

# Innovation @ OttoBock

---

Dr. Andreas T. Bachmeier, MBA  
06.11.2022



## Innovation Ecosystem

**01**

Prerequisites

**a**

Implementation

**b**

Pitfalls

**c**

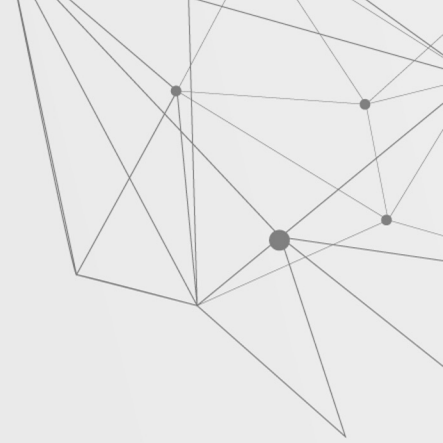
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**02**

**Potential Search  
Fields for Innovations**

**03**

**Idea Testing &  
Validation**





01

# Innovation Ecosystem

---

How could an Innovation Ecosystem @ Ottobock look like?



---

**a) What do we need to establish an Innovation Ecosystem @ Ottobock?**

---



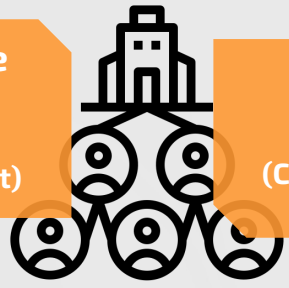


**Internal Innovation Network**  
(across sites)

**External Innovation Network**  
(partners)

**Centralized Innovation Unit**  
(Innovation Lab + Team)

**Innovative Culture**  
(employee empowerment)



**C-Level Support**  
(CXO, CEO, CTO)

**ottobock.**  
Innovation Ecosystem

**Innovation Management**  
(Process + Tools)



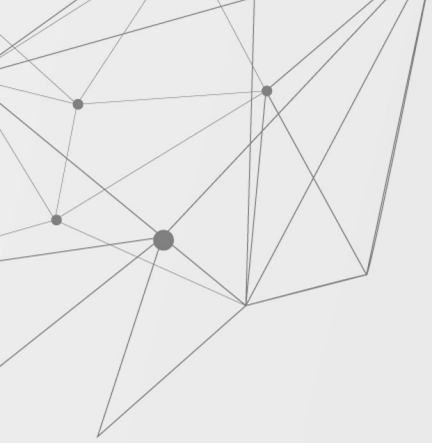
**Knowledge Management**  
(Process + Tools)

**Reliable Data Sources**  
(Information + Insights)



**IT Infrastructure**  
(Dedicated Software & Services)





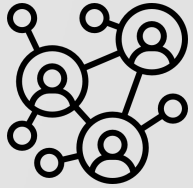
---

**b) How do we  
implement the  
prerequisites?**

---



# Innovation Network & Unit



## Internal Network

- Identification of innovation scouts/ advocates in all departments
- Definition of experts as consultants for innovation topics (rating of ideas)
- Innovation hubs at main R&D sites (Berlin, Duderstadt, Wien, Königsee)

Central innovation unit for Ottobock with clear internal branding and mission



## External Network

- Exchange with external innovation units & centers
- Collaboration with research institutes (e.g. Fraunhofer) and universities (e.g. TUM, RWTH)
- Collaboration with entrepreneurship centers (e.g. UnternehmerTUM)
- Usage of Open Innovation
- Startup collaboration



Fraunhofer



UNTER  
NEHMER  
TUM

# IT Infrastructure & Data Sources



**Itonics** helps you drive innovation from strategy to execution at scale. All the way from insights to market in one single collaborative platform.



**Asana** helps you manage projects, focus on what's important, and organize work in one place for seamless collaboration.



**GlassDollar** helps corporations to find, implement and scale startup solutions creating tangible results and real impact across the organization.



