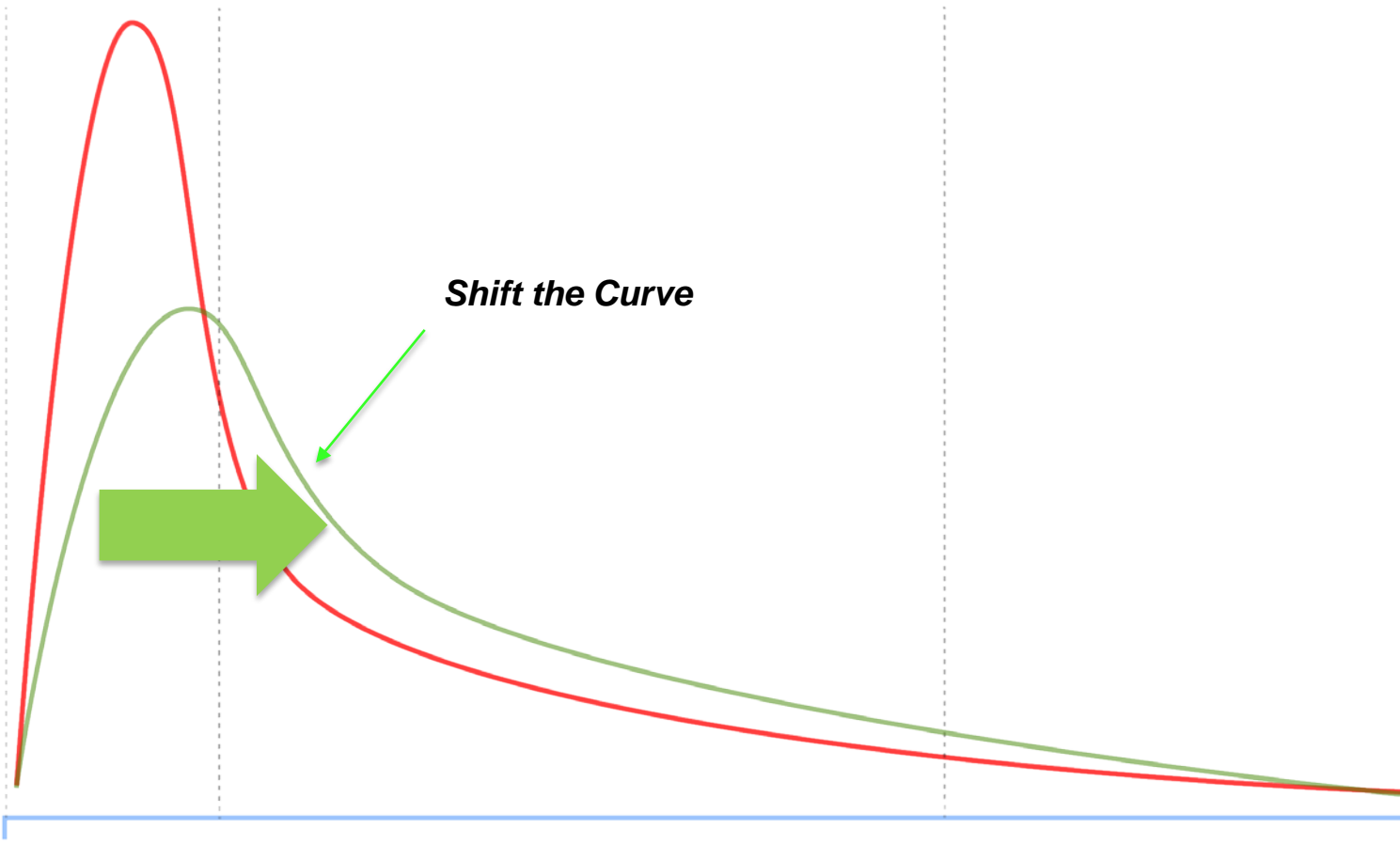
Home Runs

Frequency

Shift the Curve



Outcome (ROI)



AND

Reallocate
Resources
if No-Go

Invention

Innovation

Invention

about Technology

Innovation

*about Customer
Needs*

Our *Approach*

Innovation

Culture Change

Solutions Based to *Needs Based*

How might we apply
Experimental Innovation

Customer *Discovery*

Scientific *Method*

TEST *and*
VALIDATE
assumptions

Talk (listen)
to customers...

Jobs to *be Done*

Uncover *Unmet Needs*

Immersive *Experiential*

Get *out* of
the building!

Jump!

