

### The Presentation Will Begin At 12PM EST



Process Design: Problem Management Graham Furnis, Senior Consultant B Wyze Solutions



# Process Design: Problem Management

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# BreakThrough Series

Helping you to achieve breakthroughs in your organization!

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### So what's the Challenge?

"I see the ITIL generic process model, but how do I make this fit our organization?!"

"I've taken ITIL classes and read the books, but I still don't know how to build my own process"?!

"How do I continue to evolve my processes"?!



# Agenda

- What are we Managing?
- What's the Problem Goal?
- What do we need to be successful?
- Process Documentation
- Our Approach
- Simple walk-through example
- Wrap up



# Problem Management: So What are we Managing - Part 1?

- Problem Definition:
  - The unknown cause of **one or more** incidents
- Reminder of Incident Definition...
  - Defined as unplanned events that are deviations from normal (as defined by the SLA)
    - Causes disruption to the agreed service for an IT service
    - Causes a reduction in the quality of agreed service for an IT service
    - Could lead to a disruption or a reduction in quality of agreed service for an IT service





# Problem Management: So What are we Managing – Part 2?

- Scope is an Important Factor Here...
  - Incident and Problem Management are closely related, BUT...
    - There are far more Incidents than Problems...
    - Not every Incident can be investigated in Problem Management



Therefore, we are managing "Significant Incidents"



### Problem Management Goal

- The primary goal and objectives are to:
  - Prevent problems and resulting incidents from happening
  - Eliminate recurring incidents
  - Minimize the impact of incidents that cannot be prevented
- And ensure that Problems are fully documented in database records (Tickets) in order to facilitate both:
  - Incident and Problem Management activities
  - of Investigation and Restoration of service



# How are we Managing Problems? Incident/Problem Success Factors...

#### **The Service Desk**

Level 1 Support; Single Point of Contact (SPOC)

### **A Good Service Management System (SMS)**

 Used for "searching and matching" previous or similar incidents and accessing knowledge

### **Priority Tables of Impact and Urgency**

– Priority = Impact x Urgency

### **Categorization Tables**

No more than 4 levels deep and 5 wide

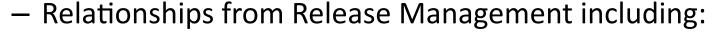




### More Key Success Factors - part 2...

#### **The Known Errors Database (KEDB)**

- Relationships back to Incidents including:
  - Problem defined Workarounds
  - Problem identified Root Cause
  - Problem identifying Symptoms



- Error code programming policy
- Submission of Testing Errors not rectified before Release
- Submission of Testing Errors removed in subsequent Releases





### More Key Success Factors – part 3...

#### The Major Incident Policy

 Problem Management should investigate all Major Incidents as we do NOT want these to re-occur

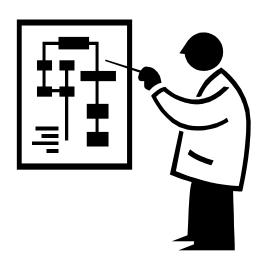


 We want to be sure we have fixed the correct root cause of the Incident and have improved our techniques and procedures if it should happen again



# Process Documentation: From What Perspective?

- This presentation and associated ThoughtRock Template focuses at the <u>Activity Level</u>
  - These are activities that "manage" the "Problems"
  - This is done at a generic process model level

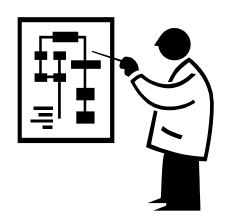




# Process Documentation: Two Key Elements

#### **The Activity Flowchart**

- This is "the process at a glance"
  - A picture says 1,000 words
- It provides the big picture of how you are managing the main process elements



#### The RACI Chart

 This is "the matrix of who's doing what and who's making sure it gets done"



Accountable, Responsible's, Consulted's, Informed's



### Process Documentation: The Business Rules

#### **Business Rules**

 Process documentation is a reference document for business rules governing activities that coordinate the people and activity steps that make up the Process

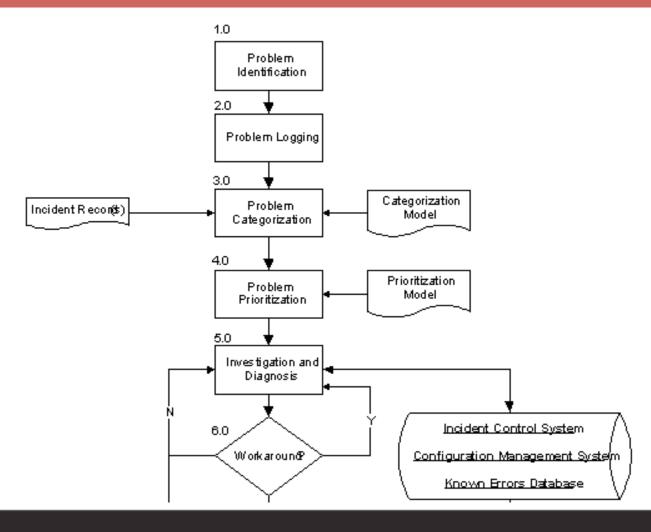
 It is usually written at a high generic level and then customized for specific situations

