NCO Think Tank
Target Audience: Commanders

Purpose To create an ad-hoc forum of NCOs to formally evaluate and study topics of concern and propose solutions.

Description This forum provides the commander generational and cross-functional insight to a myriad of command- level issues and challenges that face today's junior enlisted. It also develops and fosters an open climate of participation and innovation.
A think tank will allow NCO ownership of the process, and enable them to share their thoughts and recommendations with strategic decision makers. It gives the junior enlisted a voice in the command, and challenges them to exercise the character necessary to make sound decisions.

Employ
- Choose a topic
  - (e.g., Improper Relationships, Misuse of Social Media, Define Airmen's time, etc.)
  - Topics should be one of which an NCO perspective would be relevant
  - Designate outbrief suspense

- Select a team
  - Announce efforts at Commander's Call
  - 10-14 NCOs (E5-E6)
  - May be a competitive, volunteer or nominee process

- Team ROEs
  - Consists of varied AFSCs
  - Work independently to research, study & propose solutions to topic
  - Conduct weekly meetings over a one to two month period
  - Choose a leader who will be responsible for the outbrief
  - Have lively discussions, challenge each other and keep the big picture in mind
  - Team leader conducting outbrief should direct questions asked by leadership to the other team members to allow inclusion during outbrief

- Assign a mentor
  - 1st Sgt or SMSgt
  - Person will not influence the decisions/recommendations or lead the group
  - Act as an advisor only, and does not attend every meeting session
  - Provide advice as needed, and assist team's communication with senior leaders

- Conduct an out-brief
  - At commander's discretion, share briefing at the Gp and/or Wg level (or higher)
  - As appropriate, commander will act on the recommendations

- Implement some portion of the solutions to enable team to see tangible outcome of their recommendations.