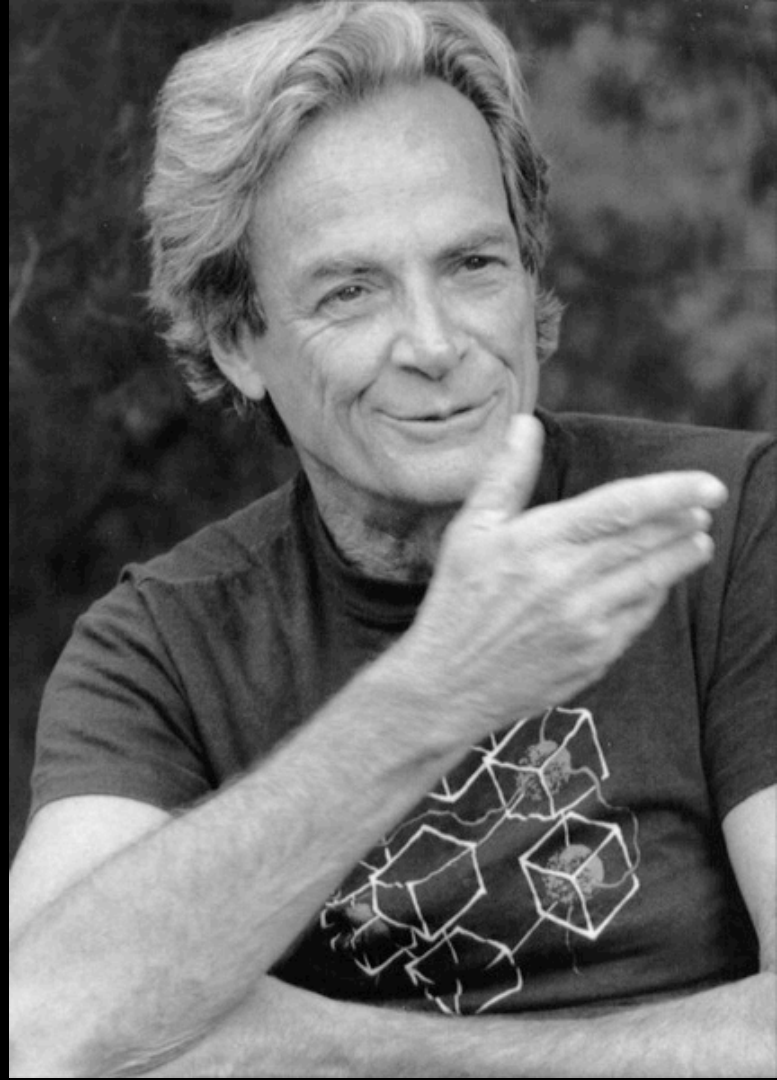




But *why?*

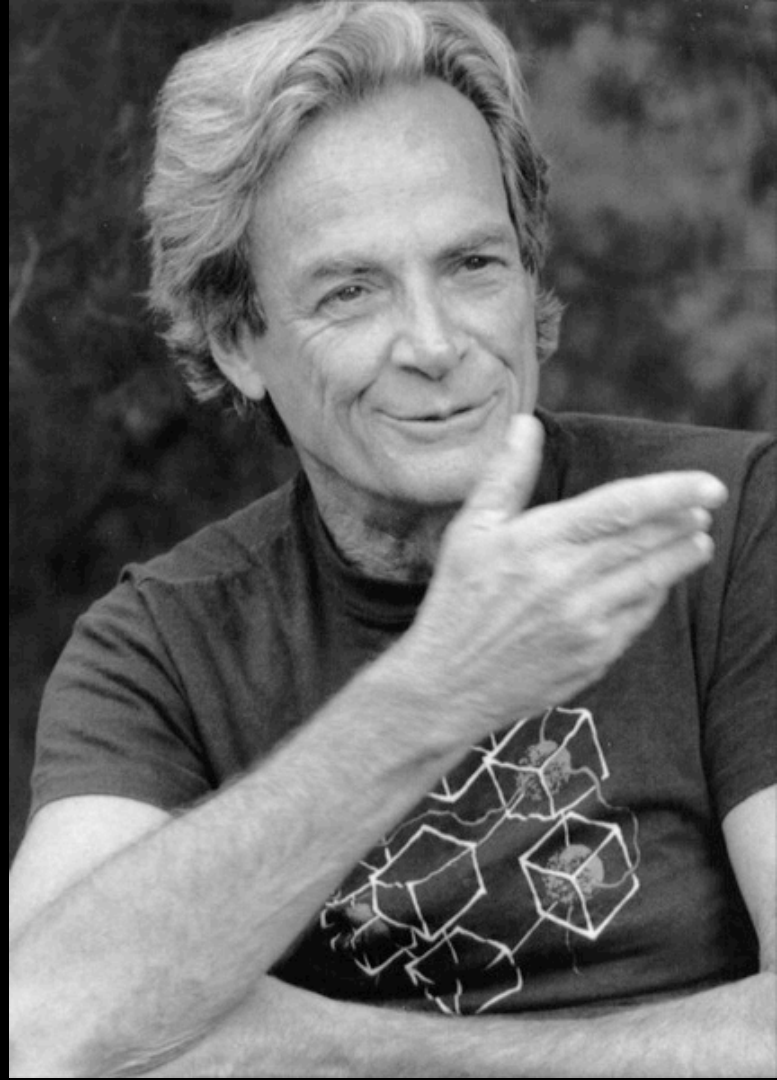
***"The first principle
is that **you must
not fool yourself*****

– Richard Feynman



*"The first principle
is that you must
not fool yourself,
and you are the
easiest person to
fool."*

— Richard Feynman





Everyone has *a plan...*

...until he gets *punched in the face.*”



Our *Philosophy*

Coaches...

not Consultants

How to think...

not what to think.

Test the
Problem First

Search for...

Problem-Solution Fit

*“Can you identify and validate
a **problem or need** in the
market that enough people
care about?”*

Test the
Solution Second

Search for...

Product-Market Fit

***“Can you build and deliver a
product/service that **satisfies**
the customer problem or
need?”***

Is this a business
worth doing...

Search for...

Business Model Fit

What's a *Business Model*?

... how a company *creates,*
delivers, and captures value.

...or how a company *makes*
money!

