Implementing World Class IT Strategy: How IT Can Drive Organizational Innovation

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Synopsis

The actionable guide for driving organizational innovation through better IT strategy. With rare insight, expert technology strategist Peter High emphasizes the acute need for IT strategy to be developed not in a vacuum, but in concert with the broader organizational strategy. This approach focuses the development of technology tools and strategies in a way that is comprehensive in nature and designed with the concept of value in mind. The role of CIO is no longer "just" to manage IT strategy — instead, the successful executive will be firmly in tune with corporate strategy and a driver of a technology strategy that is woven into overall business objectives at the enterprise and business unit levels. High makes use of case examples from leading companies to illustrate the various ways that IT infrastructure strategy can be developed, not just to fall in line with business strategy, but to actually drive that strategy in a meaningful way. His ideas are designed to provide real, actionable steps for CIOs that both increase the executive's value to the organization and unite business and IT in a manner that produces highly-successful outcomes. Formulate clearer and better IT strategic plans. Weave IT strategy into business strategy at the corporate and business unit levels. Craft an infrastructure that aligns with C-suite strategy. Close the gap that exists between IT leaders and business leaders. While function, innovation, and design remain key elements to the development and management of IT infrastructure and operations, CIOs must now think beyond their primary purview and recognize the value their strategies and initiatives will create for the organization. With Implementing World Class IT Strategy, the roadmap to strategic IT excellence awaits.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Hats off to Peter High for a very clear and practical method using his OGTM for a successful developing and implementing of an IT strategy that engages the whole organization. This book draws from his years of experience as a consultant to the successful traverse through the risky waters of IT strategy with several cases from well known corporations. Most IT projects fail (70%) for a number of fundamental reasons. If you are a CIO or other exec trying to couple your IT with your business, this is clearly a great place to start with his 200 page recipe that is straightforward and easy to adopt. At the time of this newly published book (Jan 2015), this is only the tenth review and they are all 5 stars. That is a commentary of how good a book this is. Thanks Peter.

It was great to see Peter have a follow up on WCIT with his latest installment. I truly believe having business and IT partnered together with rigor and focus on delivery and value are critical to any companies business strategy. If you’ve read his first book. Grab this one. if you’ve not grab both and read them both!

It’s no surprise that, as technology becomes more and more integral to business success, IT departments must be more closely aligned with overall company strategy, rather than being relegated to order takers. This book describes, in a practical way, how technology organizations can achieve not only a seat at the table, but also play a key role in driving long term business strategy and success. The author provides a framework and set of tools that IT executives can use to develop and articulate a technology strategy in a way that is closely aligned with the overall company strategy. The discussion is easy to understand and pertinent regardless of industry, using real life examples to illustrate how the discussed solutions and frameworks have been applied to great success. Highlights of the book focus on how to develop a mission statement and strategic plans, the important role of enterprise architecture, and, critically, how to articulate and then communicate plans in a way that can be understood at all levels of the organization. This is an important read for any IT executive who wants to develop, articulate, and communicate a strategy that clearly demonstrates how technology can be best leveraged to drive long-term business growth.

Peter delivers in this book the knowledge evidencing technology, and technology leaders as value
agents. This is unique because most folks think about technology as change, and technology leaders as change agents respectively. This book is about value from technology. Most books in this genre talk about the future trends and the past history; Peter uses grounded and relevant examples of real leaders and real companies to demonstrate differentiating evidence about "the now" of creating value from technology. The book served two purposes for me, it reinforced many of my hunches surrounding transitioning from a cost center CIO, to a value creating CIO; and it provided a framework for engaging the entire c-suite around the single focus on alignment to be an information company first and technology company second.

-Richie Etwaru

Peter High has done it again. World-class IT Strategy is a must read for every business leader. Leading CIOs are now recognized by their business peers as true business leaders. Peter expertly shares relevant and useful examples of how real-world CIOs have overcome the traditional challenges companies face when developing strategies. I especially like Peter’s mantra of not calling internal teams and departments "customers". He makes the point that the only customers are those that consume and use your company’s products and services. Throughout the book, Peter shares examples of how CIOs have successfully created value by understanding the company’s business and staying proactively involved. He share useful tools including OGTM that help organizations bring clarity around objectives, goals, tactics, and measures. This is another classic Peter High masterpiece and I highly recommend reading it. You’ll want to keep it close by for frequent reference and review.

Once again, Peter High has done a masterful job of shining a light on IT’s ability to influence and drive corporate strategy. Too often we talk about aligning IT’s strategy with that of "the business" -- in this book, Peter shows how IT organizations can do so much more. Cleverly threading real-world case studies from elite CIOs with practical, actionable advice, Peter has created a fantastic guide for CIOs present and future. I’m very happy Peter followed up World Class IT with this book, and I highly recommend it.

Peter High has outdone his first book in the new "Implementing World Class IT Strategy." A great read with new insights from a real leader in IT Strategy. I especially like the conceptual roadmap connecting corporate vision to IT strategy, to enterprise IT architecture.

Thoughtful and practical approach to creating an IT strategy. Useful real world examples from IT
leaders who have successfully pushed their colleagues to think about the IT element of their business strategy.

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