

UMEÅ UNIVERSITY

MANAGING THE DIGITAL ENTERPRISE

Individual Assignment 4

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1 Definitions of Digital Transformation

1.1 Digital doesn't have to be disruptive

Nathan Furr and Andrew Shipilov in *Digital doesn't have to be disruptive: the best results can come from adaptation rather than reinvention*. [2]

- "means adapting an organization's strategy and structure to capture opportunities enabled by digital technology" [2, p. 96]
- difficult for companies to create a plan on how to act
- main aspects: automation, virtualization, more targeted product and service customization, more informed decision making and machine-driven recommendations
- technology is applied at almost every company and in every step of their processes
- radical replacements are only sometimes necessary – digital transformation means incremental steps to improve the processes
- challenge for digital transformation: find the best way to fulfill goals using digital tools as helpers or to overcome previous challenges
- get more efficient and user-friendly through digital tools

1.2 Five myths about digital transformation

Stephen J. Andriole in *Five myths about digital transformation*. [1]

- path to digital transformation is risky but it might lead to efficiency, innovation and competitiveness
- companies will fail to implement digital transformation unless it is well planned and executed
- collected five myths to make the reader aware of the risks and dangers of digital transformation
- digital transformation is hyped and not described as risky enough
- 1: "not every company, process, or business model requires digital transformation" [1, p. 20]
- 2: digital transformation does not necessarily use emerging or disruptive technologies
- 3: if the company is already going well, the transformation will not have a meaningful impact
- 4: disruptive transformation does usually not begin with the market leaders
- 5: executives do not necessarily want to transform digitally

1.3 IT-enabled business transformation

Nramanujam Venkatraman in *IT-enabled business transformation: from automation to business scope redefinition*. [3]

- IT has a distinctive role in shaping the future's business operations
- IT is a fundamental enabler in creating and maintaining shift
- 5 levels of IT enables business operations
- companies should estimate first the costs and efforts in comparison to the benefits and then move to higher levels
- 1: Localized Exploitation – deployment of standard IT applications with minimal changes to the business processes
- 2: Internal Integration – deployment of IT applications in the entire business process
- 3: Business Process Redesign – renew processes to improve efficiency with IT applications
- 4: Business Network Redesign – digital transformation not only within the organization but with partners or suppliers
- 5: Business Scope Redefinition – redefine the market and the company's goals and potentially outsource tasks to third party companies

1.4 Understanding digital transformation

Gregory Vial in *Understanding digital transformation: A review and a research agenda* [4].

- digital transformation consists out of 8 building blocks: digital technologies, disruption, strategic responses, value creation paths, structural changes, organizational barriers, positive and negative outcomes
- table with different definitions of digital transformation
- include graphics of the 8 step framework and describe

1.5 Digital Transformation versus IT-Enabled Transformation

Lauri Wessel, Abayomi Baiyere, Roxana Ologeanu-Taddei, Jonghyuk Cha and Tina Blegind-Jensen in *Unpacking the difference between digital transformation and IT-enabled organizational transformation*. [5]

- Focus on difference between digital transformation and IT-enabled transformation
- digital transformation can lead to a new organizational identity while IT-enabled organizational transformation is the enhancement of an existing organizational identity

Definitions
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2 Section 2

Definitions
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3 Section 3

Definitions
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References

- [1] Stephen J Andriole. “Five myths about digital transformation”. In: *MIT sloan management review* 58.3 (2017).
- [2] Nathan Furr and Andrew Shipilov. “Digital doesn’t have to be disruptive: the best results can come from adaptation rather than reinvention”. In: *Harvard Business Review* 97.4 (2019), pp. 94–104.
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- [4] Gregory Vial. “Understanding digital transformation: A review and a research agenda”. In: *Managing Digital Transformation* (2021), pp. 13–66.
- [5] Lauri Wessel, Abayomi Baiyere, Roxana Ologeanu-Taddei, Jonghyuk Cha, and Tina Blegind-Jensen. “Unpacking the difference between digital transformation and IT-enabled organizational transformation”. In: *Journal of the Association for Information Systems* 22.1 (2021), pp. 102–129.