## Data Sources

Consulting Firms



Patents



Universities



Media & Publishing



Industry & Competition





# Knowledge & Innovation Management



Standardised  
Innovation  
Framework

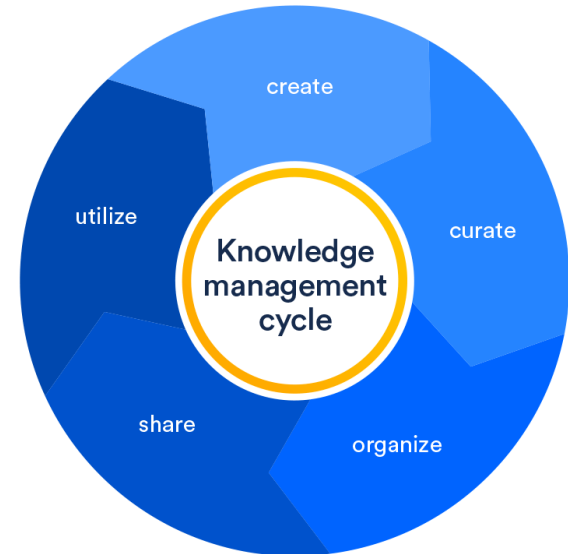
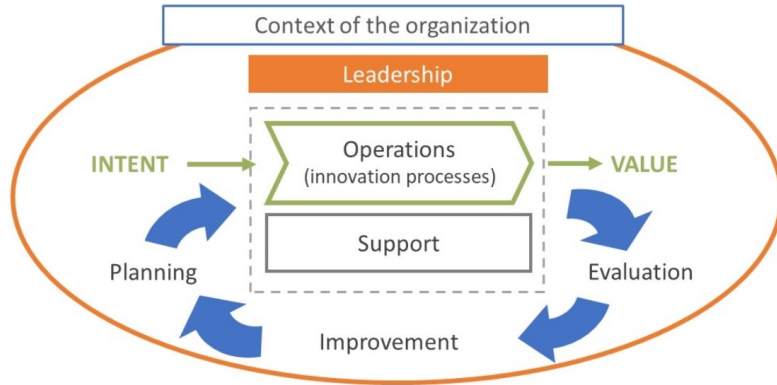
ISO 5600X