Key Partners



Key Activities



Value Propositions



Customer Relationships



Customer Segments



Key Resources



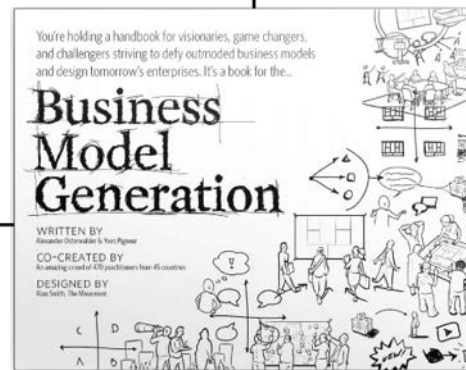
Channels



Cost Structure



Revenue Streams



The Business Model
*measures value to the
business.*

Key Partners



Key Activities



Value Propositions



Customer Relationships



Customer Segments



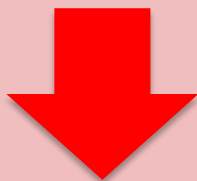
Key Resources



Channels

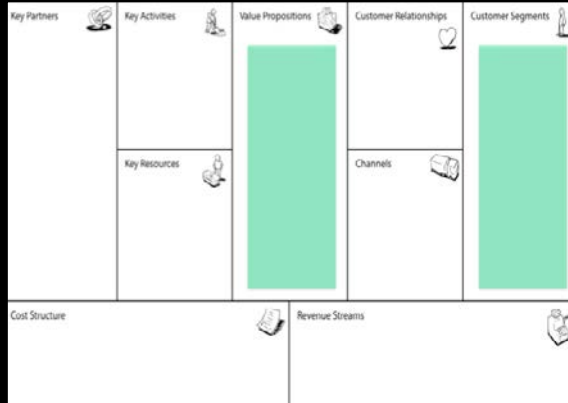


Cost Structure

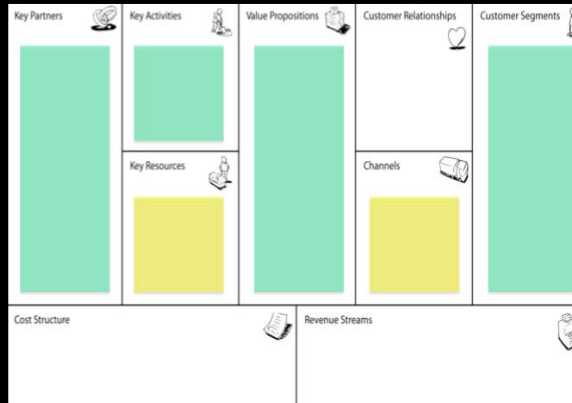


Revenue Streams

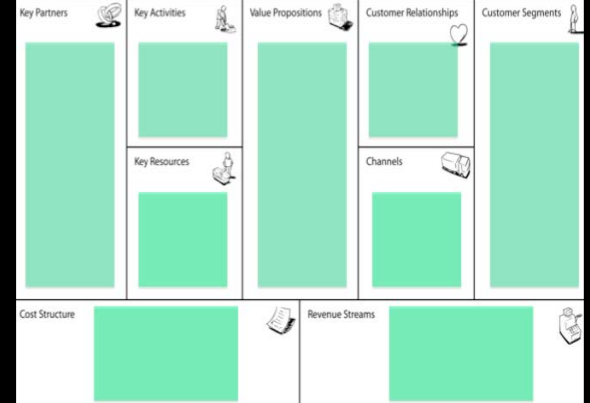




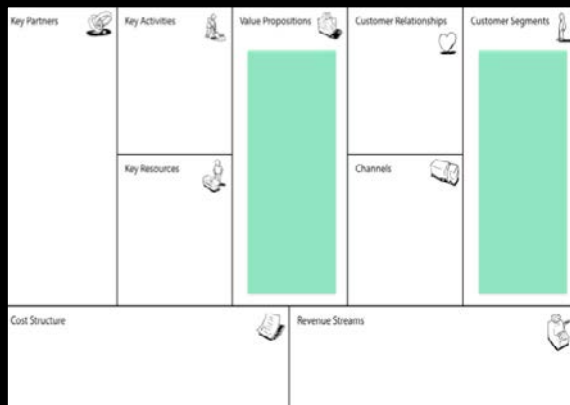
Problem-Solution Fit



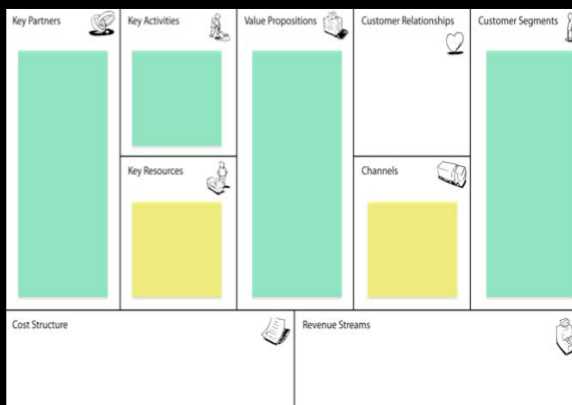
Product-Market Fit



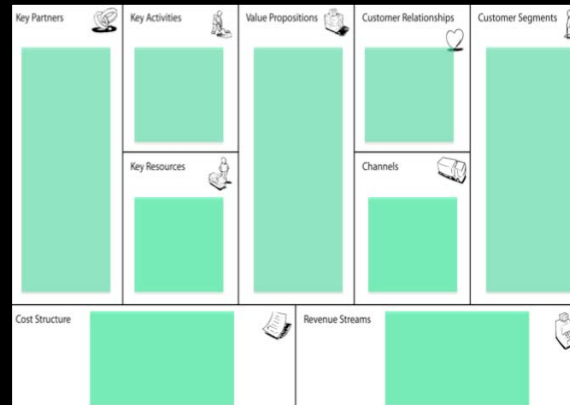
Business-Model Fit



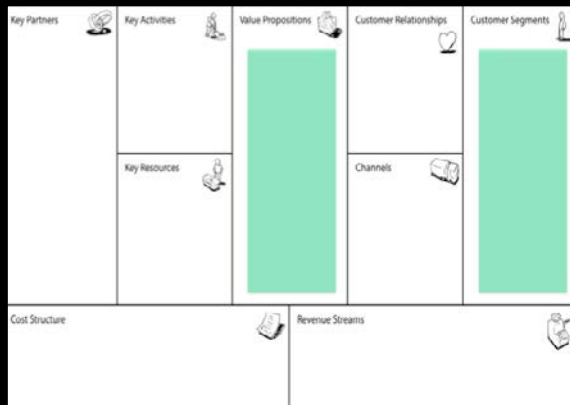
Problem-Solution Fit



Product-Market Fit



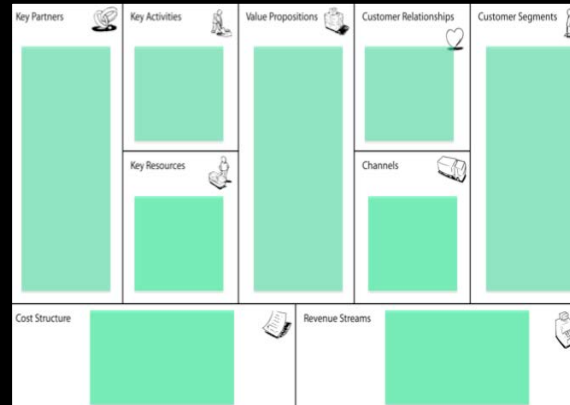
Business-Model Fit



Problem-Solution Fit



Product-Market Fit



Business-Model Fit

End Goal

***Validated Business
Model***

Where we *start...*

Key Partners



Key Activities



Value Propositions



Customer Relationships



Customer Segments



Key Resources



Channels



Cost Structure



Revenue Streams



Identify Customer
Segment and Value
Proposition(s)

