



# *How a Modern People Directory can Bring About a More Productive, Connected, and Transparent Organization*



As the workplace becomes increasingly more distributed, organizational leaders have been tasked with finding ways to improve connection and keep their teams engaged – both with their work and the larger organization.

*Previously published usage data of Sift* proved that the modern people directory is a crucial tool used across entire organizations. But usage data only shows *how* people use Sift, not the reasons why. To find that out, Sift surveyed more than 1,000 of its users.

The results revealed that people turn to Sift to facilitate connection, bring clarity to organizational structure, and streamline work.

## Build better connections

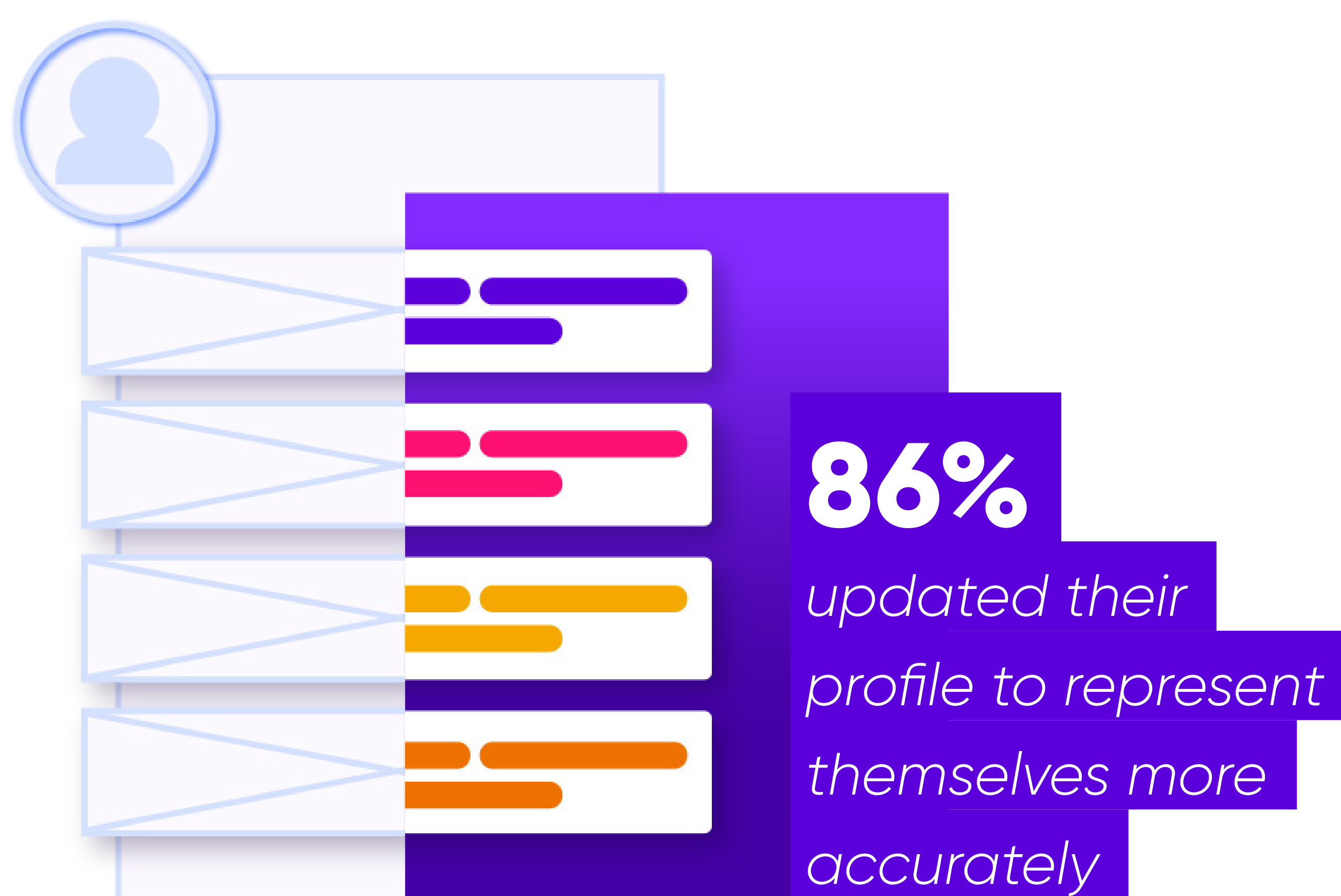
One argument against remote work is the belief that connection – in both how connected employees feel to one another, as well as to the wider organization – *declines with remote work*.

