

The Accelerated Now: Engineering your technology-driven future

Dave Reid, DXC Leading Edge research director, and Cristene Gonzalez-Wertz, DXC Leading Edge senior researcher and advisor, discuss the evolution of the Accelerated Now. This is an edited transcript of their video discussion, which you can find [here](#).

Dave Reid:

In April 2022, when we released the Accelerated Now, the DXC Leading Edge team chronicled a world that is more digitally connected and faster than ever. We focused on five change vectors to guide leaders.

The relevance of the Accelerated Now's five pillars is enduring. Yet, we find that additional challenges and opportunities are emerging. As the COVID-19 pandemic wanes, we face renewed pressures on multiple different stages. Some forces are coalescing, and these intensify the issues troubling C-Suite executives; others are morphing from emerging methods into more concrete solution areas.

As we launch the agenda for the upcoming year, we are reshaping our themes to cover areas that really matter for our clients. The Accelerated Now is evolving to consider how organizations must evolve to engineer their technology-driven future.

Firstly, we cover how organizations will create **differentiated strategic advantages**. By developing a deep understanding of the economic patterns in their industries and ecosystems, organizations become better placed to anticipate change, drive better decision making and take advantage of the software-defined, platform-driven world.

Secondly, it's more important than ever to **drive intelligent, sustainable operations**. Sustainability remains a guiding light for businesses to have a positive impact. Organizations must develop deep knowledge of their supply chains to give foresight into a more sustainable end to end. This in turn enables us to deal with troublesome technology debt, driving a transition into positive business growth.

Finally, we must **manage favorable forward transitions**. Transitioning forward means actively managing the evolution of our workplaces. New approaches and new forms of leadership are required to manage talent, skills and change. We must also continue our existing journeys; better use of data and analytics plus a stronger posture to deal with ever-increasing cyber threats are table stakes.

Cristene Gonzalez-Wertz:

Let's talk about what we're doing to help our clients find their strategic advantage, create smarter sustainable operations and manage favorable forward transitions. And with technology changing the way we perceive and interact with the world, it's increasingly important.

So we have three domains; let's start with strategy. Here, we continue researcher Bill Murray's deep exploration on platforms and ecosystems, including new conversations on application-driven models and digital lifecycle management – an essential competency in increasingly digitized industries – from automotive to energy, even agriculture. We bring in a treasure trove of new Wardley Maps for many industries to begin structured strategic debates about how to model the map to create new

understanding and routes to market. This is amazing work, detailed by, of course, DXC's Simon Wardley, creator of this strategic technique.

In intelligent operations, we talk about supply chain foresight, and truly ground-breaking ways to model and trace your supply chains, beyond one-up-one-down. The inimitable researcher, Krzys Daniels, tackles how to think about tech debt – and how to make sure you're actually making progress to move from debt to modernization to growth. This bespoke research also highlights responses from global CIOs and CTOs and features 10 unique industry perspectives. And I will cover one of my areas of specialization: the design of sustainable business. Measurement is great, ESG is important but how does sustainability sit at the core of decisions and actions?

And in managing favorable forward transitions, we are moving away from this notion of "transformation" to a state of continuous agility and responsiveness, creating anti-fragility and flexibility in the organization. Dave Reid and Dr. Alex Kokkoken team up to discuss the Modern Workplace – which seems to redefine itself daily. In solving for the new, DXC Leading Edge is working across the organization to discuss areas like Large Language Models and the consumerization of AI. With our CISO, and many others globally, we are working to define a set of maps around concerns in cybersecurity. We'll couple that with more C-level research to discuss how to make yourself unattractive to cybercriminals.

It will be a very interesting year indeed.