



## Key Technology Trends to watch for in 2020

2019 has come and is almost gone. I can't believe that another decade is almost history! With all of the technological advancements that were introduced and are now mainstage in our lives, businesses and organizations. So what's next? What does 2020 bring? There are a lot of theories around what will make 2020 and the next decade one to remember. From our perspective, these are 4 technology trends that we believe will make a significant impact in 2020 and the coming decade.

### **The Embedment and Expansion of 5G Technology**

5G technology with its expanded capabilities in delivering data at faster speeds, will create a wealth of exciting opportunities for new products and services. It will enable the delivery of technology solutions, such as the Internet of Things (IoT) via connected products and the differentiated service delivery of these products. This will be a "Gamechanger" to start and then become the "Standard" of what's expected going forward. The number of IoT devices is expected to reach over 30 billion by 2020. 5G technology is the delivery mechanism needed to exponentially increase the rate of introduction of these connected products and service.

### **Robotic Process Automation (RPA)**

Robotic Process Automation (RPA) is the use of software to automate business processes. These processes could be processing transactions (e.g. Financial Transactions) or replying to customer questions. RPA is centered around the elimination of repetitive tasks that people used to do by automating them. RPA will at first be introduced as "augmentation" to current roles our employees undertake today. As we embed Artificial Intelligence (AI), it will enhance the potential efficiency that RPA can bring to an organization by increased automation. In the future, when AI is effectively blended with people's skills and ingenuity, this can be positioned as a truly disruptive business strategy.

### **3D Printing**

3D printing has been around for a while now and it has evolved into a revolutionary technology as the material capabilities that can be 3D printed have expanded to include materials that are normally included in day to day products we produce in our companies. Pair that with the increased volumes and the speed that we can 3D print and now you have a business capability that can eliminate business issues, such as part shortages for production lines or the availability of service parts needed for repair. Then if you integrate nano-technology within the 3D printing capability, you can see the expansion of 3D printing into printing replacement human body parts and becoming a key new entry into the medical world.

### **The Replacement of the current User Interface.**

Currently, the user interface with products is either a computer interface or an APP interface. These typical user interfaces will be initially augmented and then replaced by an interactive digital interface. Virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR) and mixed reality (MR) will change the way in which people will interact with the digital world. This technology advancement will create a highly interactive and intuitive interface that truly embeds the digital world with humans. The melding of the digital world with the physical world is coming quickly and will enhance human capabilities and digital intuitiveness.

From all of us at DRIVEN-4, we want to wish you, your family and colleagues a:

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS and all the best in 2020!**

**Next Month: How to increase the value of your PLM implementation**