Emerging Technology Roadmap, 2015–2018

IT professionals at 324 midsized organizations collaborated to map the adoption of 98 emerging technologies.

## Technologies by Mainstream Adoption Timeline, Value, and Risk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>&lt; 50% Adoption by 2018</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018+</th>
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### Key Takeaways

1. **IT Responds to End-User Demand**: Technologies in the Employee Computing and Mobility space are being closely evaluated at a rate three times that of any other category through 2016. With these technologies at the forefront of investment, IT groups show their increased commitment to end-user productivity.

2. **Technology Hype Fails to Translate to Investment**: Despite widespread coverage in trade publications and vendor analyses, IT organizations are not evaluating or adopting technologies such as wearables, 3D printing, biometrics, and voice recognition through 2016.

3. **Business Risk Appetite Levels on the Rise**: Of the 20 technologies planned for deployment through 2016, nine are rated high risk.

4. **Value from Big Data Still Years Away**: Although organizations are rushing to adopt scalable storage technologies for growing data volumes, uncertainty remains on how to derive business value from them. Technologies such as Hadoop, Big Data analytic tools, and Big Data storage solutions all see less than 50% adoption by 2018.

5. **Cloud Picks up Speed Toward Ubiquity**: Cloud technologies including CRM, HRIS, and Disaster Recovery are rolling out at an accelerated rate compared to 2014. This trend aligns with CEB budget data indicating that over 92% of organizations will invest in the cloud by the end of 2015 for scalability and cost benefits.

6. **Office 365 Crosses the Tipping Point**: Though 2014 data forecasted Office 365 for deployment in 2017, this year shows mainstream adoption by year’s end. Organizations may be taking advantage of attractive licensing and support models to advance collaboration capabilities.

### Enterprise Value

- **Value** was assessed on a scale of 1–5.
- **When assessing enterprise value, respondents considered such factors as cost-effectiveness, functionality, speed, and performance.**

### Deployment Risk

- **Risk** was assessed on a scale of 1–5.
- **When assessing deployment risk, respondents considered such factors as marketplace maturity, scalability, support, and security.**

### Most Evaluated Technologies

- **These are the technologies being most closely evaluated by midsized organizations. Adoption timelines, value, and risk assessments for these technologies are more likely to change next year than other technologies.**

## Contact Us

**CEB IT Leadership Council**

For Midsized Companies

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