

## 2018 Technology Trends and What You Should Consider Doing

2018 is literally just days away and the new year will be here in short order. With it arrives, the question of what will we, as businesses, focus on to drive business success in the coming years.

Instead of just providing technology trends, we will be providing an aligned view of what technology can enable in transforming your organization classified in 2 categories:

1. **Creating innovative products**
2. **Enabling employee and operational efficiency opportunities**

### Creating Innovative Products

In 2018, technologies that have become mainstream versus futuristic are:

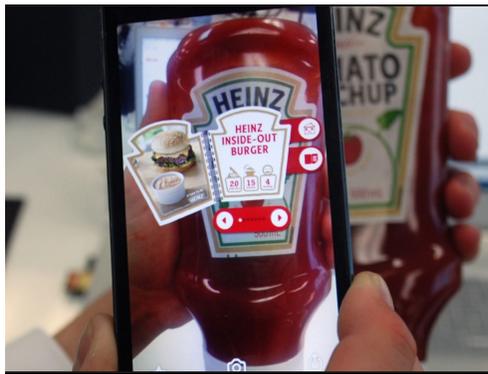
- ◆ Internet of Things (IoT) can be a product game changer and provide the transformational capabilities to create complimentary product features to refresh/renew your physical products.



Transforming your products and their use and interaction above and beyond physically having to be in local proximity to them to operate, is something that today's consumers are coming to expect. Add that with the ability to understand a product's performance and provide commands for utilization of the product can be a winner in terms of product offerings.

- ◆ Augmented Reality can provide an immersive experience to your customers that will differentiate your products from your competitors.

Providing the digital information and pairing it with the use of the actual physical product to provide an experience that nobody besides the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), can be the difference maker in the marketplace.



### Enabling Employee and Operational Efficiency Opportunities

As we go into the new year, the ability to enable your employees with the following technologies:

- ◆ Mobile Applications with the needed information to perform their roles
- ◆ Analytics with an interactive Machine Learning capability

are key to enabling employees in making informed and timely business decisions.

When it comes to operational efficiency in the context of manufacturing and logistics, the orchestration of processes, employees and machines into a single interactive playbook with real time metrics is something that can be accomplished in today's operations by utilizing:

- ◆ Technology to design and simulate factory floor processes and efficiencies when designing new production lines and/or factories
- ◆ Technology to extract performance data from old and new industrial machinery, and combining that with the digital performance specifications to understand machine health and needed maintenance
- ◆ A visualization platform to gather and co-ordinate the needed data into usable views dedicated to particular user types
- ◆ Analytics technology capabilities with prescriptive and predictive features to deliver improvement opportunities.



Integration of these technologies into your business operations, will transform your ability and speed to how you design, measure and improve your business operations.

In our view, 2018 is the year that organizations like yours, move from research and piloting into transforming your organization into a blended world of physical and digital co-existence.

Wishing you and your organization a great 2018!

## Coming in January: What you should consider when developing your PLM Roadmap