



What Makes Apollo Different?

This is one of the most common questions asked by individuals tasked with identifying a root cause analysis provider for their organization. The difference in root cause analysis methods can be likened to those in cars. A high-end luxury sedan and an economy sub-compact can both be considered “cars”, but there are vast differences in their performance and reliability. The same is true for root cause analysis (RCA) methods.

- **Simple, yet Powerful:**
The Apollo method is simple enough for newly trained practitioners to earn a positive return on investment on their first RCA while also providing the robust capability needed to analyze and solve significant and complicated events.
- **Universal and Scalable:**
Apollo RCA can be used to solve any type of problem, regardless of magnitude, industry or discipline.
- **Innovative Software:**
 - RealityCharting®* -- our RCA software, makes facilitating and sharing results of an RCA much more effective.
 - eRCA™: Foundations of Problem Solving* -- our popular eLearning course drastically reduces training time.
 - eRCA™: Problem Analyst* -- our second eLearning course takes students beyond *Foundations* to a new level of problem-solving capabilities.
- **No Forms or Checklists:**
Apollo is a methodology, and therefore does not require special forms, checklists, or software. However, *RealityCharting®* makes the process extremely easy, consistent, and effective.
- **Proactive and Reactive Applications:**
Companies use Apollo to find the causes of current problems as well as to proactively identify causes in order to prevent future problems.
- **World-Class Trainers:**
Our trainers practice what we teach, conducting investigations all over the world. This experience allows us to provide a unique and engaging classroom experience with instructors who draw upon years of facilitation experience.
- **Global Reach:**
Apollo has offices in six different countries and conducts training in 10 different languages.
- **Identifies Mistake-Proofing Solutions:**
We recognize that the best chance of controlling human behavior is by controlling the environment with which humans interact. Our students learn to control causes that influence decision making instead of controlling behavior through coercion and discipline.
- **Causes Supported by Evidence:**
Apollo requires that causes identified in an analysis be supported with evidence. Requiring evidence minimizes the risk that a solution will fail. It also keeps conjecture out of an analysis.
- **Increases Value of the Individual:**
Solid problem-solving and facilitation skills make individuals extremely valuable – regardless of where their career takes them.
- **Apollo Compared to Fishbone:**
A fishbone diagram can be helpful in that the categories (manpower, methods, machinery, material) help the team look for causes in many different places, however fishbone does not go further to logically describe the inter-action between categories, which occurs in all problems. Apollo not only looks for causes in people, procedures, hardware, and the natural environment, it shows how all causes from these categories interact in a dynamic cause and effect chart. The fishbone process uses structured brainstorming and voting to determine root causes, whereas Apollo defines a root cause as a cause that has a solution applied to it. The Apollo methodology is based in the laws of cause and effect, and is therefore more effective.
- **Apollo Compared to 5-Whys:**
The 5-Why's method is useful in that it encourages the analyst to identify causes. The weakness of the 5-Why's methodology is that it is a linear method of analysis while the events it analyzes are non-linear. 5-Why's typically only identifies “action” causes and thus misses approximately 70% of the remaining conditional causes, which are frequently tied to the most effective solutions. 5-Why's accounts only for single causal relationships. The Apollo methodology is a non-linear analytical method of analysis that accounts for all causes of the problem.