*prior to building rest of
Business Model*

Key Partners



Key Activities



Value Propositions



Customer Relationships



Customer Segments



Hypotheses

Hypotheses

Key Resources



Channels



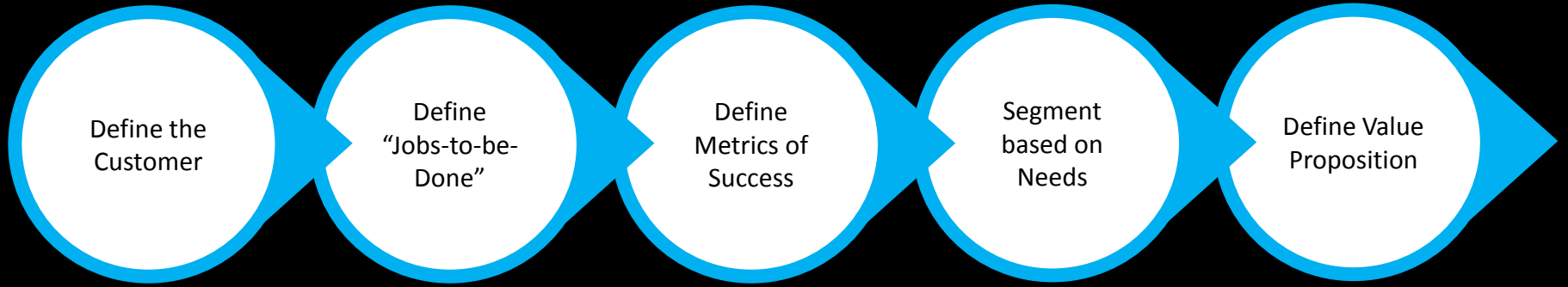
Cost Structure



Revenue Streams

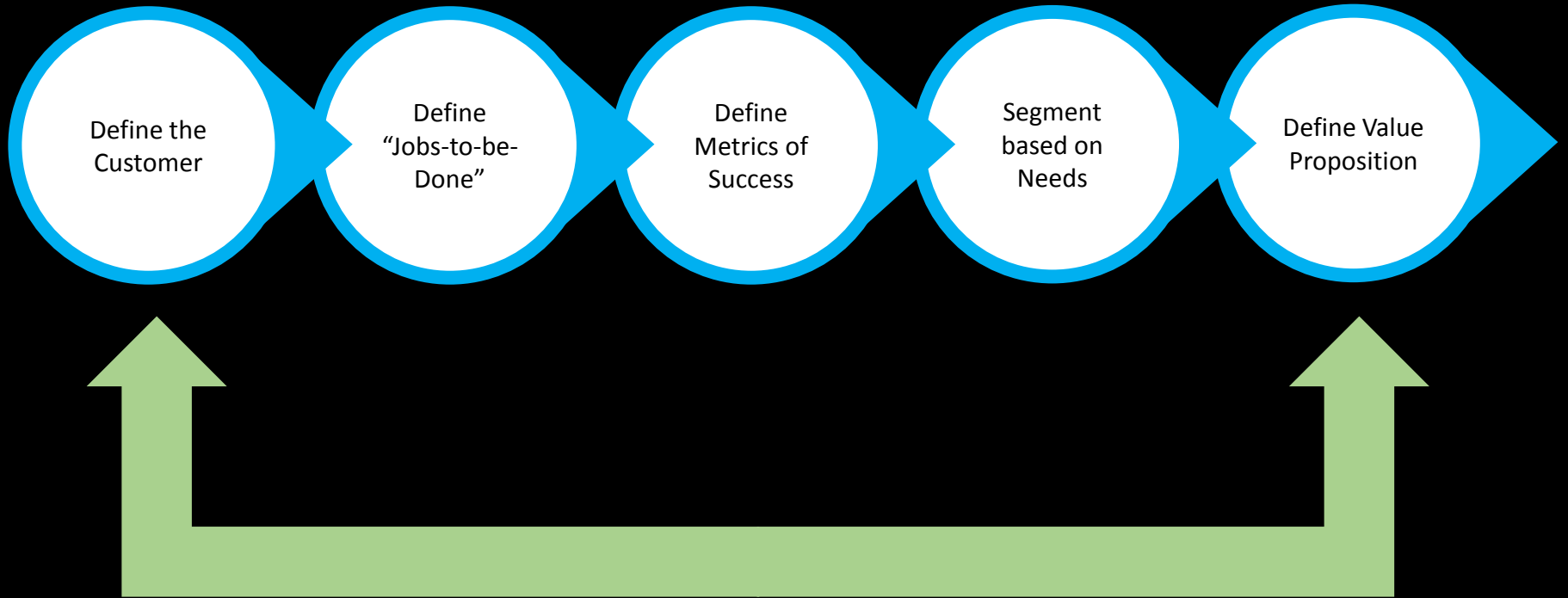


How do we validate
a Customer Segment and
corresponding Value
Proposition(s)?



Customer Discovery

Driven Steps



Key Partners



Key Activities



Value Propositions



Customer Relationships



Customer Segments



Key Resources



Channels



Cost Structure



Revenue Streams



```
graph LR; A((Define the Customer)) --> B((Define "Jobs-to-be-Done")); B --> C((Define Metrics of Success)); C --> D((Segment based on Needs)); D --> E((Define Value Proposition));
```

Define the
Customer

Define
"Jobs-to-be-
Done"

Define
Metrics of
Success

Segment
based on
Needs

Define Value
Proposition

Defining *Customers*



End Users



Purchasers / Buyers



Everyone Else

B2B vs *B2C*

You have a business
model...

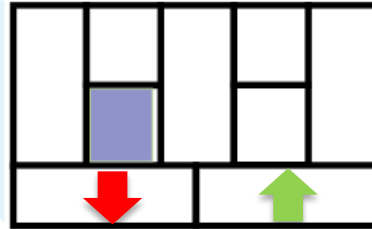
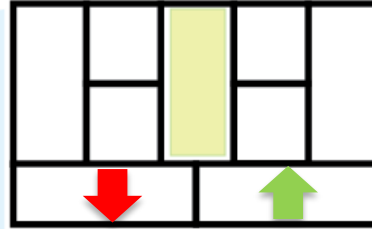
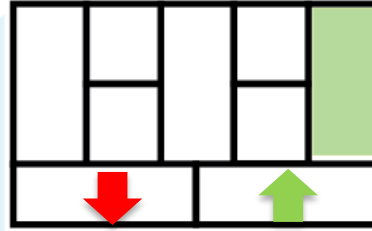
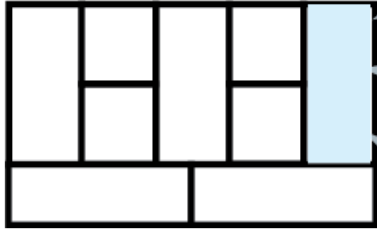
*and so does your
customer if selling to a
business*

