



**Reveal *Hidden Talent within People-  
Leader Teams* using *Flow Finder™***

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### TALENT

Knowledge Workers responsible for possessing the expertise to execute skilled work

### PEOPLE-LEADERS

Mid-level management responsible for managing the skilled work delivered by others.

### HIGH PERFORMING TEAMS (HPT)

A group of Talent with specific roles and complementary skills, aligned with and committed to a common purpose. HPT members are highly skilled and able to interchange their roles. Team Leadership is not vested in a single individual, but taken up by various team members, based upon the need at the moment.

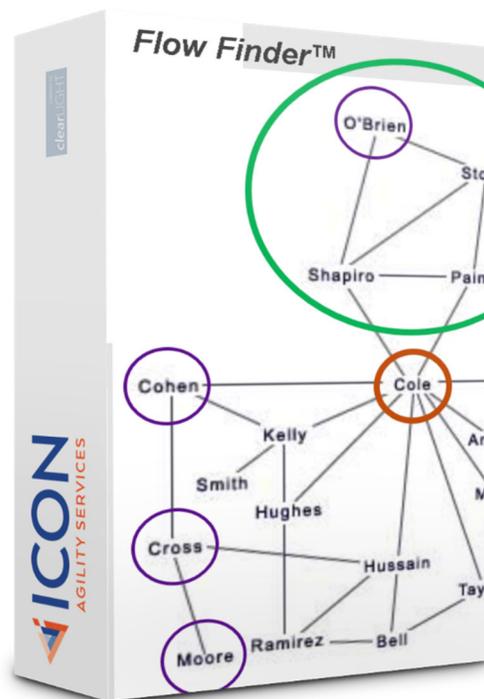
### ORGANIZATIONAL NETWORK ANALYSIS (ONA)

ONA is a powerful means of making invisible patterns of information flow and collaboration in strategically important groups visible. Research shows connectivity in networks impacts performance, learning, and innovation.

## Reveal *Hidden Talent within People-Leader Teams* using *Flow Finder™*

*Flow Finder™* helps agile teams of any size – from 2 pizzas to teams of teams – reveal their hidden talent dynamics by making communication, collaboration, and trust visible. Once revealed, the teaming dynamics provide people-leaders with team design improvements accompanied by insights clarifying their impact on the affected area.

Before going further, first, let us *Find Our Why*. Ask yourself any of the following questions ...



Ever wonder why new hires are not impacting team performance as well as expected?

Do you have high-performing teams, but don't know why?

Can you identify high potentials before they become your high performers?

Is your company heavily investing in leadership development, but unable to resolve ongoing team conflict?

Are your DevOps Teams executing, but sense they could be more effective?

Does your Agile Transformation have a few high-performing delivery teams but others, not so much?

Has your organizational collaboration or change momentum stalled and you need to find a NEW why?

Are your SAFe™ Lean/Agile Leaders challenged balancing their new Agile responsibilities and their 'day job'?

If you responded with yes, maybe, or even hmmm to any of the above questions, then your organization, executives, people-leaders, and delivery teams will benefit from using *Flow Finder™*.

*Flow Finder™* is an *ICON™* service that converts team member feedback into actionable insight using Organizational Network Analysis (ONA). This insight drives changes to team design that **results in higher performance and accelerated value delivery**.

## VUCA

Acronym describing the **V**olatility, **U**ncertainty, **C**omplexity, and **A**mbiguity of general conditions and situations.

- **V**: Speed of forces of change
- **U**: Lack of predictability
- **C**: No cause-and-effect
- **A**: Hazy, potential for misreads

Since 2002, it's taken root in strategic leadership discussions because of broad applicability to a wide range of organizations.

## SENSE → RESPOND → ADAPT

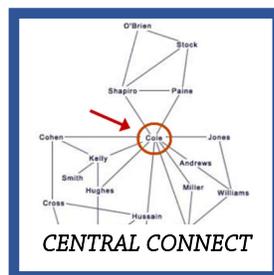
Sense and Respond is a mental model for business management that states, under VUCA, companies cannot expect to thrive by just making products and selling them. To succeed, companies need to know how to adapt to customers – even before they themselves know what they want. Adding 'Adapt' ensures that companies are also continuously improving their capability to Sense and Respond.

**VUCA, VUCA, VUCA ...** Yes, **VUCA** is real. Just look around, we are operating in the most unsure days since *The Great Depression*.

Thought leaders frequently share Business Agility as the best possible **response** to VUCA. So, odds are, your company has started its Agile journey. Meaning, you now intend to **sense customer need**, next **respond with value delivering operations**, then **adapt to continuously improve. How's that working?** For your delivery teams, probably great! Agility guidance provided by Scrum, SAFe™, LeSS, et al is very clear for agile delivery teams, but for the people-leaders who *enable* your Agile

teams, not so much. **Why?** The cross-functional support (HR, finance, sales, marketing) required by agile delivery teams creates ad-hoc connections and relationships between people-leaders needing to successfully complete the work. These company-wide relationships establish an invisible network central to performance and strategy execution. To understand these networks, we must: make them measurable, look beyond formal org charts, and **focus on informal relationships**.

**Flow Finder™** applies Organizational Network Analysis (ONA) to understand people-leader relationships. ONA discovers relationship patterns that provide deep insight into the pros and cons of recalibrating people-leader connections for higher performance.



