Hackathon activity feedback

Hackathon activity

As the board of a major infrastructure organisation, you need to provide a preliminary strategy to respond to the challenge of implementing digital transformation to deliver enhanced asset performance and value for money.

Consider the opportunities and risks of the aspects below:

- Organisational planning

- Investment planning

- Overlay onto physical infrastructure

- Security

- External commercial and regulatory environment

Organisational planning

- Challenge of history of previous processes coupled with no time to find a new approach. A balance needs to be made between wisdom and use of information.

- We have to think 'differently' as varying needs need to be brought to the organisation.

- Different needs a brave approach as change can be expensive. There may be tensions between old fashioned ways and the new digital way.

- Arranging our organisations around our information

- To embrace new technology; people need access to information however, is there a danger of too much information?

- There is a big difference between data and information – making sense of data adds value. Data rich, information poor.

- Provide a framework but leave the innovation flood gates open.

- It's not about systems, it's about information and accessibility to the information.

Investment planning

- Understanding the true problem to start planning.

- Proof of benefit realisation; the benefits of data to people to improve efficiency as automation is a key driver of productivity.

- Using data control to project maturity.

- Long term forward planning balanced against rate of change is difficult.

- External communication to increase market cap and share return. Board needs to drive a digital culture to get the best return on investment. Ansoff analysis to ensure realistic productivity and balance across target services / products for existing customers / new customers.

- Before establishing a digital twin – challenge our current definitions of what defines the value of our assets – don't twin an inefficient model – undertake this challenge in alignment with our regulatory environment.

Overlay onto physical infrastructure

- Keen to get accurate data on performance- assets and resources.

- Duality of real and the digital world; consider similarities between the two.

- What data have we got? When is the right time? Its important to have the right reason, start with the end in mind, for operational and maintenance purposes.

- What data do I need, what data do others own, what can I use, how can you keep data up to date – understanding this can bring efficiency for data management – data aggregation for robust information.

- Planning the transformation in practical terms from the analogue to digital. Different skillsets. More interfaces created to manage.

- Safety criticality of adding technology where public safety at large.

Security

- Create a resilient digital infrastructure; using a proactive approach.

- It is essential to educate staff as most breaches are due to human error; encourage individuals to accept a level of responsibility to security themselves.

- Accept security breaches will occur, accept it as a perennial issue particularly for national governments and deal with them accordingly.

- HIPPO risk – EDI key to balanced decision making- tech savvy recognised as a key attribute.

External commercial and regulatory environment

- Do we open or build trenches? We need to make it easy to switch in and out or not.

- Consistently translating ideas globally is difficult. Experiment with decentralisation and open innovation.

- Constant monitoring of regulatory changes that affect the business from supply chain to the end user.

- The external environment should not only be viewed as a restrictive mechanism but one that can also be one that can bring along opportunities and ultimately make the digital word safer for all.