A Connected Industrial Workforce promises to transform manufacturing. But are manufacturers ready to embrace it?

US company executives believe they are leading the way toward a Connected Industrial Workforce. Accenture research\(^1\) shows that US companies feel they are already well ahead of the pack in implementing the human-machine-centric environments of the Connected Industrial Workforce. Based on the self-perceptions of the US manufacturing executives, below are the key findings.

\(^1\)Accenture surveyed more than 500 senior executives and managers in the world’s leading automotive, industrial and construction markets in December 2015.

- **Respondents from the US expect a Connected Industrial Workforce to drive significant new value**
  - 37% expect it to boost productivity
  - 47% expect it to improve operational efficiency
  - 42% expect it to enhance safety and risk management

- **They are investing in implementing the Connected Industrial Workforce with confidence**
  - 28% of their R&D budgets is already spent on the Connected Industrial Workforce
  - 40% in 2020 that will rise to 53%
  - 53% have already implemented Connected Industrial Workforce measures
  - 28% say they are digital leaders

- **They consider IT security to be their greatest challenge—closely followed by job losses and employment legislation—in adopting a Connected Industrial Workforce**
  - 86% are concerned about data vulnerability
  - 84% are concerned about employment legislation
  - 83% are concerned about job losses

By envisioning the full promise of the Connected Industrial Workforce, as well as the benefits they expect it to deliver, a significant number of US survey respondents believe they have identified what’s holding them back, and are beginning to define their journey and who owns it. The findings suggest they will continue to raise their game—identifying new job profiles, and dedicating higher proportions of their R&D budget to the Connected Industrial Workforce.

[Read our complete report](www.accenture.com/connectedworkforce)
[Join the conversation @AccentureInd](#)