### CENTRAL CONNECTOR

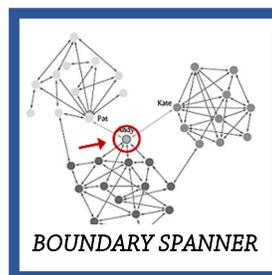
Team Member with the most connections to others. Sub-types include:

#### **The Unsung Hero**

Engage selflessly and support group often without recognition.

#### **The Bottleneck**

Too central; holds the team back.

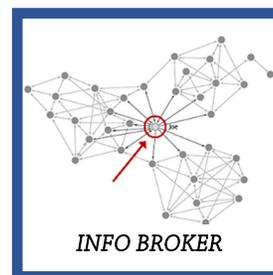


### BOUNDARY SPANNER

Team Member providing critical linkage across different groups.

**Focused** role for sharing expertise.

**Rare** role since most lack the expertise, contacts, and personality for cross-group acceptance.

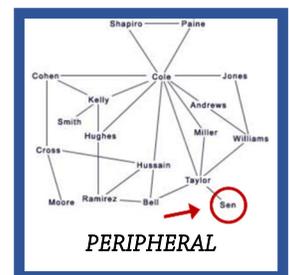


### INFORMATION BROKER

Team Member on shortest path between many people.

**Important** role. If removed, the group's sub-areas becomes sparse and splintered.

**Coveted** for their expertise and ability to create a more connected group.



### PERIPHERAL PEOPLE

Team Member with one connection, not linked to any others. Reasons include:

**Newly Stuck** New hires can't navigate off periphery into groups.

**Stuck By Choice** Experts disengage to avoid meetings and personal-life conflicts.

## BUSINESS AGILITY

Ability of an organization to renew itself, adapt, change quickly, and succeed in a rapidly changing, ambiguous, turbulent environment.

## 5- STEPS TO DISCOVERING HIDDEN TALENT

- Step 1: Identify Agile Transformation Teams
- Step 2: Distribute ONA Surveys
- Step 3: Understand Hidden Talent Findings
- Step 4: Design/Redesign Teams
- Step 5: Continue Transformation ...

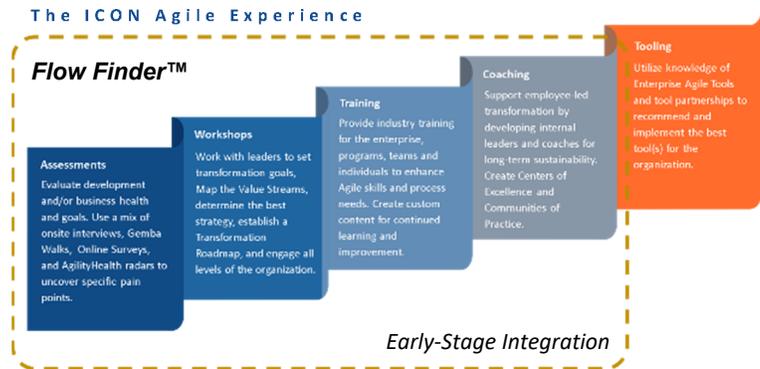
## THE ICON AGILE EXPERIENCE

- **Assessment:** Evaluate development and/or business health
- **Workshops:** Work with leaders to set transformation goals
- **Training:** Provide industry training for enterprise, programs, teams, and individuals
- **Coaching:** Support employee-led transformation by developing internal leaders and coaches
- **Tooling:** Utilize knowledge of Enterprise Agile Tools and tool partnerships for procurement and recommendation

## Flow Finder™ Requirements

**Flow Finder™** requires an agile adoption to be underway or underway reasonably soon. It is designed to work with agile adoption efforts of any kind: Scrum, SAFe™, LeSS, DevOps, Enterprise Business Agility, etc. However, **Flow Finder™** integrates best within the early stages of **The ICON Agile Experience**.

**Flow Finder™** aligns with **AGILE TRANSFORMATIONS** of any kind, but best with **ICON's Agile Experience**.



## Flow Finder™ 5-Steps to Discovering Hidden Talent

### STEP 1: IDENTIFY AGILE TRANSFORMATION TEAMS

ICON Consultants, together with your Transformation Sponsorship, engage to 1) understand how work gets done and 2) identify candidate teams at all organizational levels: (executive, people-leader, and delivery).

### STEP 2: DISTRIBUTE ONA SURVEYS

ICON Consultants administer an Organizational Network Analysis survey to the identified teams.

### STEP 3: UNDERSTAND HIDDEN TALENT FINDINGS

ICON Consultants guide Transformation Sponsorship and Teams through survey findings paired with known **Flow Finder™** benefits:

- Accelerate workflow cycle time
- Discover knowledge-sharing blocks
- Identify sidelined collaborators
- Manage intra-team conflicts
- Explain performant outcomes
- Reveal organizational redundancy
- Visualize trust-based networks

### STEP 4: DESIGN/REDESIGN TRANSFORMATION TEAMS

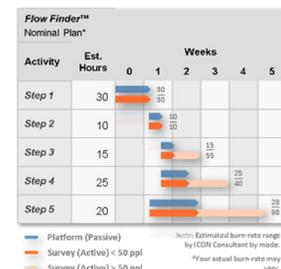
ICON Consultants present multiple Team Design alternatives along with impact analysis to Transformation Sponsorship.

### STEP 5: CONTINUE TRANSFORMATION ...

ICON Consultants provide implementation plan for integrating selected Team Design into new or existing Agile Transformation to ensure receipt of targeted **Flow Finder™** benefits.

## GETTING STARTED

Typical **Flow Finder™** engagement:



Contact your ICON Sales Representative to discuss next steps.