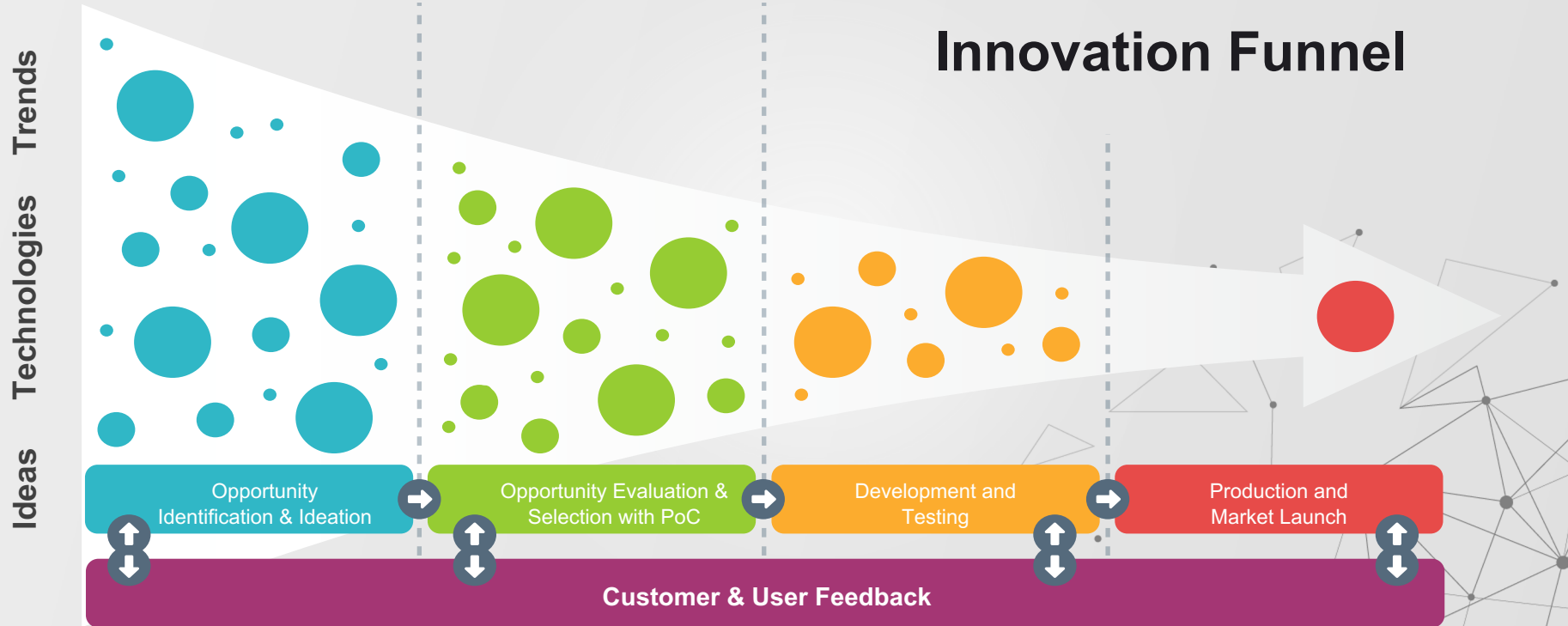
ISO 30401

Knowledge  
Management  
Standard

## Innovation Management System



# Knowledge & Innovation Management



# Innovative Culture & C-Level Support

**Empowerment**

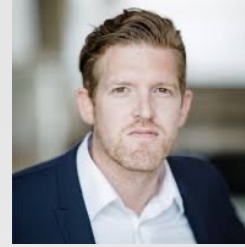
Freedom for employees to test & implement own ideas (e.g. exemption, budget, team)

Regular innovation events (e.g. Ideation Challenge, Hackathon, Innovation Board)

Rewards for innovative employees (e.g. bonus, time, promotion, participation)

Execution of projects with signal effect

Continuous communication of innovation topics (e.g. new trends, successes & failures)



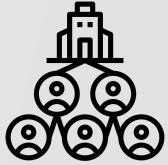
**CXO**  
Martin Böhm



**CTO/COO**  
Arne Jörn



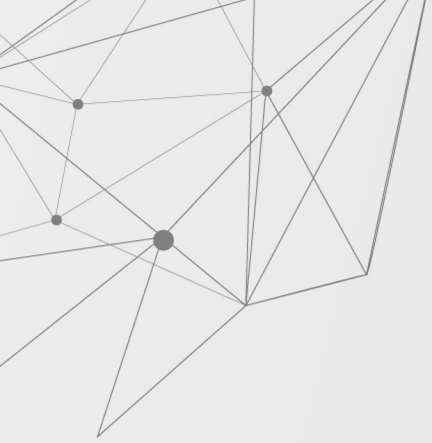
**Owner and President**  
Ottobock Holding  
Prof. Näder



Patronage of events & participation

Regular exchange with innovation unit & feedback

Strategic decision making



---

**c) What might  
potential pitfalls be?**

---



# Potential Pitfalls

Parallel initiatives at multiple sites due to lack of coordination

Hesitant employees due to fear of additional workload

Focus on daily business & lack of time for innovation tasks

Non-agile process for testing of ideas

Lack of awareness of the innovation unit in the company

Lack of manpower @ innovation unit

Rejection of cooperation from other departments due to conviction of own innovative strength

Hesitant team leads due to fear of loss of manpower

Overlapping responsibilities with other departments

Unclear innovation targets and lacking KPIs

Frequently changing innovation process and insufficient compliance

Difficult idea testing because of internal bureaucracy

Insufficient & tedious knowledge management

Hesitation to cancel innovation projects due to fear of failure





# 02

## Potential Search Fields for Innovations

---

In which areas could we find break-through innovations?



