

How Innovative IT Organizations Are Winning in a Down Economy

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Aligning IT to Business Strategy

Forrester Research Inc. recently conducted a series of webinars about dealing with tightening IT budgets¹. In it analysts stated CIOs have a responsibility to create a leaner model of IT and fixate on Business Value. The analysts expect the CIO to set aside the time to create the business case and sell it to the business with realistic numbers and a vision for how the company will look in the future.

The IT organization is in the perfect position to make this happen. No other area in a company has the daily impact on all facets of the business (sales, operations, finance, etc.) as IT. Innovative IT organizations can help the bottom line of their companies by focusing on improving both IT and Business processes through lean process improvement techniques and applying new and existing technology more effectively within the business.

To effectively do this and ensure sustainability for the long term, the organization must have the proper IT infrastructure and technology behind the business processes in place. This is accomplished by completing an assessment of the infrastructure and the technology behind the infrastructure. Until recently, tools to perform this assessment have been lacking. But, based on models such as the Capability Maturity Model Index (CMMI) developed at Carnegie Mellon, techniques are now in place to effectively perform these assessments.

New Age Technologies IT2x Framework utilizes these techniques through the use of an Infrastructure Assessment and a Business Technology Assessment. Based on the results of these assessments, a technology roadmap and action plan that ties directly to the business process improvements identified in the [first stage](#) of the framework is developed for implementation. Tying the technology plan to the process improvement plan is a distinguishing factor of the IT2x Framework, and helps create alignment between the IT strategy and the Business strategy.

Whether it's improving a business process (IT2B) or an IT process (IT2E), following the IT2x Framework will provide real value to an organization by allowing it to reduce costs and improve efficiencies of their current processes while creating better IT – Business Alignment by providing a measure of the organization's technology current state with a roadmap for improvement.

Let us show you how we can help! We would be happy to discuss how our approach can help you eliminate waste, lower costs, and improve efficiencies.

¹ <http://blogs.forrester.com/cio/2008/12/forrester-week.html>