The Innovation vs. Technical Debt Tug of War

Protiviti research reveals technology leaders worldwide are exploring new ways to drive innovation and maximise the value of IT.

Innovation goals and strategies vary

72% have clearly defined innovation goals

54% of organisations have a perceived clear innovation strategy

> 50% have a dedicated lab or think tank that focuses on innovation

> > 30% view fostering an innovative culture as the most significant factor in maintaining an innovative organisation

Technical debt remains a major burden How innovation activity is currently allocated

> 42% Optimisation of current systems, product and processes

32% Building resilience against disruption

26% Growth



84% of organisations have a high level of concern about security risks associated with implementing innovative new technologies

Consumes 26% of IT budgets

Requires 23% of IT human resources to manage

More than 6 out of 10 organisations believe technical debt has a high level of impact on their ability to innovate



Attracting and retaining top talent drives technology adoption and innovation

Top skills-related gaps that impede innovation:

42% Enterprise agility

40% Design thinking

34% Strategic thinking

Technologies in use today and planned within next 3 years:

AI/MACHINE LEARNING

58% Today

18% Next 3 years

METAVERSE

4% Today

34% Next 3 years



In the fourth quarter of 2022, Protiviti surveyed more than 1,000 CIOs, CTOs, CISOs, and other technology executives worldwide to ascertain concepts around innovation and technical debt across numerous regions, business types, revenue classes and management roles.

For more information, read our report at www.protiviti.com/us-en/global-technology-executive-survey