YOUR
CUSTOMERS

B2B*

*How are you
driving value
to your
customers?*

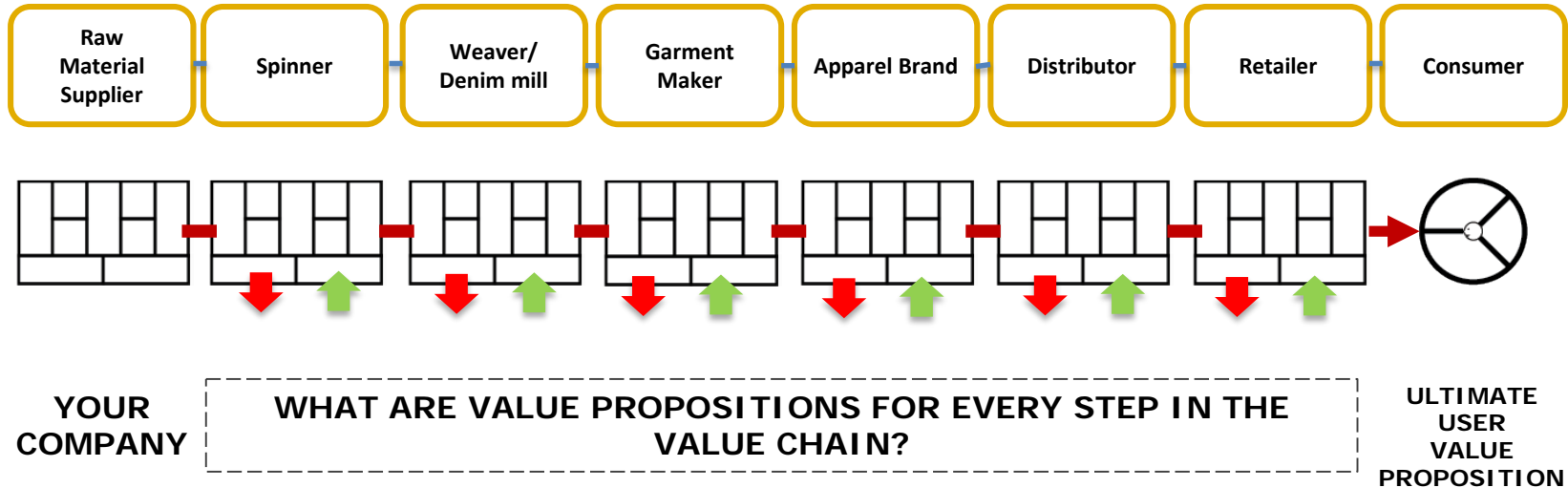
YOUR
COMPANY

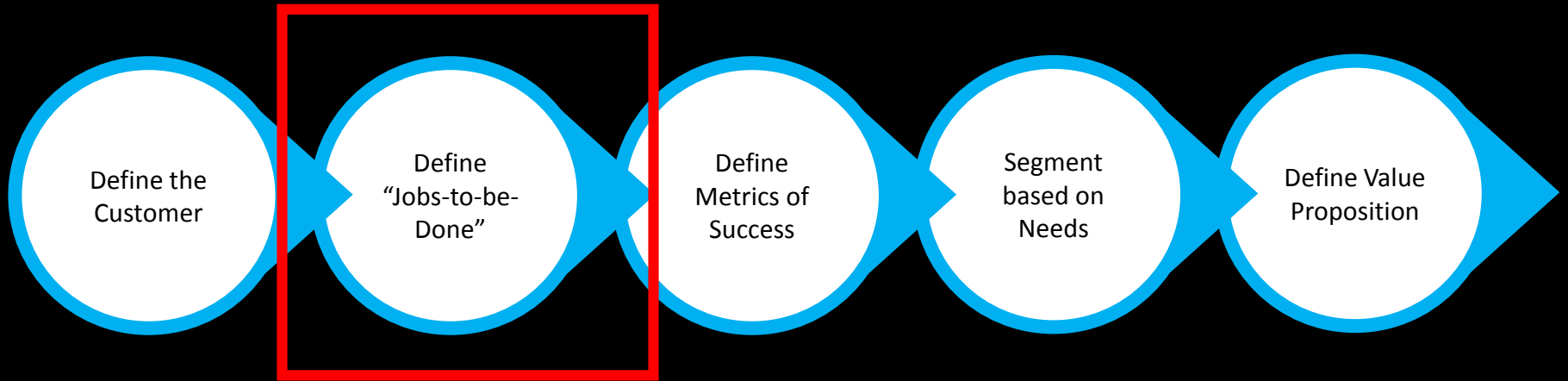


Customers in
B2C, B2B, B2B2C

Understand Business Models in Value Chain

Example: Material supplier for clothing line.

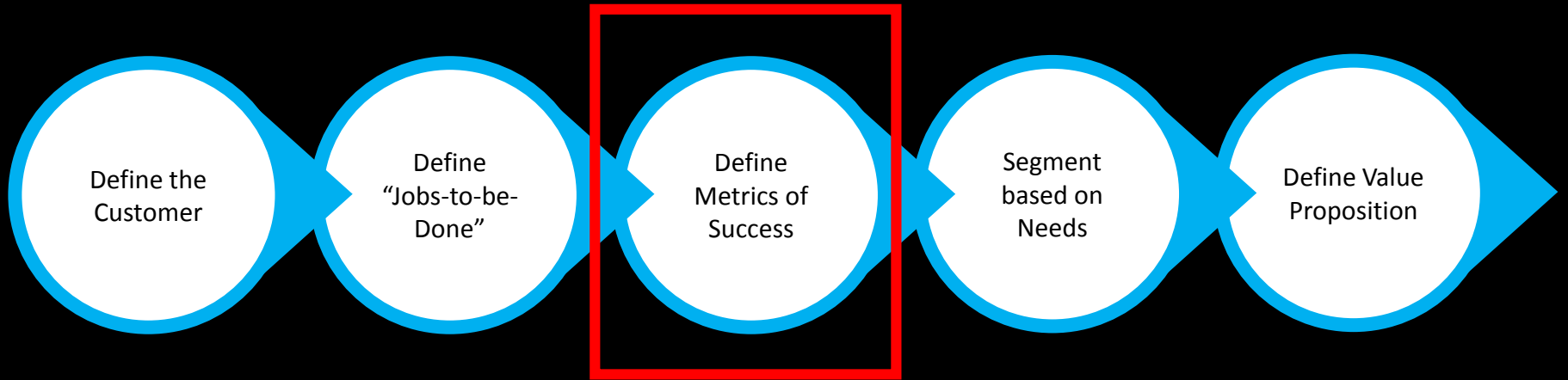




What “job” are
you trying to do?

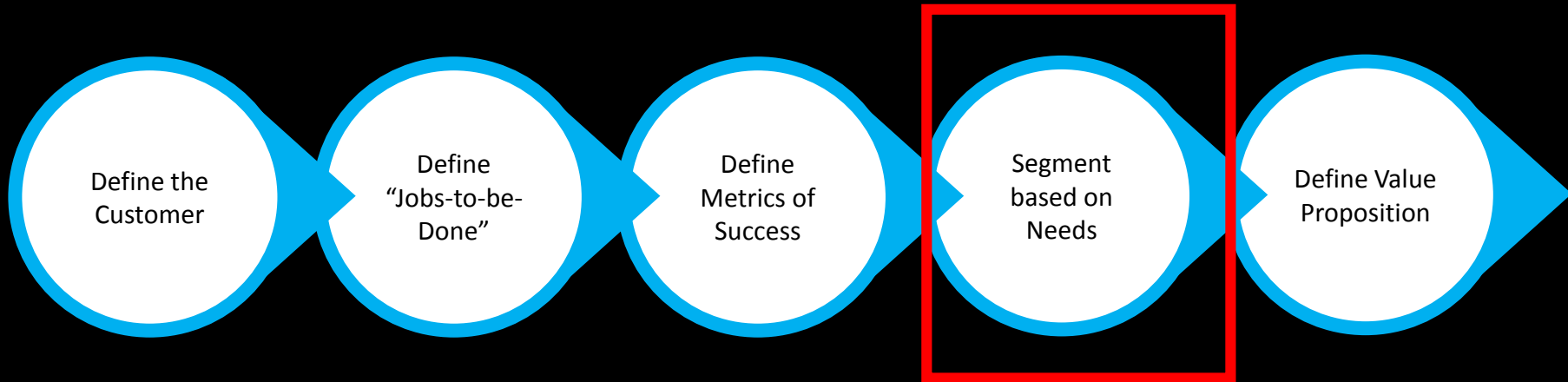
Not just “functional” job...there are often key social,
emotional, or consumption jobs.

