



The Rapids of Change

Navigating the IT landscape

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INTRODUCTION



The IT sector is experiencing a period of rapid, complex change and transformation which is placing huge pressures on tech teams.

Revolutionary advances, such as generative AI and large language models, are appearing, seemingly out of nowhere and achieving rapid, global uptake (Chat GPT achieved c.100 million monthly users within just two months of launching).

IT Directors are having to make rapid shifts and adjustments, based on their business's needs, to ensure their tech strategies are fit for purpose.

They are also having to assess the potential value offered within a mass of sector innovations, with priority given to developments that improve customer experience, maintain cybersecurity, and help their business comply with data protection regulations.



The aforementioned AI revolution has been part of a massive expansion in cloud-based software solutions, with global growth estimated at around 18%. Plus, there has been the widespread, global adoption of digital twins and the Internet of Things (IoT). The IoT networking of devices has led to internet connections for around 13 billion physical objects so far, and this figure is expected to double by 2030 (source: Statista).

The pressures felt by tech teams are high across all global industries, but they are particularly high in sectors such as banking, securities, insurance, and manufacturing, all of which store and process (often in real-time) vast quantities of data.

Of course, changes of any kind tend to lead to additional costs, and IT teams are also under pressure to demonstrate ROI, particularly during periods of high inflation and rising interest rates. It may explain, at least in part, a shift that is being reported in data storage, managed services, and infrastructure.

Migrating to the public cloud has been a popular option for data storage in recent years, with CIOs considering such a move to be safe, low-risk, flexible, progressive, and relatively inexpensive. But such a move has given no guarantee of cost reduction, or improved performance and availability. Specialist data centre operators are also having to manage serious challenges including growing security threats, local environmental policies, and the rising power consumption of next-gen IT hardware. All these bring financial, reputational, and operational risks.

We're going to take a look at some of the key changes impacting IT tech teams, while exploring how data centre operators are responding and consider what they, and IT infrastructure suppliers, can do to provide better support and a more certain future.



IT Directors: Managing a Changing World



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