## Lessons learned from the ATLAS Experiment at CERN



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- How to *identify* the knowledge assets that underpin the performance of ATLAS?
- How to *locate* them in the I-Space?
- How to *interpret* the resulting map in value creation and strategic terms?
- How to *lead* knowledge exchange more effectively across networks?

#### Three Kinds of Knowledge





### The Information-Space (I-Space)





#### **Knowledge Creation**





## Strategic Knowledge Mapping





http://blogs.hbr.org

Diffusion

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### ATLAS-TDAQ Knowledge Map





## The Importance of Management Skills





# Implications for the ATLAS Leadership



## Strategic knowledge issues

•What are the critical strategy choices implied by the maps?

- •How to strategically develop value (competitive advantage)
- People development in High Energy Physics

 Managing the flow of people in and out of projects and between home institutions and ATLAS

## **Stage 2: Research questions**



- 55 semi-structured interviews
- Non-participant observation
- Documentary data
- Validation workshop
- Case study of 'Calorimeter upgrade' project

- How is knowledge leadership exercised?
- Does place matter?
- Are the dynamics of knowledge leadership discriminatory

# Lessons for us about Trust



Paradox 1: the more knowledge is managed, the less likely valuable knowledge will be exchanged

- Shared goals r/t personal portfolios
- Professional peer pressure r/t corporate compliance
- Long-term legacy r/t quick wins

# Lessons for us about Leadership



Paradox 2: the more democratic knowledge sharing is desired, the stronger leadership is required

- Spontaneous exchange of implicit knowledge requires explicit leadership
- Leadership of place r/t leadership from position

# Lessons for us about Leadership



Paradox 3: the more knowledgeable the professional the less likely s/he is able to lead

- Specialist vs boundary scanner
- Reliance on trusted sources vs other perspectives
- Precious knowledge vs application
- Emphasis on output vs process
- Solo success vs collaborative commitment

# Lessons for us about social capital



Paradox 4: the more informal knowledge sharing is, the more likely discrimination will occur

- Tyranny of structure-lessness
- Virtual + F2F

## Global partnership vs regional muniversity set

Global reach Generous K sharing Inclusive technologies	B ei	Heirarchical High initial mistrust Exclusive 'Guanxi'
ATLAS collaboration	ji	
Interdependence Rich cultural mix Steady income	n g	Late-comers Face-saving Low funds

Recommendations



Foster bridges of trust

Light-touch leadership

Build communities of practice

#### The Road Ahead



- Knowledge Leadership will be important for corporate & public sector decision makers to master the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Future projects with partners from industry, government and academia

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# ATLAS, examples of technology transfer



 Large number of infra-red sensors installed at experiment site

 Precision optical image processing to measure and align each of 16K individual silicon detectors in the semiconductor tracker Personnel location

Low cost system for emergency location of people in eg mines

#### Sound reproduction

Measuring shape of the groove on phonographic discs eg reproduction of hi-fi sound on damaged or delicate recordings

# ATLAS, examples of technology transfer



- Small pixel semi-conductor detectors for tracking proton collisions
- Silicon micro-strip detector technology

 ATLAS uses 600 special computing devices, configured by s'ware to operate as application-specific hardware processors

- Digital radiography
  - X-ray imaging in radiography, protein crystallogy & mat. science
  - Neural biology

Study of how neural systems (retina) process & encode info...artificial sight for blind?

#### Software technology

Lo-cost, high quality industrial image processing, eg real-time control of laser welding in car manufacture