Research has shown why having these connections is so important. According to the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), *building positive relationships with co-workers* can create a more pleasant working environment, increase employee satisfaction, and “foster a sense of loyalty, camaraderie, and moral support and engagement among staff.” Additionally, the Institute of Leadership and Management determined building close relationships with colleagues to be *the most important factor in determining job satisfaction*.

It can be a little more difficult to develop these connections while working remotely, but having the right tools or practices in place can help. Almost **half of the people surveyed said Sift has facilitated forming working relationships**.

Sift’s rich, customizable Profiles allow employees to share information about themselves, such as hobbies, interests, professional backgrounds, and more. **86% of the survey respondents said they have updated their Sift Profiles to more accurately reflect who they are**, which allows them to represent themselves to other team members in a way that makes them feel comfortable (according to **nearly three-quarters** of those surveyed).

And since all the information on Profiles is searchable, it’s easy to find and connect with others based on shared interests and backgrounds. *One Sift user* said, “[I] really like being able to search by interest. This is helpful for relationship building and to deepen connections.”







**97%**

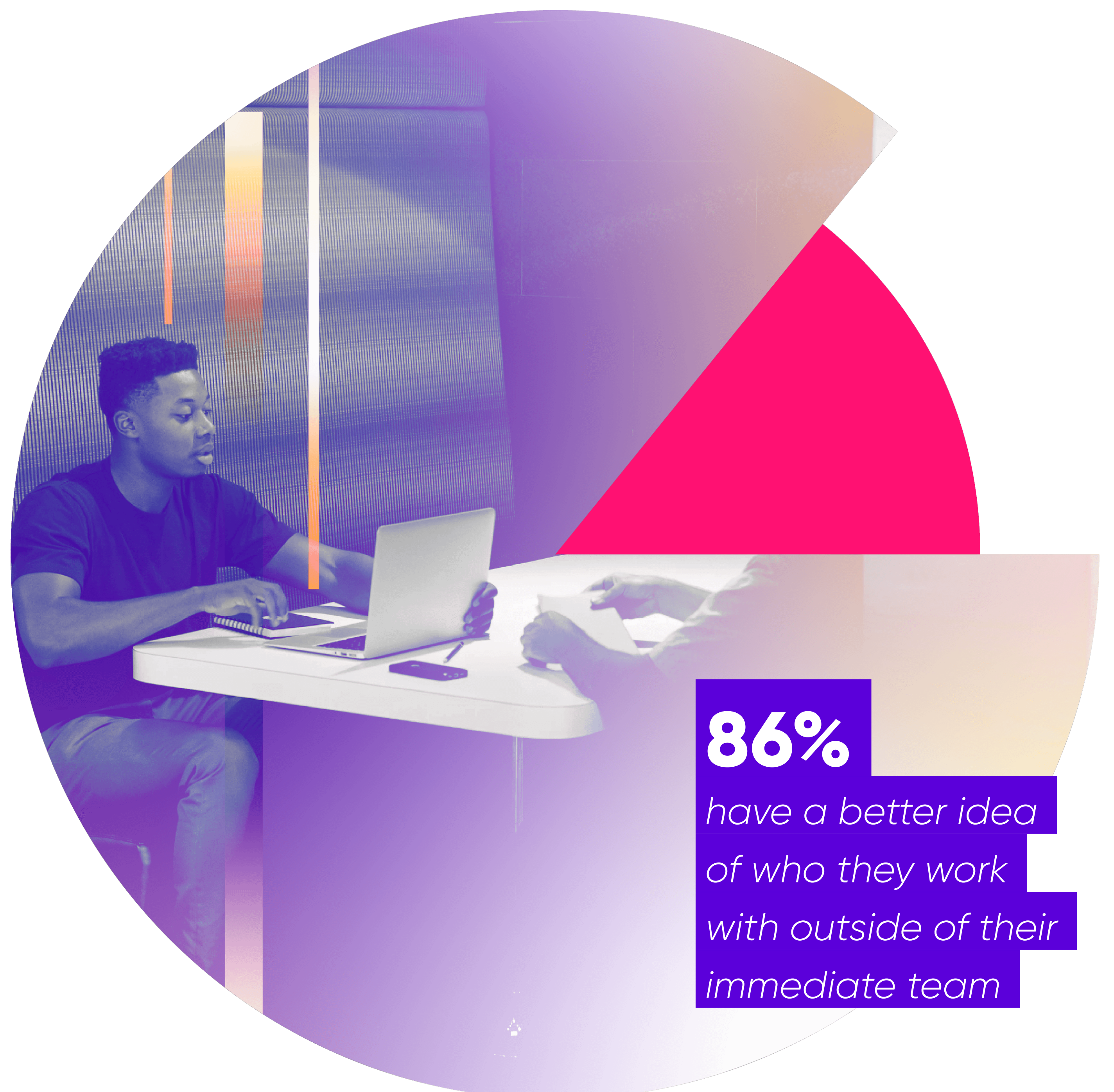
*have used Sift to look  
someone up on the  
org chart*