## **Additive Manufacturing for orthoses & prostheses**

How could we leverage Additive Manufacturing to provide an optimized user-specific product?

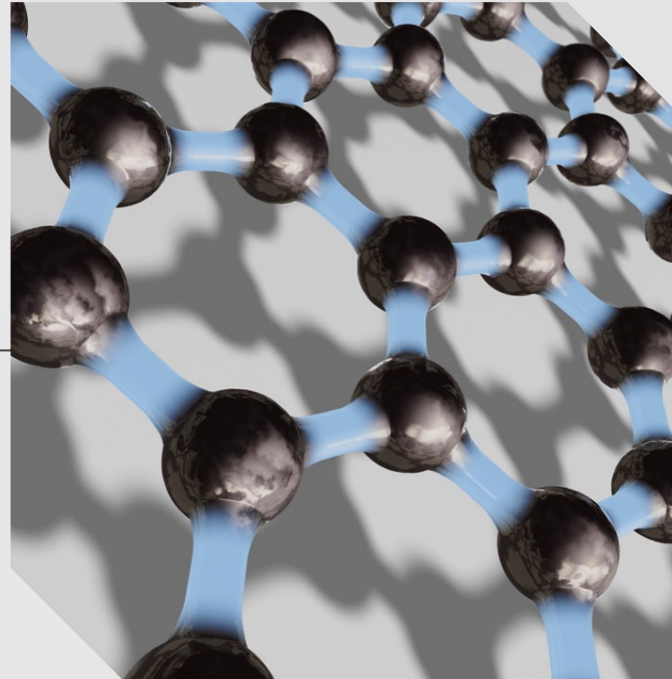


Credit: EOS



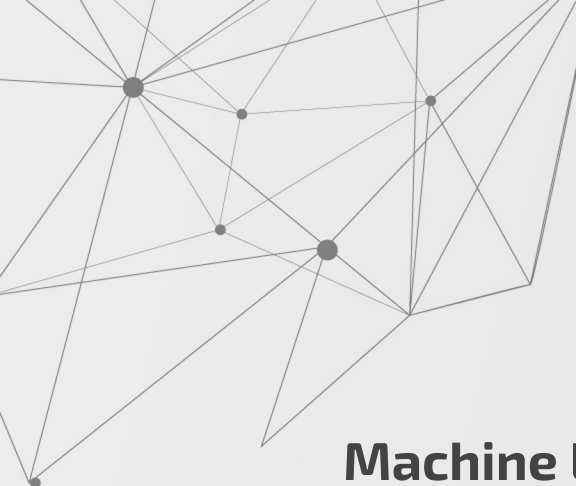
## **Novel materials for prostheses & orthoses**

Which innovative materials can we  
utilize to enable a biologically  
correct behavior?



Credit: ASME





## Machine Learning for smart prostheses & orthoses

What ML approaches can we  
utilize to optimize the control of  
smart prostheses & orthoses?

