



# The SLG Authority Path

A Comprehensive Guide to Building Brand Authority for CEOs and Entrepreneurs

www.softlandingglobal.com

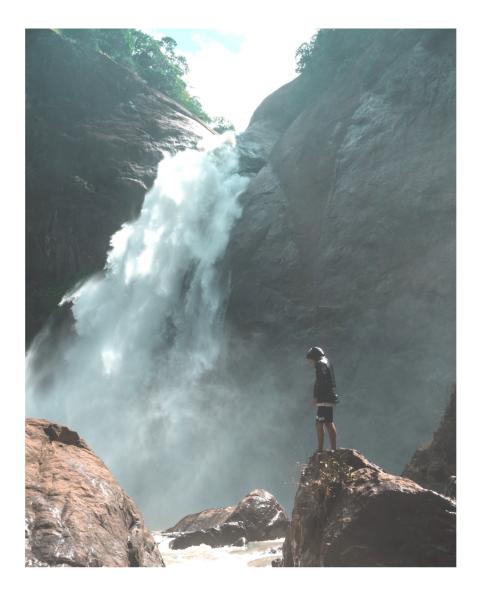
ricardo.torres@softlandingglobal.com info@softlandingglobal.com



# Let's start the journey

In the rapidly evolving landscape of global business, the term "authority" takes on a meaning that transcends beyond mere recognition or success. It represents a confluence of influence, trust, and innovation, acting as the epitome of entrepreneurial aspirations.

Yet, the path to becoming an authority is nebulous, riddled with challenges that go far beyond just having a compelling product or service. It's a journey that demands the navigation of ever-shifting sands of consumer expectations, market trends, and global socioeconomic conditions.



### THE AUTHORITY PATH





• First phase:

#### Unknown

• Second phase:

Known

• Third phase:

Acknowledgment

• Fourth phase:

Authority



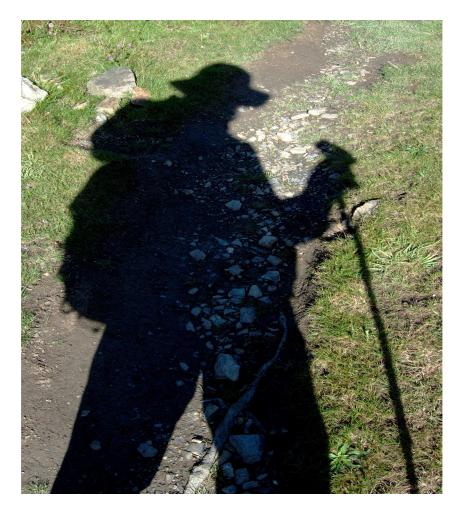
### Authority Path: Unknown

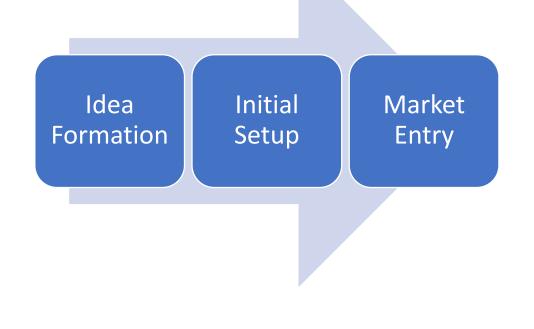
In the Unknown Phase, you exist as a hidden entity in a sprawling, competitive marketplace. Your brand, products, or services are untested and need a distinct market identity or influence.



### Unknown Sub-Phase







### Unknown Sub-Phase

# Dilemmas, Difficulties, and Opportunities

#### Dilemmas

Credibility Paradox: One of the biggest dilemmas is the 'Credibility Paradox.' You need customers to build credibility and reputation, yet most customers are reluctant to engage with an unproven entity.

