

The Implications Wheel® IS and IS NOT

Through out most of the 20th century, people talked about the “chain of events” and many of us were trained in that kind of cause/effect thinking. But that “Linear” thinking does **not** reflect the way the world works.

Change affects the world like ripples in a pond. When a change occurs or an event happens, implications go in all directions, both for good and bad. The Implications Wheel® tries to capture that pattern of change. It helps you explore and document these ripples of possible implications in a fast and effective way.

By scouting the future using this pattern we can discover and evaluate both positive and negative consequences well before they actually happen. We also increase our capacity to find “unintended consequences” which so often cause major problems.

The Implications Wheel® records and provides access to information generated during Implications Wheel® strategic explorations. Its visual display offers a focused, compelling map of the implication spill-out from the Implications Wheel® center.



The Implications Wheel® strategic exploration tool enables users to rapidly identify potential long term positive and negative implications or consequences that come as the result of change.

The Implications Wheel® is NOT AN OUTLINE

The elements of the Implications Wheel are not subordinate to one another. It does not ask you to create large categories and then add subcategories below them.

- I. _____
- A. _____
- 1. _____
- a. _____

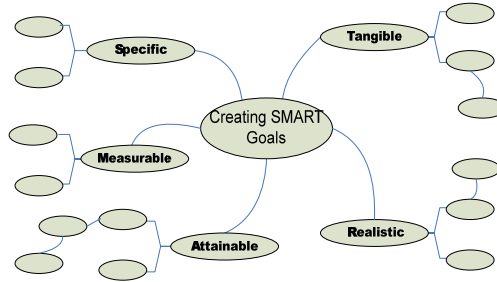
IMPLICATIONS WHEEL® IS:	OUTLINE IS:
Radial Generates implications that move from immediate to long term Implications often get stronger as you go along	Linear Generates an order of things from large to small Outline subsets typically get less important as they go along

Implications Wheel® programs, graphics, layout, and printed material are copyright © 2004–2008 Joel A. Barker. All rights reserved. Implications Wheel is a registered trademark, and Joel Barker's is a trademark, of Joel A. Barker. Pat. Pend.

The Implication Wheel[®] IS and IS NOT

The Implications Wheel[®] is NOT MIND-MAPPING

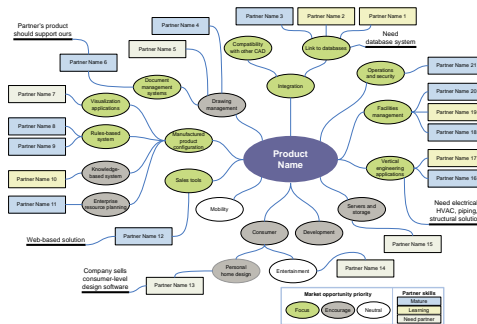
Although the Implications Wheel and the Mind Map both use a circular shape and spokes, their purposes are profoundly different. The I-Wheel is not an organizing device for putting many different elements into categories and relationships.



IMPLICATIONS WHEEL [®] IS:	MIND MAP IS:
Radial format focused on Implications Orderly process focused on Implications Spokes and circles imply open & expanding	Radial format focused on diverse topics Random process focused on any topic Lines and boxes tend to confine

The Implications Wheel[®] is NOT BRAINSTORMING

The Implications Wheel[®] does not allow for open-ended, non-connected ideas. The only elements that are part of an I-Wheel are implications that are possible. The I-Wheel[™] has a specific order and structure to it. All of that violates the basic rules of brainstorming which is random and errorless.



IMPLICATIONS WHEEL [®] IS:	BRAINSTORMING IS:
Implications only Structured Specific order – 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd etc. Rule driven - right and wrong answers	Anything goes Unstructured Any order Random & errorless