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How to accelerate digital innovation: 'Transform, Simplify, Secure' is key



Since 2021, leading businesses in Asia Pacific (APAC) have been undertaking digital transformation projects at an accelerated pace. However, many of them in the region are struggling to initiate their own digital transformation efforts. This challenge is compounded by the fact that various technology layers were gradually added to enhance performance and connectivity, resulting in greater complexities, higher network costs, a vast technology sprawl, and difficulties in scaling legacy infrastructure to work seamlessly with modern solutions.

In addition, attack surface has expanded due to increased use of cloud services, digital supply chain and hybrid workforce, compounding to increasing exposure to cyber risks. Many businesses struggle with these complexities without the required security framework. For businesses seeking growth through innovation, all these factors hamper the realisation of achieving the full potential of digital transformation.

Given this technology landscape, where should businesses in the region start to fully unlock the value of their digitalisation initiatives?

Most business don't know what they don't know

Complexity due to rapid digitalisation has led to a largely undefined or sometimes unknown technology sprawl. To some extent, businesses with monolithic tech stack are also observing increasingly undefined and insecure network perimeter.

Many businesses today don't know the true extent of devices, systems, and applications plugged into its network. This compounds the lack of clarity due the amorphous nature of the IT environment and its ambient vulnerabilities.

Why 'Transform, Simplify and Secure' make sense?

Adopting a 'Transform, Simplify, and Secure' approach allows businesses to realise their maximum potential in unleashing innovation and value to their business quickly. This

approach looks at the alignment of the underpinning infrastructure, technology and information architecture with the business needs, and identifying opportunities to transform the current state into a future state. This not only gives businesses the capabilities to stay ahead of the competition, but also helps them focus on delivering great customer experience.

Adaptability is the building block for seamless digital transformation. How do you know whether your business has an adaptable IT environment in the region or how do you gain adaptability? Where do you start when initiating your digital transformation plans?

More often than not, businesses need to first assess and evaluate their business processes. This may mean rethinking current ways of doing business and embracing new technologies to streamline workflows, improve efficiency, and make the experience truly appealing to modern consumers.

To unleash digital transformation, it is essential to identify areas of complexity and begin simplifying them. By simplifying and optimising the IT infrastructure and processes, businesses can reduce costs, improve agility and flexibility, and make the overall customer experience more intuitive.

Businesses must also find ways to scale legacy applications with modern infrastructure and seamlessly integrate existing IT environments with the cloud to modernise IT and reduce complexity.

How do you 'Transform, Simplify, Secure' your business?

The 'Transform, Simplify, Secure' strategy is built around four linchpins:

- 1. Network Transformation
- 2. Cloud Transformation
- 3. IT Modernisation
- 4. Security Enhancement & Cyber Resilience

To achieve true value from digital innovation, you can start by transforming and simplifying your network and cloud environment, while looking at the applications and infrastructure that are enabling your business. Now it's important to look at your entire IT environment holistically and vertically integrate security orchestration and automation processes.

This approach should be adaptable to the business' immediate needs with the objective to enhance flexibility, agility, and the performance required for innovation. Keep in mind, this is not a linear journey.

Where do you go from here?

Businesses in the region need a suitable partner to help them transform, simplify, and secure their business. A partner that can bundle comprehensive solutions and managed services for this strategy is best placed to do so due to the persistent talent scarcity and the need to manage the return of investment.

There are also risks of implementing misaligned solutions that may not fit the business needs in the long term, potentially resulting in wasted resources and monetary loss. Having a partner who can ensure the alignment of digital transformation programme with your business will help avoid these risks.

Choosing the right partner is as critical as choosing the right solution. With a solid partner, you can access a comprehensive suite of solutions with global networking capabilities, strategic managed cloud services, IT & applications modernisation and vertically integrated security offerings. These services can help you unleash the full value of digital transformation that drives your business future innovation.

What's next?

If you're keen to understand more about 'Transform, Simplify, Secure' and how we can support your business, get in touch with our friendly team of digital innovation experts. We're here in this journey with you.

Follow us on the Lumen Technologies Asia Pacific LinkedIn page to stay updated on trends & innovation and upcoming events near you.

Cloud Security Connected Security Cybersecurity Supply Chain Risk Management