#### **Technology is Needed**

 The Service Management System (SMS) is commonly known as the "ticketing system"

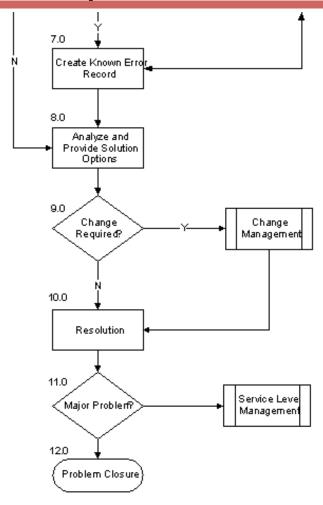


# A Walk-Through Example: Activity Flowchart - 1





# A Walk-Through Example: Activity Flowchart - 2





### A Walk-Through Example: Define your Activity Roles Catalog

- Problem Owner
- Problem Manager
- Problem Analyst
- Customer
- End User
- IT Staff
- Problem Solving Group
- Service Desk Analyst
- Incident Analyst
- Support Level 2/3
- Major Incident Team

- The Service Desk
- Incident Management
- Request Fulfilment
- Problem Management
- Change Management
- Release and Deployment
   Management



### A Walk-Through Example: Roles and Activities defined in the RACI Chart

	Roles Activities	Problem Manager	Problem Analyst	Problem-Solving Groups	Service Desk	Incident Management	Problem Management	Change Management	Service Level Management
	PROBLEM MANAGEMENT PROCESS FLOW								
1.0	Problem Identification	A,R,I	R,C,I		R,C	С	-		С
2.0	Problem Logging	Α	R		C,I	C,I	-		C,I
3.0	Problem Categorization	R,I	A,R		С	С	-		С
4.0	Problem Prioritization	R,I	A,R		С	С	•		С
5.0	Investigation and Diagnosis	I,R	A,R,C,I	R,C,I			-		
6.0	Workaround?	С	A,R,I	R,C,I	С	C	-		
7.0	Create Known Error Record		A,R	С	R,I	R,I	-		
8.0	Analyze and Provide Solution Options	A,R	R,I	R,C,I	R,C,I	R,C,I	-		R,C,I
9.0	Change Required?	A,R	R	R,I			-	I,R	
10.0	Resolution	A,R	R,I	C,I	R,C,I	R,C,I	-		
11.0	Major Problem?	A,R	R				-		
12.0	Problem Closure	A,R	R,I				-		



### A Walk-Through Example: Describe the Details for Each Activity

#### 2.0 Problem Logging

Objective	To create a single source for documentation of all relevant problem				
	details and for the management of problems.				
Policy	Each Problem that is opened for investigation must be fully and				
	completely documented in a Problem Record.				
Input(s)	Forwarded Incident Records and Primary Incident Records				
	Problem and Known Error records				
	Complaint Details				
	Incident Trend Reports				
Output(s)	A detailed Problem Record				
	Related Incident Records				
Status	Open				
Description	(A) The Problem Manager is Accountable to ensure that a Problem record is opened and documented as the single source for information related to the accepted Problem investigation.				
	(R) The Problem Analyst is <i>Responsible</i> to open and document a Problem Record, and is further <i>Responsible</i> to provide:     O All related Problem documents and attachments.				
	O All known Incident records, documents and attachments.  (C,I) The Problem requesting process is <i>Consulted</i> and <i>Informed</i> for all relevant information when logging a Problem Record.				



# Summary

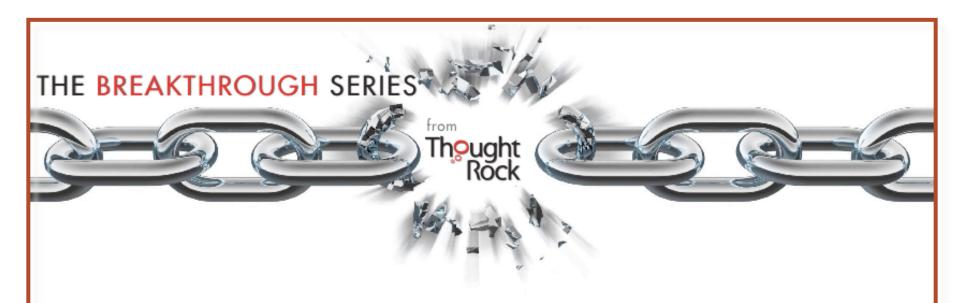
- An efficient and effective Incident Management process is a key driver for Problem Management success.
- Known Errors Database concept helps Incident resolution
- Link to the Major Incident policy
- Document the process at the high level, including:
  - Activity Flow Diagram

- Activity Descriptions

Defined Activity Roles

- RACI chart
- Publish the process and walk through with stakeholders
- Implement the process using your common ticketing tool





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