Midsized Businesses Boost Digital Transformation Efforts

Critical goals include improving efficiency, reducing costs and modernizing systems

MONROE, La., Dec. 10, 2018 / PRNewswire / -- While the digital transformation efforts of larger enterprises are well documented, less is known about how midsized businesses are approaching their digital transformation activities and plans. To understand more, a survey of 250 midsized business IT professionals was conducted by Spiceworks and sponsored by CenturyLink, Inc. (NYSE: CTL). The survey revealed that 53 percent of IT decision makers at businesses ranging in size from 11-500 employees are engaged in or planning their digital transformations.

Read the full survey results:

http://www.centurylink.com/asset/business/enterprise/report/digital-transformation-at-midsized-businesses-report.pdf

"Midsized businesses are increasingly adopting a digital business model, but still face challenges," said Vernon Irvin, president, government, education, medium and small business, CenturyLink. "With limited resources and budgets, midsized businesses are looking for networking solutions providers to deliver a reliable infrastructure capable of supporting the evolving technology landscape, as well as solutions that can help save time and money."

Top drivers for digital transformation include improving efficiency and productivity at 60 percent, reducing costs and modernizing systems at 39 percent, increasing accuracy and reducing human errors at 37 percent, and increasing revenues and enhancing the customer experience at 30 percent. Respondents were also positive about their digital transformation efforts, with more than 75 percent noting they were "enthusiastic" and "excited."

Key Findings

- For midsized businesses engaged in transformation efforts, top projects include:
 - Backup and disaster recovery, 55 percent
 - Retiring and upgrading legacy systems, 50 percent
 - Workflow automation, 50 percent
- Current constraints to digital transformation include:
 - Budget, 58 percent

- Limited time and staff, 57 percent
- Competing IT priorities, 35 percent
- Resistance from end-users and internal business decision makers, 34 percent
- Limited skill and expertise, 31 percent
- 60 percent of IT professionals said they worked with departments like marketing, sales and finance in their digital transformation initiatives to ensure that as new technologies are deployed, those groups have a say in how business process changes are designed and implemented.

Additional Resources

- Discover how midsized businesses are going digital:
 https://www.centurylinkbrightideas.com/midsized-businesses-are-going-digital/
- Learn more about CenturyLink's solutions for midsized businesses:
 https://www.centurylink.com/business.html

About CenturyLink

CenturyLink (NYSE: CTL) is the second largest U.S. communications provider to global enterprise customers. With customers in more than 60 countries and an intense focus on the customer experience, CenturyLink strives to be the world's best networking company by solving customers' increased demand for reliable and secure connections. The company also serves as its customers' trusted partner, helping them manage increased network and IT complexity and providing managed network and cyber security solutions that help protect their business.

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