

Lessons from Leaders Series

The Sustainable Organization

The Chief Supply Chain Officer's Perspective

Video Transcript



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Welcome to Accenture's Lessons from Leaders series on the sustainable organization.

Outside of the world's best-run companies, the supply chain is often a blind spot for many organizations when it comes to sustainability.

This is risky. There are compliance worries at a basic level, while a lack of oversight of the environmental or social risks lurking out of sight can be hugely damaging.

Think about the following risks:

- The discovery of child labor at a second-tier supplier, which goes viral over social media.
- The loss of customer trust, after a toxic or dangerous ingredient is found in your products.
- Or the penalties imposed, when it emerges that key suppliers failed to comply with new rules on emissions or waste.

But risks aside, major benefits are often overlooked too. For example, cost reductions by cutting waste or major improvements in supply chain performance.

There is also scope for more transformational shifts, such as a move to a closed supply chain loop.

These are some of the issues that this chapter of our Lessons from Leaders series provides, to help guide chief supply chain officers.

It examines:

- What is the business case for sustainability within the supply chain;
- What opportunities arise when greater supply chain transparency is introduced;
- Which new partners do supply chain leaders need to consider collaborating with;
- And what new skills and expertise are needed for this to be successful.

By getting to grips with some of these issues and questions, this research highlights how the chief supply chain officer can fundamentally rethink their role in a sustainable organization.

About Accenture

Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, with approximately 261,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries. Combining unparalleled experience, comprehensive capabilities across all industries and business functions, and extensive research on the world's most successful companies, Accenture collaborates with clients to help them become high-performance businesses and governments. The company generated net revenues of US\$27.9 billion for the fiscal year ended Aug. 31, 2012.

About Accenture Sustainability Services

Accenture Sustainability Services helps organizations achieve substantial improvement in performance and value for their stakeholders. We help clients leverage their assets and capabilities to drive innovation and profitable growth while striving for a positive economic, environmental and social impact. We work with clients across industries and geographies to integrate sustainability approaches into their business strategies, operating models and critical processes.

Our holistic approach encompasses strategy, design and execution to increase revenue, reduce cost, manage risk and enhance brand, reputation and intangible assets. We also help clients develop deep insights on sustainability issues based on our on-going investments in research, including recent studies on consumer expectations and global executive opinion on corporate sustainability and climate change.

Accenture is committed to helping forward-thinking organizations position sustainability as a key lever to long-term success. To find out more about how Accenture can help you meet your sustainability imperatives and chart a course toward high performance, visit <http://www.accenture.com/sustainability>. Please also join our on-going conversation about sustainability, business and policy by following us on Twitter @ActSustainably and on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/accenturesustainabilityservices>.