

Mastermind sessions help us navigate challenges by tapping into the wisdom in the room. Think of a mastermind as a structured approach for peer-to-peer knowledge sharing and troubleshooting.

# FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS:

Room Setup

- Arrange tables and chairs in small groups of 5 or 6 people. For smaller workshops, set the room so that participants can face each other and are close enough to hear one another.
- Pen and workshop handout or notepad available for each group.
- Dry erase board/flip chart and markers at the front of the room.
- Play upbeat music before the mastermind begins.



It is important to remember that you are not alone.

By participating in this mastermind session...

- You will gain new perspectives and receive instant, high-value feedback.
- You will collaborate with your peers to improve your business.
- And, most importantly, you will identify ways to get ahead of the competition.



Today's topic has been pre-selected: <CLICK> Business Technology

<CLICK> In a few minutes, we will identify challenges that prevent us from taking advantage of the benefits technology can offer for our businesses.

<CLICK> Next, we will divide into small groups and brainstorm solutions.

<CLICK> Finally, we'll come back together and share what we've learned from our group members.

Let's get started.



What technology challenges do you currently face? Or, what areas could technology improve your business?

- Spend 5-10 minutes brainstorming what challenges your discussion groups will "solve"
- Write responses on the board or flipchart.
- Be prepared to "prime the pump" by sharing ideas such as:
  - Organizing text messages, emails, Facebook messages, etc.
  - Digital signing of documents
  - Conducting business from your smartphone.
- If your list is long, choose or vote on which challenge(s) you will discuss.

# Break Into Groups (5 or 6 people)

#### Assign a Leader

- Keeps group on task
- Allows everyone to contribute

#### Assign a Notetaker

- Records all ideas and information shared
- Presents group's findings during debrief



- Have agents divide into groups of 5 or 6 people (or keep larger group depending on the number of participants)
- Each group needs to assign a leader AND a notetaker

# <section-header> Mattechnology helps you run your business more efficiently? What impact has this technology had on your business? Share best practices for use.

# FACILITATOR REMARKS:

In your group, discuss technology solutions for the challenge we've outlined (*reference* Slide 4 – these challenges should be written on a flip chart or dry erase board for the group to refer to). Keep these three suggestions in mind.

- 1. <CLICK> What technology are you using to run your business more efficiently and solve the challenges we identified as a group?
- 2. <CLICK> What impact has this technology had on your business?
- 3. <CLICK> Finally, share your best practices

- Set a timer for 25 minutes.
- Walk the room ensure groups are staying on task.
- Listen to the discussions and make note of additional information you want to share during the debrief.
- *Give the group a 5-minute warning to wrap up their conversations.*
- After 25 minutes, bring the groups back together for the debrief.



- Go around the room and ask each group to share their best technology, including the program/app, results achieved, and best practices.
- Have each group share only one idea at a time so that all the groups have a chance to share.
- Continue going around the groups until there are no more ideas to share.
- Record answers on the board or flipchart



- Wrap up the meeting by thanking everyone for attending.
- Collect the notes from each group so you can share them with all the participants.
- Let the attendees know how they will receive the notes.
- Ask the attendees if they learned something new today.
- Request additional feedback to improve future mastermind sessions.