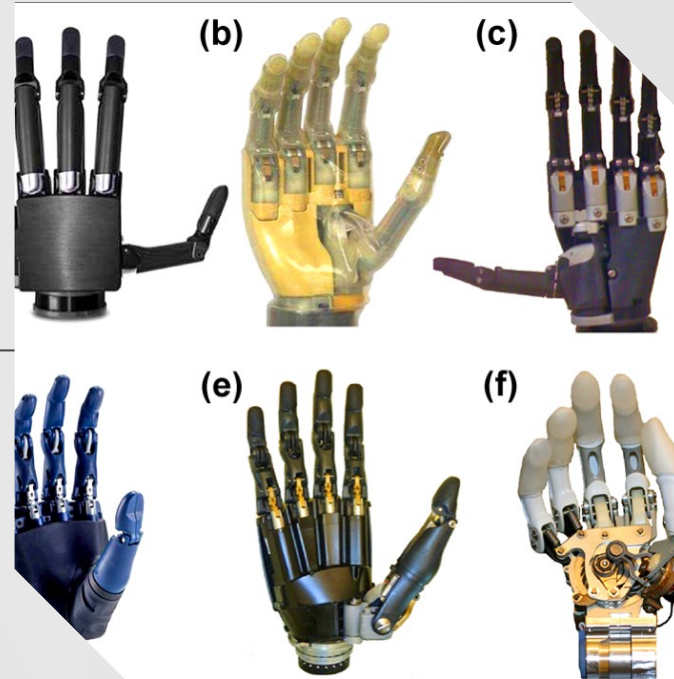


Credit: Open AI



## The first prosthesis that enables feeling

Are there possibilities to develop prostheses that enable the user to feel comparable to a biological limb?



Credit: JRRD



## Brain chips for prostheses control

Could brain chips enable & improve  
the control of smart prostheses?



Credit: Wired



## Novel fitting techniques for optimized prostheses

What novel approaches can we apply to achieve an optimized fit for prostheses?

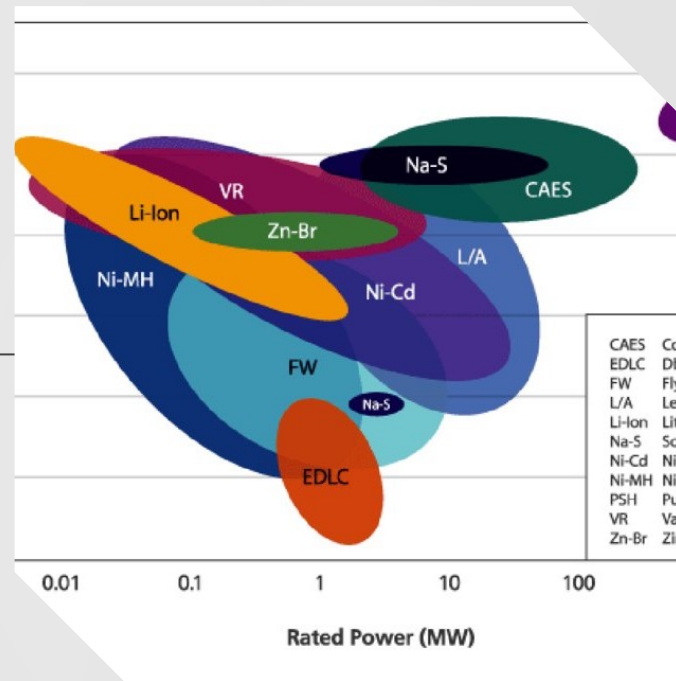


Credit: Romedis




## New energy storage technologies

Which novel energy storage technologies can we leverage to enhance the runtime of relevant products?



Credit: ResearchGate



## The exoskeleton that allows you to walk (again)

---

Can we provide a fully-  
autonomous exoskeleton to  
wheelchair users to enable  
them to walk?



Credit: DesignWanted



## Orthotic posture & deformity correction

Can we utilize orthotic solutions to correct bone deformities or incorrect postures?