#### Difficulties

- 1. Lack of Credibility
- 2. Limited Resources
- 3. Market Saturation

### **Opportunities**

- 1. Flexibility to Pivot
- 2. Freedom to Experiment
- 3. Untapped Market Segments





### Ways to Build and Move to the Next Phase

#### Unknown Sub-Phase

- 1. Feasibility Study
- 2. Build a Core Team
- 3. Develop an MVP (Minimum Viable Product
- 4. Pilot Testing
- 5. Secure Initial Funding







### *"Opportunities multiply as they are seized." Sun Tzu.*

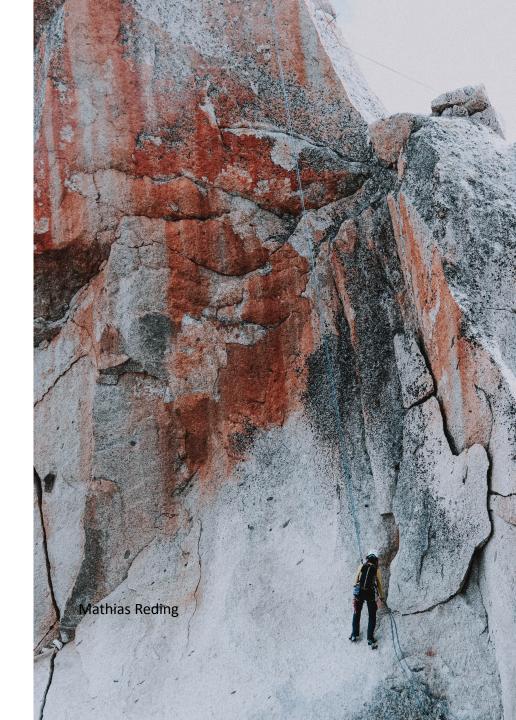
### In the Unknown Phase, you can experiment freely, laying the foundation for future success.



www.softlandingglobal.com

"Courage isn't having the strength to go on—it is going on when you don't have strength." Napoleon Bonaparte.

The journey through the Unknown Phase is grueling, but every step forward is a step out of obscurity.





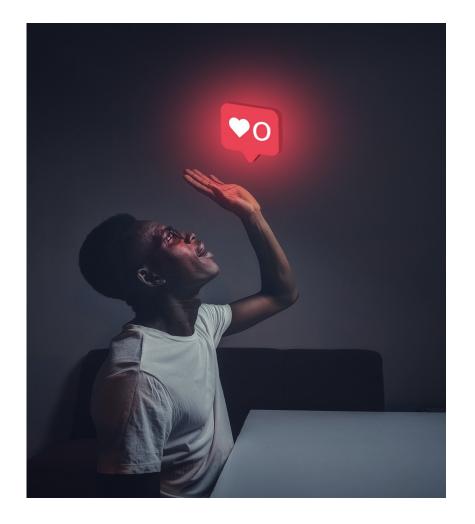
### Authority Path: Known

The "Known" phase is characterized by initial market penetration, where you've gained awareness among your target audience. You've moved past the complete obscurity of the "Unknown" phase but are still not a go-to choice within your market.



### Known Sub-Phase







### Known Sub-Phase

### Dilemmas, Difficulties, and Opportunities

#### Dilemmas

The Middle Child Syndrome: You're not a fresh, unknown entity, but you're also not a big, recognizable name. How do you make people care?

#### Difficulties

- 1. Limited Reach
- 2. Resource Allocation
- 3. Customer Retention

#### **Opportunities**

- 1. Community Building
- 2. Niche Specialization
- 3. Partnerships





### Ways to Build and Move to the Next Phase

#### Known Sub-Phase

- 1. Enhanced Customer Engagement
- 2. Resource Allocation Plan
- 3. Seek Investment for Scaling
- 4. Strategic Partnerships
- 5. Customer Feedback Loop:





"There are no secrets to success. It results from preparation, hard work, and learning from failure."

General Colin Powell.

In the Known Phase, smart and strategic consolidation is key.



www.softlandingglobal.com



# "The supreme art of war is to subdue the enemy without fighting."

Sun Tzu.

In business, your 'enemy' might be market indifference. To overcome it, you must win the hearts and minds of your audience without necessarily outgunning your competitors in marketing spend.





### Authority Path: Acknowledgment

In the "Acknowledgment" phase, your brand is no longer a mere blip on the radar. You have a growing customer base, media mentions, and even a few awards or recognitions. However, you must still be considered the industry leader or the ultimate authority in your niche.



### Acknowledgment Sub-Phase







### Acknowledgment Sub-Phase

# Dilemmas, Difficulties, and Opportunities

#### Softlanding Global Academy,

#### Dilemmas

The Scaling Quandary: How to grow without diluting the brand or losing focus on your core values and mission?

#### Difficulties

- 1. Managing Complexity
- 2. Elevated Customer Expectations
- 3. Regulatory and Compliance Challenges

#### **Opportunities**

- 1. Thought Leadership
- 2. Market Influence
- 3. International Expansion



### Ways to Build and Move to the Next Phase

#### Acknowledgment Sub-Phase

- 1. Strategic Planning
- 2. Build Company Culture
- 3. Quality Control
- 4. Thought Leadership
- 5. Legal and Compliance







"Whosoever desires constant success must change his conduct with the times." Nicolo Machiavelli.