A job is defined as
*the progress that a
customer desires to
make in a particular
circumstance.*



What are “key”
*outcomes they care
about?*

How do customers rank order and measure satisfaction
towards these outcomes?



Segment customers
based on common
prioritization (rank
ordering) *and*
satisfaction (under or
over served) of
outcomes.

Key Partners



Key Activities



Value Propositions



Customer Relationships



Customer Segments



Key Resources



Channels

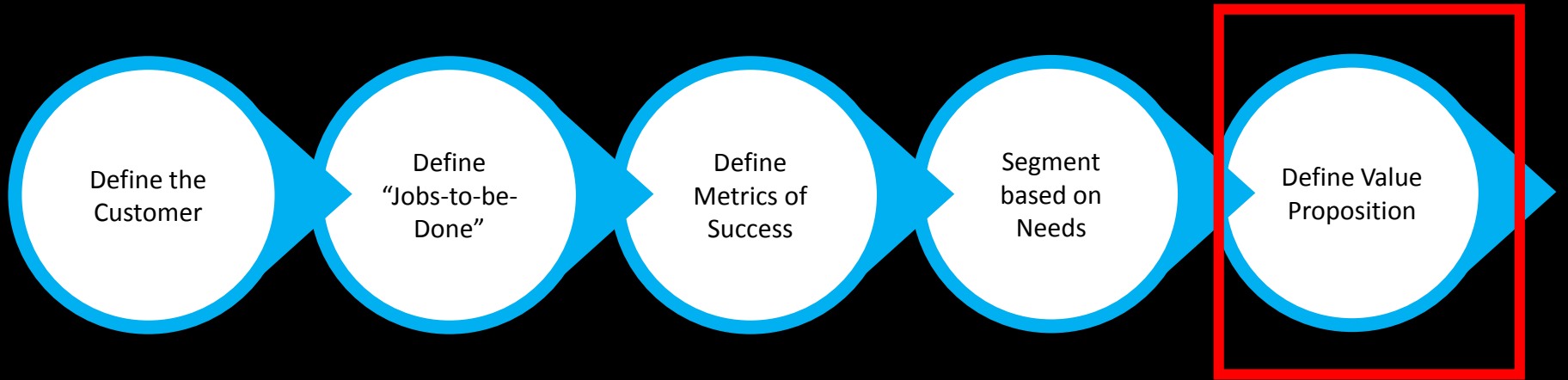


Cost Structure



Revenue Streams





Key Partners



Key Activities



Value Propositions



Customer Relationships



Customer Segments



Key Resources



Channels



Cost Structure



Revenue Streams



Pick BEST strategy based on needs of targeted Customer Segment

Get the Job
Done **Better**

Differentiated Strategy
(underserved customers)

Dominant Strategy
(all types of customers)

Sustaining Strategy
(existing customers)

Get the Job
Done **Worse**

Discrete Strategy
(Customers with limited options – trapped market)

Disruptive Strategy
(Overserved customers and non-consumers)

Charge **More**

Charge **Less**

**JOBS
TO BE
DONE**

THEORY TO PRACTICE

ANTHONY W. ULWICK

FOREWORD BY ALEX OSTENWALDER

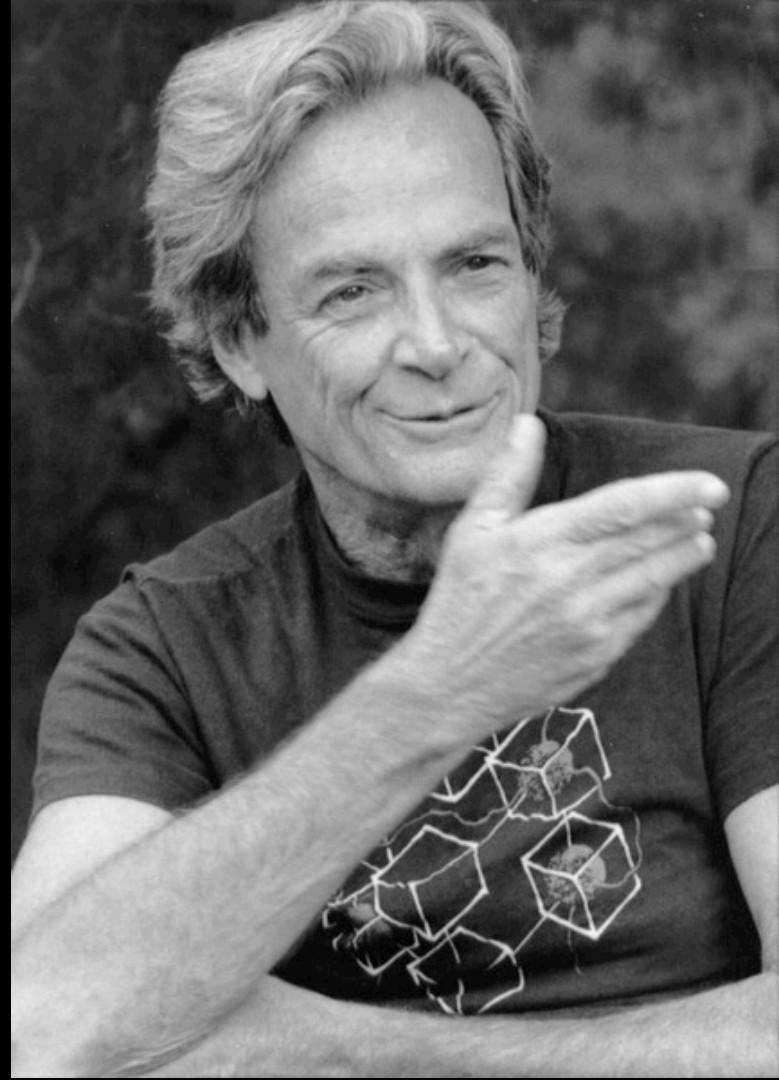
"Truism from the *Deming of Innovation* lexicon: more than anyone else, Tony has turned innovation into a science." - PHILIP KOTLER



