

# Multi-speed IT (Jaroslav Blažek)

## Video Transcript

### Summary

The market environment is a turbulent battle for customers. Companies' ability to innovate and launch new digital services and products into the market is more important than ever. Not only is speed of innovation decisive, but so, too, is a novel business model. But how do you reconcile the often complex IT systems built over decades with innovative technology and new demands for speed of deliveries? Multi-speed IT offers the solution!

I'm Jaroslav Blažek, and at Accenture I lead the Technology Strategy and Advisory consultation group. Among other things, we are devoted to truly innovative architectures and design of component systems with high added value.

### Speed above all?

How fast is fast enough? Must all systems enable immediate delivery? And do we really have to change everything in order to achieve that? The answer, of course, depends upon the complexity and state of a given company's application system. The truth is that competitive advantage is usually provided only by a narrow set of features that differentiate a particular company from others.

Companies operating in the digital world are forcing their IT to deliver at various speeds in parallel. On the one hand, there is innovation and disruptive influence of the digital world that demands maximum speed of change. But on the other hand, there are legacy systems where stability is key. The IT chiefs, then, have to deliver changes at appropriate speeds and risk having problems with destabilizing legacy systems. As a result, IT operates variously in different areas and is functionally divergent.

### Multi-speed IT in a nutshell

According to the company Gartner, an application portfolio can be separated into those layers where innovations are easily carried out – and where the company differentiates itself from others – and those layers where records are stored. This definition is also the basis for our model of multi-speed IT.

The model requires isolating systems into layers having different demands for speed of changes and, consequently, with different technology and architecture to match the requirements for configurability, security, resilience, and other key indicators. Individual layers may then have different operational and delivery models.



Layering IT systems also enables the IT organization to change speeds, support diverse business requirements in parallel, and respond effectively to change.

An operating model is key to running multi-speed IT. It must be flexible, open to innovation, and at the same time enable good collaboration between the company's business and IT departments to meet common goals.

### **Changing habits is key**

Together with discipline of the entire organization, having the right architecture and processes in place are critical to success on the road to multi-speed IT. Surprisingly, technologies are the easier part of the problem in this case. Changing organizations and their habits, effecting a cultural shift, and the need to keep teams motivated and skilled throughout the changes will challenge the abilities of even the best managers.

The journey can be easier if you use the services of an experienced guide. The sheer size of the Accenture Global Delivery Network of delivery centers ensures that experts from diverse business areas and with knowledge of relevant technologies are available. Our continuous investment into development and innovation assures that you will get top-notch support.

And Accenture stands ready to show why it is recognized as the best IT services provider in the world. We are happy to share our experience in setting up operational and governance models for multi-speed IT in order to meet your specific business requirements. Together with my colleagues at Accenture, we are here for you!

### **Teaser short**

One, two, three. At what speed is your IT running?

### **Teaser long**

How to combine complex IT systems built over decades with innovative technology and new demands for speed of delivery? Multi-speed IT offers the solution!

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