



ThoughtLink provides research and advisory services to government and commercial clients to find solutions to interdisciplinary problems involving training and technology, particularly for organizations with physically distributed teams, customers, or constituents. We are experts at fostering collaboration among commercial and government organizations through applied research, requirements analysis, and standards-based technology solutions.

Virtual teams are on the rise – from the war on terrorism and the focus on inter-agency collaboration and training to the increasing number of teleworkers. Technology enables – but simultaneously creates challenges for – distributed teams. While Internet technologies have enabled distributed “virtual” teams and organizational processes, they do not provide complete solutions for such challenges as team or inter-agency coordination and collaboration. ThoughtLink helps organizations overcome these challenges by linking people and technologies to help teams work, train, and communicate more frequently and efficiently. We do this by applying our experience in using simulations and Web technologies for education and training, using games for research and analysis, and tailoring solutions to particular organizational needs.

ThoughtLink itself is a virtual team comprised of experts in computer science, technology management, industrial and organizational psychology, and engineering. Combined with skill in technical consulting, software integration, and experiment design, execution and analysis, we have applied these knowledge areas to projects for a variety of government, international, and non-governmental organizations, including:

- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Military Commands
- Canada’s Pearson Peacekeeping Centre
- Center for Humanitarian Cooperation.

In a recent project, ThoughtLink conducted research for the Department of Homeland Security Office for Domestic Preparedness on the availability of technologies for homeland security training and exercising. We recommended how to incorporate models, simulations and games into national domestic preparedness training and exercise programs, and designed Web-based tools to support DHS constituents in learning about and searching for such simulation-based tools and systems.

Founded in 1997 by information technology experts Julia Loughran and Marcy Stahl, ThoughtLink is a woman-owned small business that brings breadth and depth of experience to clients who desire assistance in selecting information and training technologies, and understanding their effects on implementation and organizational performance.