## Improve organizational understanding

In distributed or large organizations, it can be difficult to understand who does what or how one's work actually contributes to the company.

However, studies demonstrate that employees who understand how their work ties back to the larger organizational strategy are *more likely to be inspired at work*. In turn, inspired employees have been *shown to be 2¼ times more productive* than those who are simply satisfied with their jobs.

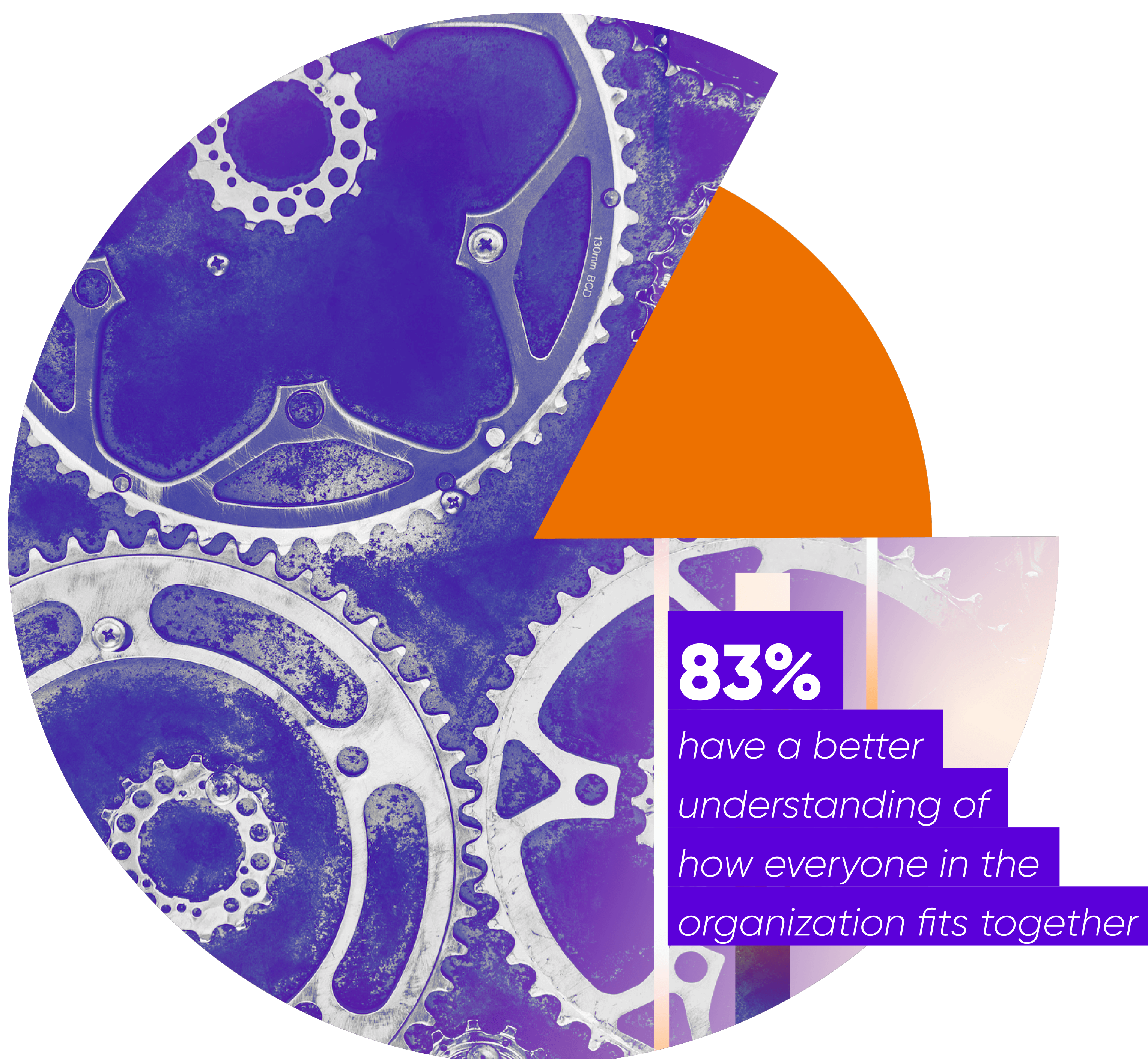
By having a clear representation of the company's organizational structure – i.e. an



