



# BUSINESS-IT ALIGNMENT CHECKLIST

*Use the checklist below to assess the alignment of your IT organization with your Agency objectives.*

Business-IT Alignment refers to applying IT in the most appropriate and timely way to optimally support the Agency's goals and objectives. Mature alignment results in a synergistic relationship where the functional departments (Operations, Finance, Sales, Marketing, Human Resources, Corporate Strategy, Manufacturing etc.), collectively called "Business", and IT adapt their strategies together.

**Use the following checklist to assess the alignment of your IT with your Business.** An agency that meets ALL the following characteristics can be characterized as having optimally aligned Business and IT.

- \_\_\_ IT leadership clearly understands business goals and objectives.
- \_\_\_ Business leaders are aware of the capabilities of IT and understand (at a high level) what needs to be done to develop and maintain information systems and technology.
- \_\_\_ Business perceives IT as a "Business Partner" that supports and expands the business and an "Innovator" that provides competitive advantage.
- \_\_\_ IT participates in, and can influence, the Agency's Strategic Planning, which defines organization goals, objectives, and tactics.
- \_\_\_ Business leaders and IT collectively define and maintain the IT Strategy, which outlines how IT will be leveraged to achieve Agency goals.
- \_\_\_ Risks and rewards are shared with IT.
- \_\_\_ Annual IT budgeting involves Business leaders and aligns with Agency goals.
- \_\_\_ New project approval and prioritization is accomplished via a transparent process, with significant consideration given to alignment with Agency objectives.
- \_\_\_ IT is highly adaptable, resilient, and ready for disruption.
- \_\_\_ Success of IT projects is measured by the business value delivered and is measured via collectively approved metrics.
- \_\_\_ IT is measured by Business-approved Service Level Agreements (SLAs), defined in business terms.
- \_\_\_ The Agency encourages frequent interactions with IT, and career crossover of personnel between Business and IT.

Contact **MSS Business Transformation Advisory** to perform an in-depth, full Business-IT Alignment assessment to uncover areas that could use some improvement. [Advisory@mssbta.com](mailto:Advisory@mssbta.com) or **602-387-2100**

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Business Transformation Advisory

MSSBTA.com | 602-387-2100  
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