Inflation is back. Prices are rising at a pace not seen in decades across every country. Interest rates in the US and other countries are surging. The economic uncertainty confronting businesses underlines any sense of stability that might exist. Businesses have responded by inflating revenues, outperforming peers on key metrics, and growing more profitable. The discipline of profitable growth is essential.

The pendulum has swung to the other side and fuel is volatility. Inflation is back. Prices are rising at a pace not seen in decades across every country. This is a major disruption for today’s CSCOs. Our Thinkers are building directly on insights from our 2021 Chief Supply Chain Officer Study (CSO Study) to prepare for a precarious future, and 20% of respondents stand apart for how they are transforming to meet the challenge. This year’s CSO Study, which surveyed 1,550+ CSCOs worldwide, brings to mind the phrase: “It is not about what you do...it is about how you do it.”

As inflation takes over from the pandemic as the major challenge for today's CSCOs, consumer expectations have become more volatile. Whether you manage or shape the supply chain, customer expectations have become more demanding. We need the analytics to drive demand sensing. Cash is still king, so ensure you have enough capital to weather costs and changes. Smart Procurement made smarter.

People/consumers are moving to value, and we haven't prepared for a value-driven world where customers expect the best experience. The issue is speed and getting insight – we’re moving away from lengthy purchasing processes and order fulfillment and adopting e-commerce and digital fulfillment. People stocked up on the wrong things and because demand changed, now we see retailers destocking.

Own your transformation
Data-driven transformation for the modern supply chain

Many of the talk participants concluded their interviews with a new IBM initiative for Business Value (IBM) study. One theme from the new IBM initiative for Business Value (IBM) study is that innovation in the complex is transforming the present and preparing for the future. They found that, while high CFOs who were separated from the ad hoc, are engaging in strategic analysis, and at automatization initiative to transform, seek out, and maintain sustainable supply chains.

As people are retiring or leaving roles it gives us an opportunity to automate in a new way. We need to avoid greenwashing. Carbon neutrality and net zero have resulted from waning concern about COVID. CSCOs rank sustainability as their third biggest concern. CSCOs distinguish the themselves from the competition for change.

De-risking the supply chain
Managing the present while investing in the future

CSCOs are embracing AI and automation technologies to prepare for a precarious future, and 20% of respondents stand apart for how they are transforming to meet the challenge. CSCOs are transforming now to speed and get insights and prepare for a precarious future. The pendulum has swung to the other side and fuel is volatility. Inflation is back. Prices are rising at a pace not seen in decades across every country. This is a major disruption for today’s CSCOs. Our Thinkers are building directly on insights from our 2021 Chief Supply Chain Officer Study (CSO Study) to prepare for a precarious future, and 20% of respondents stand apart for how they are transforming to meet the challenge. This year’s CSO Study, which surveyed 1,550+ CSCOs worldwide, brings to mind the phrase: “It is not about what you do...it is about how you do it.”

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