The Acknowledgment Phase is all about adaptive and strategic decision-making.

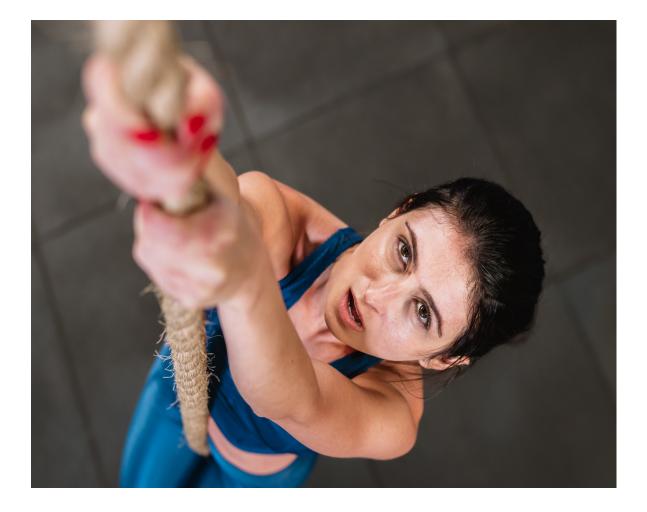


www.softlandingglobal.com



"Victory belongs to the most persevering." Napoleon Bonaparte.

The Acknowledgment phase may come with challenges, but it is also a testament to your perseverance and vision. Embrace it and prepare for the next exciting chapter.





## **Authority Path:** Authority

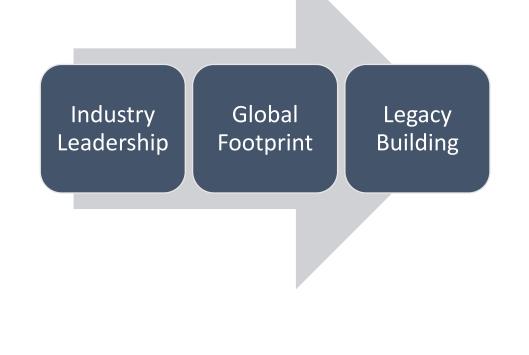
The "Authority" phase is the pinnacle of your journey, where your brand is Acknowledged and revered. You set industry trends, shape consumer behaviors, and have competitors striving to emulate your success. Blue Oceans are everywhere.



### Authority Sub-Phase







## Authority Sub-Phase

### Dilemmas, Difficulties, and Opportunities

#### Dilemmas

The Burden of Choice: With multiple avenues for influence and revenue, where should you concentrate your focus without diluting your brand?

#### Difficulties

1. Maintaining Innovation2. Public Scrutiny

3. Talent Retention

#### **Opportunities**

- 1. Market Shaping
- 2. Policy Influence
- 3. Diversification





### Ways to Build and Move to the Next Phase

#### Authority Sub-Phase

- 1. Continuous Learning
- 2. Social Responsibility
- 3. Succession Planning
- 4. Governance and Ethics
- 5. Customer-Centricity







"When you surround an army, leave an outlet free. Do not press a desperate foe too hard." Sun Tzu

This is a metaphor for managing your influence and power responsibly.



www.softlandingglobal.com



"Impossible is a word to be found only in the dictionary of fools." Napoleon Bonaparte.

Reaching the Authority phase means you've shattered all notions of impossibility. However, maintaining authority requires constant diligence and an unyielding commitment to innovation and integrity.



# **Summary and Conclusion**

The Authority Path framework lays a comprehensive roadmap for any CEO or entrepreneur aspiring to move from obscurity to industry authority. Each phase presents unique challenges and opportunities, requiring adaptability, strategic planning, and a good understanding of your industry and your brand's place in it.

You'll encounter dilemmas at every stage, from the existential questions of the "Unknown" phase to the burdens of influence and choice in the "Authority" phase. However, armed with this guide, you're better prepared to face these challenges head-on, adapt, and move forward.

Remember, the path to becoming an authority in your field is not just a journey but a cycle—success is not a destination but an ongoing process.

Thank you for walking this path with me. May your brand become the authority you aspire it to be.







## THE ERA OF CHANGES

44th Hemispheric Congress