

# C-Suite Strategy Series: Digital Transformation Takeaways and Next Steps

November 2023

# Quotes and Highlights

“Culture is the biggest competitive advantage an organization can have”



“Cybersecurity needs to become part of your DNA in manufacturing similar to Lean Manufacturing principles”



“When you transform your operations successfully you are enabling the success of your future across all elements ”



“Empower the people on the shopfloor to come up with the actual problems they face and then help them solve ”



“Data is like an iceberg, there is a mass that isn't visible”



“Its not the software that makes it valuable it's the person, look at the desk not the software ”



“Fall in love with the problem don't look at the technology as a stand alone solution”



“To innovate products, you must innovate minds ”

# Panel - the Digital Era: Transition of US Manufacturing

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## Paul Baldassari

President, Manufacturing & Services, Flex

## Jennifer Jacques

VP Global Supply Chain, Schneider Electric

## Julie Gerdeman

CEO, Everstream Analytics

## Francisco Betti

Head Global Industries Team, World Economic Forum

## Cynthia Hutchison

CEO, US Center for Advanced Manufacturing

## Key Takeaways

- **Starting Small, Thinking Big:** The approach to digital adoption often starts with identifying a significant problem and implementing solutions at a smaller, ground-level scale. Emphasizing that technology should be the enabler to solving issues. This allows for innovation to bubble with a structure.
- **Integrated Approach and Scalability:** Moving from pilot phases to scalable deployments across global facilities remains a challenge. The integration of technologies into operations, coupled with aligning suppliers is critical for successful and widespread adoption.
- **Human-Centric Innovation:** The transition to digital manufacturing isn't about replacing humans with technology but empowering them. It involves fostering a culture of creativity and innovation among a workforce, emphasizing that technology allows more time for innovation rather than eliminating jobs.
- **People-Driven Digital Adaptation:** The success of digital adoption hinges on companies' most valuable asset, **people**. Empowering the workforce to contribute insights by identifying operational challenges and co-creating solutions fosters a sense of ownership in the digital transformation process.

“Digital transformation, Its like a family car ride – you need to make every part of the journey fun”

# Key Takeaways



## Foster Collaborative Technology Adoption

- Involving various departments to bridge silos and user groups at the onset of technology adoption is beneficial. By integrating shared insights and needs ensures the technology fulfills its specific purpose
- Addressing challenges such as navigating resistance to technology and balancing innovation is essential when striving to establish data harmony
- To speed up technology adoption, industry and government collaboration is essential for implementing policies that incentivize companies to take risks for greater ROI on technology investments. Public funds, including tax breaks and training programs, are crucial in supporting companies and advancing domestic manufacturing capabilities



## Cultivate Innovative Manufacturing Ecosystems

- Defining clear demarcations between information technology and operational technology in manufacturing allows for seamless collaboration, acknowledging each department's unique functions without conflict
- Ensuring alignment with sustainability objectives and educating the entire supply chain are pivotal for driving industry-wide transformation. By implementing innovative digital strategies—such as mapping physical inventory into digital formats—we can demonstrate and teach the advantages of digital adoption
- Redirecting attention from the tangible product to the narrative of progress enables individuals to adopt fresh perspectives, fostering a pathway to innovation



## Unify Education and Digital Transformation

- Creating an exchange program that enables academics to participate in training programs within companies, while simultaneously inviting industry professionals to engage at universities can shed light on critical talent shortages in the workforce
- Educating stakeholders requires collaborative efforts, as companies often create toolkits and playbooks in silos. There is a growing need to work together in crafting these actionable tools for a more effective collective impact
- US manufacturing competitiveness is dependent on a tailored focus towards the skilled labor force, specifically from younger generations. The US Center and its community can influence education policies across all five workforce pillars

# How to Engage

- Participate in Voice of the Workforce Interviews
- Identify appropriate executive to contribute your innovation strategies and success stories for New Business Model Project
- Open your factory floor to showcase how your organization tackles key manufacturing challenges in Workforce and Technology adoption
- Schedule a discussion for further collaboration

## Upcoming Events

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### Disruptive Innovations and New Business Models

- White paper: November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- Playbook: January 2024

### Accelerating Technology Adoption Roundtables

- Roundtable:
  - January 15th, 2024 (Virtual)

### Workforce How to Roundtable

- Featuring FIRST Robotics (K-12):
  - January 25th, 2024

### C Suite Strategy Series

- Shaping the US Strategic Vision:
    - February 12-13th 2024
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# 2024 Q1-Q2 CALENDAR

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Community Milestones	<b>C Suite Strategy Series</b>		02/13 Annual Meeting: US Strategic Vision			05/14 Annual Meeting: Policy & Academia			08/13 Annual Meeting: Innovation at the Center			11/19 Annual Meeting: Next Gen Leadership	
	<b>Governors Roundtable</b>				04/25 Governor Roundtable						10/18 Governors Roundtable		
Projects Milestones	<b>Accelerating Technology Adoption</b>	01/15 Virtual Supply Chain		03/23 San Francisco IoT & Cloud Manufacturing			06/11 Boston Artificial Intelligence	07/15 Seattle Generative AI adoption within the Workforce		09/16 Virtual: Cloud Manufacturing & On Demand manufacturing			
	<b>Reskilling the Workforce</b>	01/25 Virtual How To Session		03/22 Virtual How to Session			06/20 Virtual How to Session						
	<b>New Business Models</b>	Playbook Launch			Innovation Roundtable								



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