Are you successfully navigating the intersection of readiness and responsibility in the Industry 4.0 era?

Deloitte interviewed more than 2,000 C-suite executives in 19 countries to see how leaders are balancing the transition to Industry 4.0—capitalizing on advanced technologies to help propel their businesses forward while acting in more socially responsible ways.

Developing and executing on integrated strategies—from building talent to protecting the planet—that leverage Industry 4.0 technologies should be a priority for all organizations in this continually disruptive world.

Strategy.

Success with Industry 4.0 begins with a comprehensive, holistic strategy—yet only 10% of executives indicate they have such a strategy in place.

While a comprehensive Industry 4.0 strategy may not guarantee success, our survey indicates those companies with strategies significantly outperform their peers without strategies.

Comprehensive, holistic strategy: 10%
Developing broader strategy: 23%
Taking ad-hoc approach: 47%
No formal strategy: 21%

Technology.

In terms of technology’s expected effect, business leaders anticipate IoT, AI, and cloud solutions will have the most profound impact on their organizations.

Societal Impact.

Faced with escalating global societal and environmental challenges, business leaders are increasingly embracing a new form of capitalism, moving from one focused primarily on shareholder value to one focused on serving the broader world.

Making a profit while positively contributing to society is a top investment priority.

89% agree that climate change will negatively impact their businesses
91% have sustainability initiatives in place or on the drawing board

Talent.

Ultimately, it takes talent to put the plan and tools into action today—and companies need a highly skilled, adaptable, and resilient workforce for sustained Industry 4.0 success.

Only 20% of CXOs completely agree their organizations have the skills needed to succeed in this era.

44% of executives agree
72% of executives agree
62% of executives agree
68% of executives agree
64% of executives agree
54% of executives agree
40% of executives agree
28% of executives agree

In terms of technology’s expected effect, business leaders anticipate IoT, AI, and cloud solutions will have the most profound impact on their organizations.

Conclusion.

Business and technology will keep evolving. Teaching and training are lifelong pursuits. And protecting the planet and solving society’s most pressing issues grow more urgent every day.

Welcome to Industry 4.0—are you ready?

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