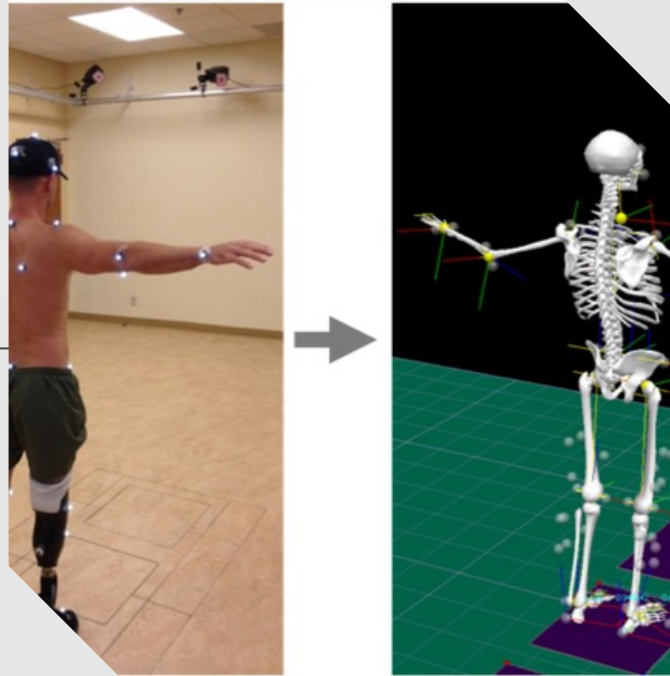
Credit: Nature





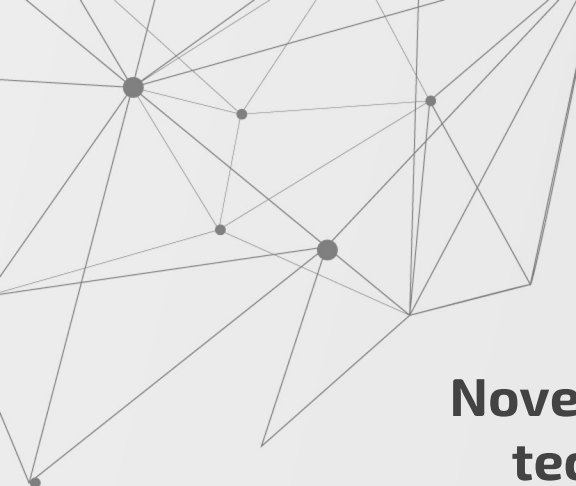
## Novel techniques for an optimized gait analysis

Can we utilize state-of-the-art  
gait analysis to provide a  
biomechanically optimized  
prosthesis or orthosis for the  
specific user?



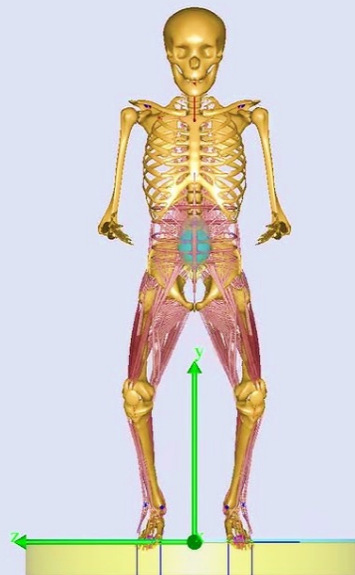
Credit: Nature





## Novel simulation techniques for optimized prostheses & orthoses

Can we leverage state-of-the-art simulation techniques to advance the design of prostheses & orthoses?



Credit: AnyBody



## Neuromodulation for enhanced mobilization

How can we leverage and optimize neuromodulation for neurological conditions to support patient mobilization?



Credit: Ottobock



## Human Augmentation via prostheses

Can we equip prostheses with  
technologically advanced  
features to enhance human  
capabilities beyond a  
biological limb?



Credit: BBC

An abstract geometric network graphic composed of interconnected nodes and lines, forming a complex, multi-faceted structure. The nodes are represented by small black dots, and the lines are thin, light gray. The overall shape is irregular and occupies the right side of the slide.

