IT Audit’s Perspectives on the Top Technology Risks for 2021

Cybersecurity, Privacy, Data and Resilience Dominate the Top Technology Challenges for Organizations, According to the Annual ISACA/Protiviti Global Survey of IT Audit Leaders and Professionals

Notable findings:

Security, privacy, cloud and advanced technologies dominate the top technology risks – These issues, which already were top-of-mind risks for most organizations, have been fueled further by pandemic-driven times of remote work and new business processes, as well as increasing connectivity via the Internet of Things (IoT).

Digital Leaders stand out – Organizations at a higher level of digital maturity, understanding the need for a dynamic approach in the current business environment, generally view the top technology risks to be more significant compared to other organizations, and they are far more likely to perform technology audit risk assessments on a continuous basis.

COVID-19 and digital transformation are influencing technology risk assessments and outlooks – As expected, IT audit groups, particularly those with Digital Leaders, are refreshing technology risk assessments more frequently in response to pandemic-related impacts and digital transformation-driven changes in the organization.

* About the Survey

ISACA and Protiviti partnered to conduct the 9th Annual IT Audit Technology Risks Study in September 2020. More than 7,400 (n = 7,470) executives and professionals, including CAEs as well as IT audit vice presidents and directors, completed our online questionnaire. In the survey, respondents were asked to rate the significance of 39 technology risk issues on a scale of 1 to 10, based on their organization’s technology risk assessment, with “1” representing low impact to the organization and “10” representing extensive impact to the organization. Data points represent the mean score.

To learn more visit www.protiviti.com/ITAuditSurvey or www.isaca.org/it-audit-2021.