Some Final *Thoughts*

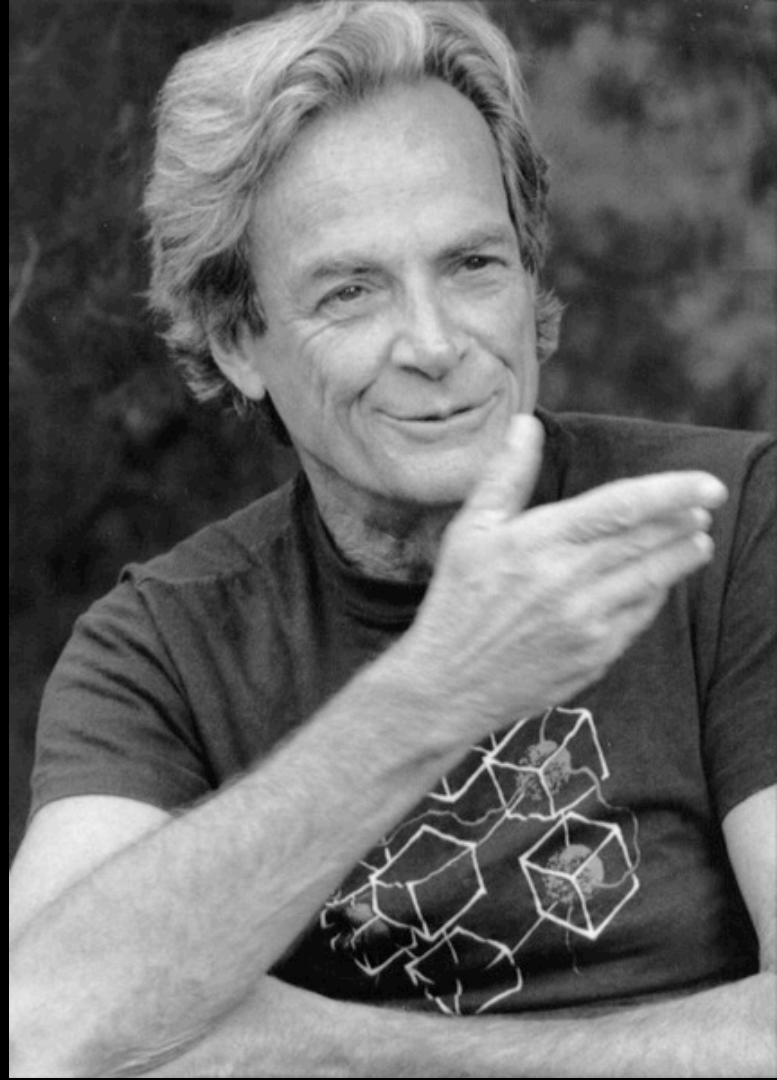
*"I have approximate
answers and possible
beliefs and different
degrees of certainty
about different things*

– Richard Feynman



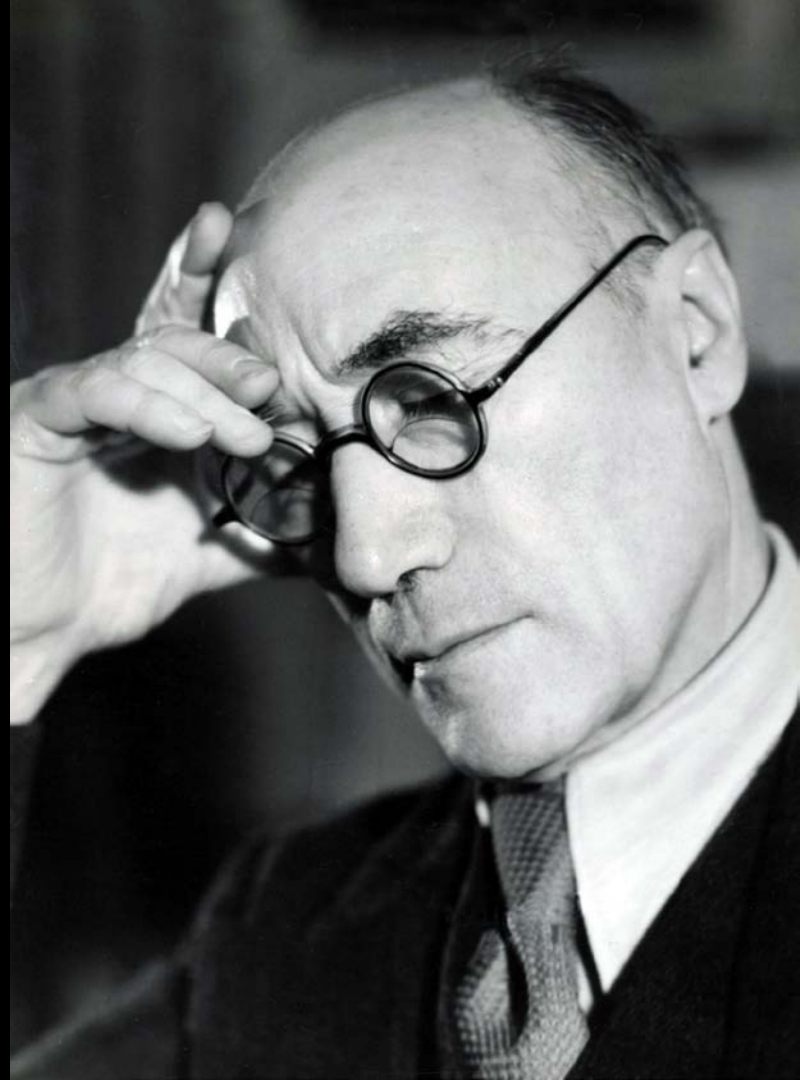
"I have approximate answers and possible beliefs and different degrees of certainty about different things but I'm not absolutely sure about anything."