# 03

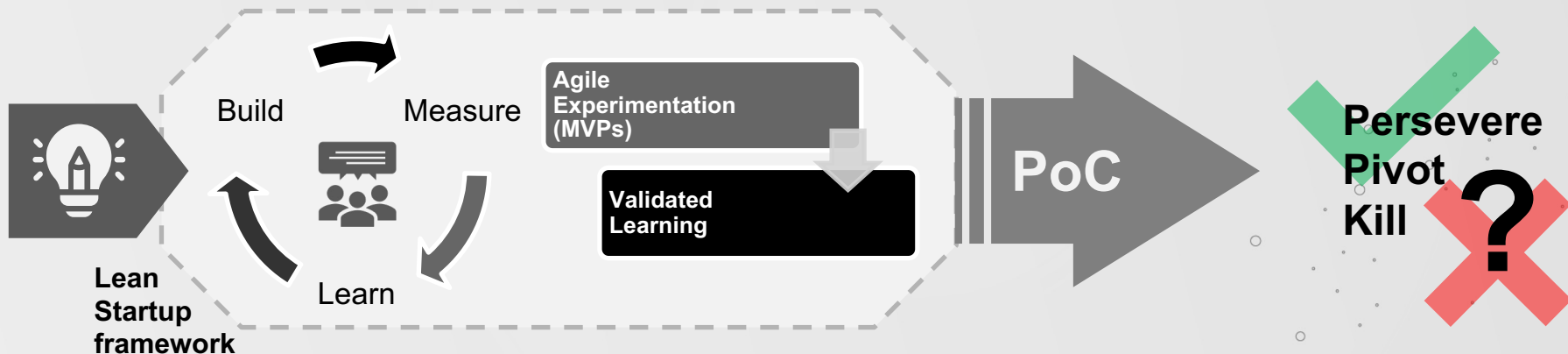
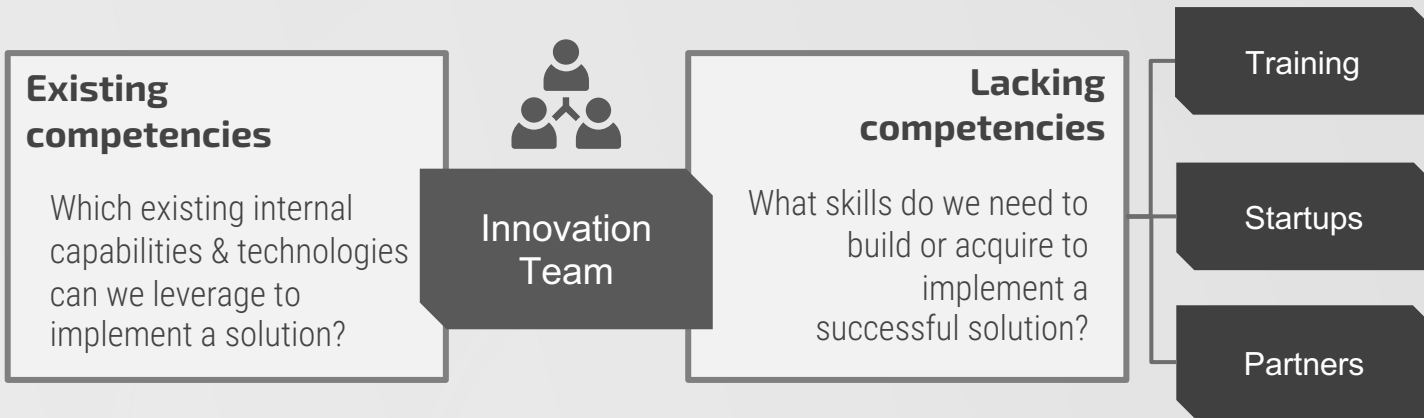
## Idea Testing & Validation

---

How can we assess the feasibility of new ideas efficiently?

ottobock.

# Idea Testing & Validation





# Thank you!

**Dr. Andreas T. Bachmeier**

-----  
andreas.bachmeier@cdi.eu

+491629503868



[LinkedIn](#)



[Website](#)