**86%**

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org chart – accessible to everyone across the organization, employees can better understand how all the different parts of the organization work together.

Sift's org chart is one of its most-used features, with **97% of users surveyed stating they've used Sift's Org Chart to look someone up**. Once they find who they're looking for, having an intuitive, up-to-date, and clear picture of their organization's structure leads to a better understanding of their co-workers and the organization as a whole. **86% of survey respondents agreed that Sift gives them a better idea of who they work with outside of their immediate team**, and **83% said using Sift has given them a better understanding of how everyone in the organization fits together**.

» *To put it in a user's words: "Sift helps me understand the org structure for our family of companies. We have several companies that have to work together and Sift helps to clearly identify how the companies are connected through their people."*



# Be more productive

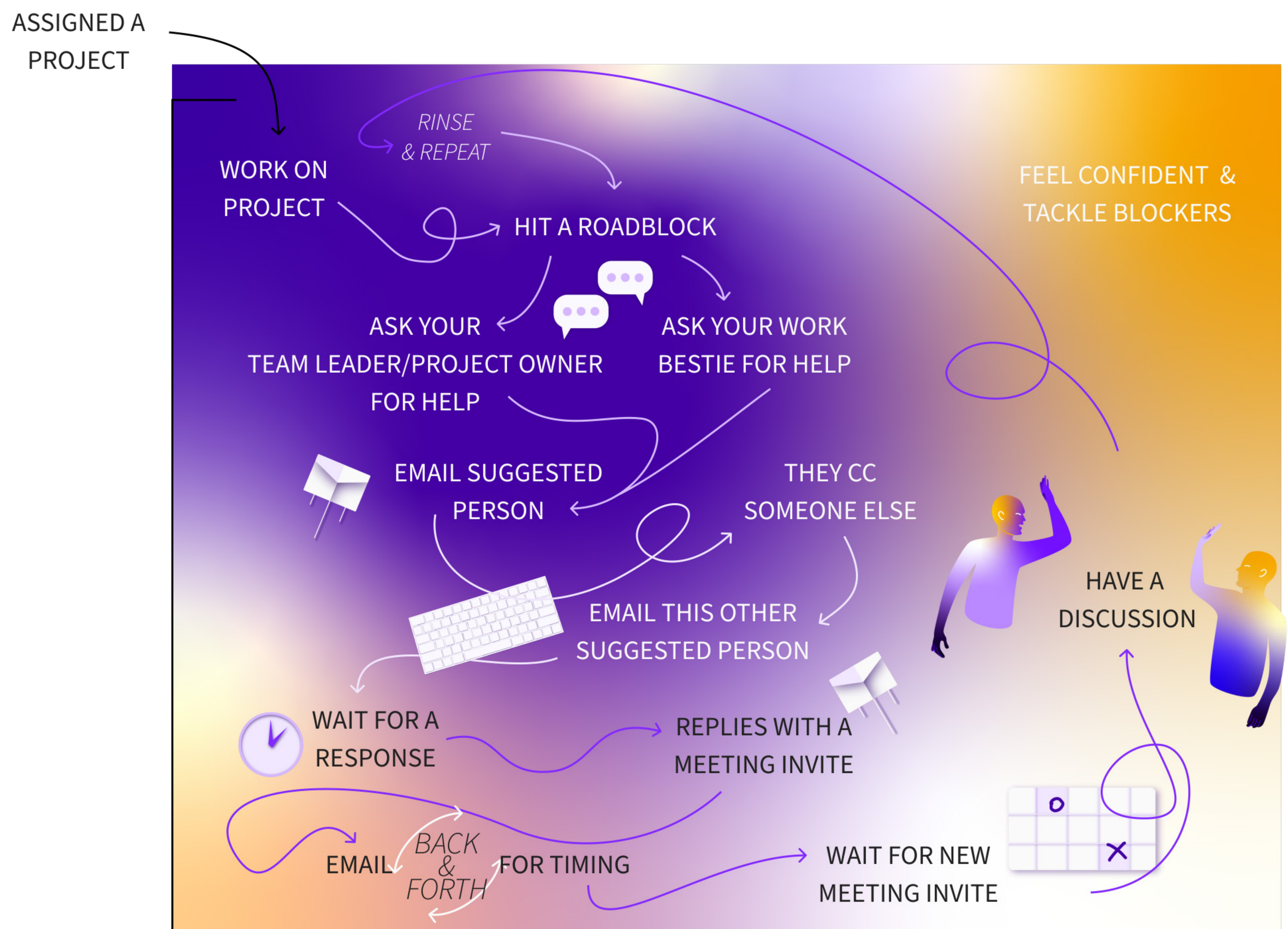
Trying to get an answer to a question, advice on a project, or a document reviewed can be a headache – especially in a large organization. Tracking down the right person, corresponding back and forth, waiting for a reply, and coordinating schedules and workloads can take up a lot of time (that would probably be better spent on actual work).

In fact, employees spend *more than half of their days (58%) on “work about work”* (such as communicating, looking for information, switching between programs, dealing with changing priorities, and tracking down status updates).

To put that another way, that’s **150 days a year of lost productivity!** When you take into account every employee in a company, that’s literally *years* wasted.

Lack of access to collaboration tools is at least partially to blame. *A report from Alludo* found that 64% of employees feel that poor collaboration wastes at least 3-5 hours of productivity per week.

