

The State of Strategy Execution:

Embracing Uncertainty To Adapt at Speed

A Benchmark Report



A new benchmark report, based on survey responses of nearly 1,000 business and technology professionals across the globe, provides pragmatic recommendations for business, technology, and finance leaders seeking to create a tight connection between strategy and execution, adapt more quickly to shifting conditions and disruptive events, and deliver quality business outcomes.

A Strategy Execution Index was determined for each respondent based on survey scoring across 5 core strategy to execution competencies. Analyzing the results, companies fell into one of three categories:

- **Strategy Execution Laggards:** Slower to respond to change and, at times, struggle to move forward
- **Strategy Execution Challengers:** Moving forward, but in starts and stops, unable to perform at speed consistently
- Strategy Execution Leaders: The fastest organizations with the highest quality outcomes



Of the 956 respondents, 221 are categorized as "Strategy Execution Leaders".

The research results reveal **four practices that these Strategy Execution Leaders are using** to accelerate and outperform others. Following this blueprint provides a path to increase speed in adapting strategy execution and improving performance.

1. REPLAN CONTINUOUSLY

Strategy Execution Leaders frequently review and adjust strategies, funding, and operating plans as part of their standard business processes.

of Strategy Execution Leaders said their planning cadence supports their ability to quickly respond to internal and external shifts or disruptions

Nearly 85%

of companies surveyed are leveraging some form of Lean or Agile practices

2. USE LEAN AND AGILE PRACTICES BROADLY

And, Strategy Execution Leaders are 4x more likely to be extremely confident that their teams are working on the right things.

3. PROVIDE TIMELY, ACCURATE DATA FROM STRATEGY TO EXECUTION

Strategy Execution Leaders find it three times less painful to retrieve and analyze information.



Overall, **only one in three** companies have access to the quick, accurate data needed for making decisions

49%

of Strategy Execution Leaders will implement technology for automation and efficiency in the next year

4. INVEST IN TECHNOLOGY TO UNDERSTAND IMPACT OF CHANGES

Strategy Execution Leaders address the need for centralized information and analysis capabilities.

Embrace the Uncertainty: Operationalize Speed and Performance

One thing is certain: disruption and uncertainty will continue to be a constant in the workplace. To thrive, every organization must continuously improve by embedding agility into their strategy execution processes and adapt to change at speed. Will your organization embrace uncertainty or brace for impact?

For more information about the survey results and insights, read the benchmark report here:

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