

Society for Information Management (SIM) 36th Annual 2016 IT Trends Study

OCTOBER 20, 2015

SUMMARY

- Answers the most important issues for IT leaders in 2016 based on the responses from 785 organizations.
- Business/IT Alignment – Remains a persistent issue due to the changing nature of business and the difficulty IT has in responding to these changes. Being and staying aligned is critical.
- Business Cost Reduction and Controls – While a top concern for organizations it's not a top "personal" concern for those who participated. Clearly suggesting a significant disconnect between business and IT executives.
- Speed of IT Delivery and Time-to-Market (ToM) – IT is now part of every business process and product. ToM impacts all critical organizational criteria for measuring success.
- IT Agility and Flexibility – IT leaders reaffirm the desire to achieve strategic and organizational benefits; while also improving IT operations.
- IT Cost Reduction and Controls – While being more responsive to the organization, IT must become "more efficient, swift, secure, nimble, and innovative".
- IT Value Proposition to the Business – IT leaders must consider themselves to be technology leaders AND also recognize the significant role they play in achieving organizational goals.
- Innovation – one of the loudest calls to action for CIOs this year. In fact, innovation can help with just about all of the IT management issues.



OUR POINT OF VIEW (POV)

For Decision Making Standards to work they must provide proven and practical (simple) ways to align priorities among stakeholders, identify requirements for success, and establish criteria to measure success.

- Traditional approaches (Internally developed, Analyst authored, Consultant-led, etc.) have and will continue to exacerbate and expand "The GAP" (Chasm) between Business and IT.
- "The GAP" (Chasm) between business and IT executives will continue until business and IT executives agree upon a set of "Decision Making Standards" to drive their strategic and execution decisions.
- The lack of "Decision Making Standards" (Mind-set, Skill-set, and Tool-set) are the primary reason for organizational variation and the resulting waste in time, people, resources, and capital.
- For Decision Making Standards to work they must provide proven and practical (simple) ways to align priorities among stakeholders, identify requirements for success, and establish criteria to measure success.
- Forward thinking business and IT executives are now redesigning their current governance and guidance investments to include and leverage the use of Decision Making Standards.
- Their pay-off has been better business/IT alignment, faster agility to anticipate market demands, and lower IT service costs to deliver business value.


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