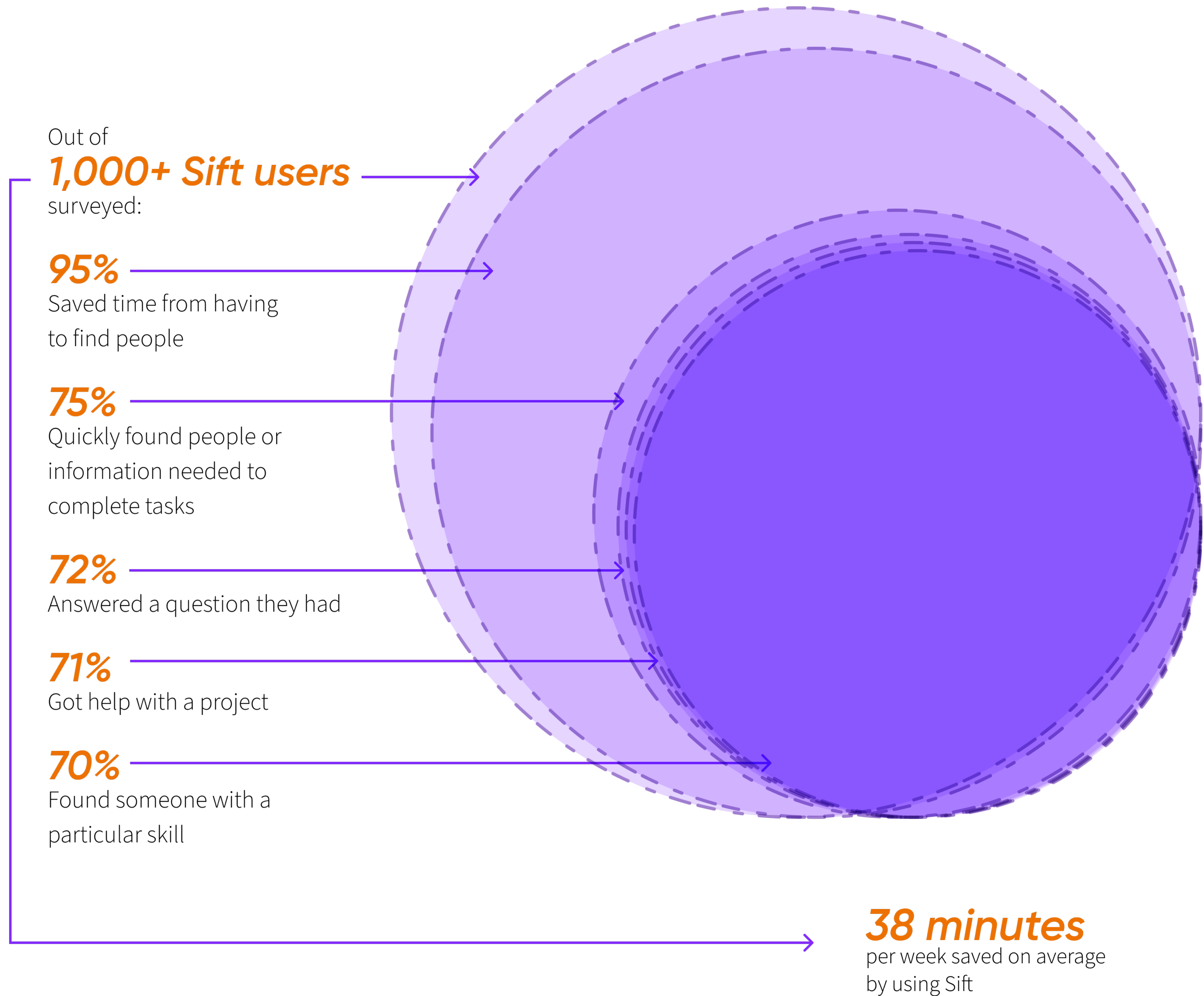
**54% of office workers** also believe inefficient employee collaboration costs organizations revenue. It’s not enough, however, to use just any collaboration tool. Nearly two-thirds (61%) of employees



THE “TRIED AND TRUE” WORKFLOW OF A PROJECT



# How Sift Saves Time



feel that poor collaboration tools stunt overall business growth.

Sift helps companies better collaborate and get back some of that lost time (and resulting revenue). **95% of those surveyed said Sift helps save them time from having to find people.** Specifically, it helps users:

- Quickly find people or information needed to complete tasks (75%)
- Answer a question they had (72%)
- Find someone with a particular skill (70%)
- Get help with a project (71%)



Sift is so helpful to its users, **78% said that they use it at least once a week!**

All that Sifting adds up: on average, Sift saves its users **38 minutes per week.** That's equal to almost **33 hours and more than 4 workdays a year per employee.**

# Build connections to boost collaboration & productivity

The survey data is clear: a better-connected organization leads to more engaged, satisfied, and productive employees – which can, in turn, actually benefit your company's revenue.

Ready to stop losing money due to wasted productivity? [Try Sift for free](#) and see how an always-accurate org chart, instant people search, and detailed Profiles & Pages can propel your organization forward.

*Start Your 14-Day Free Trial*



Sift empowers team members to discover and benefit from the massive knowledge base that is their entire workforce. If knowledge is power, Sift gives organizations superpowers.