– Richard Feynman



**"Everything that
needs to be said has
already been said."**

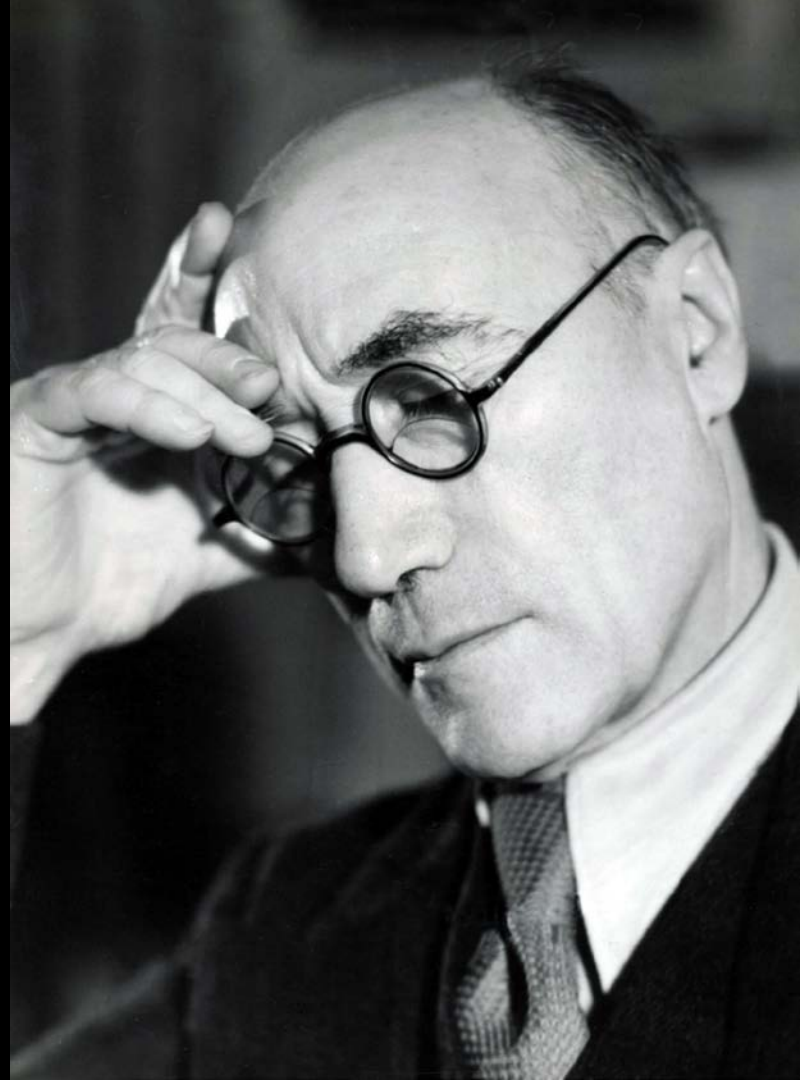
*André Paul Guillaume Gide
French Author and Nobel Laureate*



*"Everything that
needs to be said has
already been said."*

*"But since no one was
listening, everything
must be said again."*

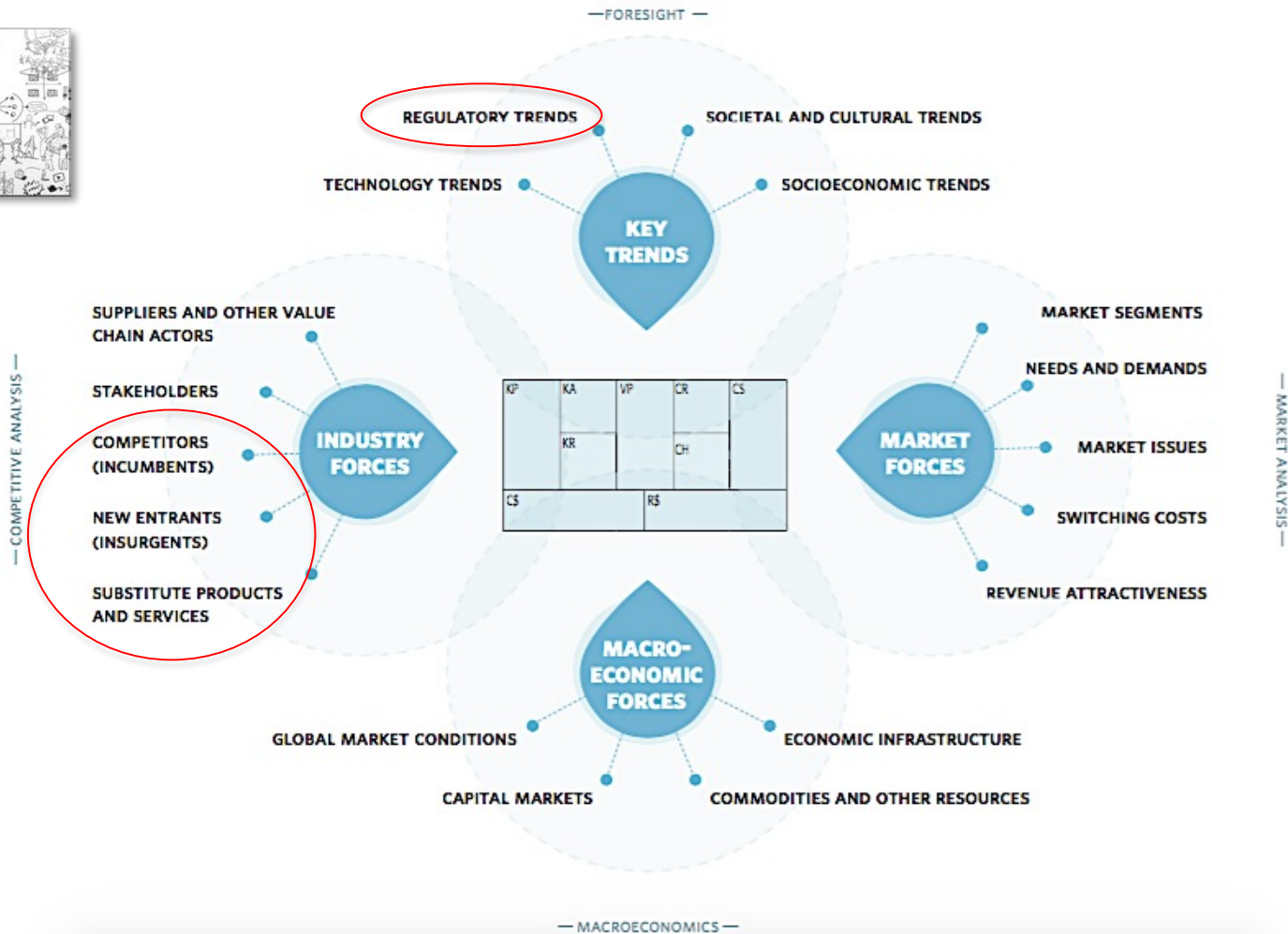
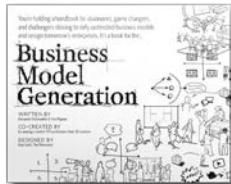
*André Paul Guillaume Gide
French Author and Nobel Laureate*



Question

Answer

Business Models are
subject to *external forces*



Business Models evolve,
they are not static

