

The Challenge to Change



Digital disruption is affecting every industry across the globe.

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The pace of change is accelerating

“Speed is critical to disruption, yet legacy structures can block a company’s ability to execute rapidly.”

— McKinsey & Company

*From the McKinsey & Company report
“How to scale your own digital disruption”*

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Enterprise technology programs need to adapt

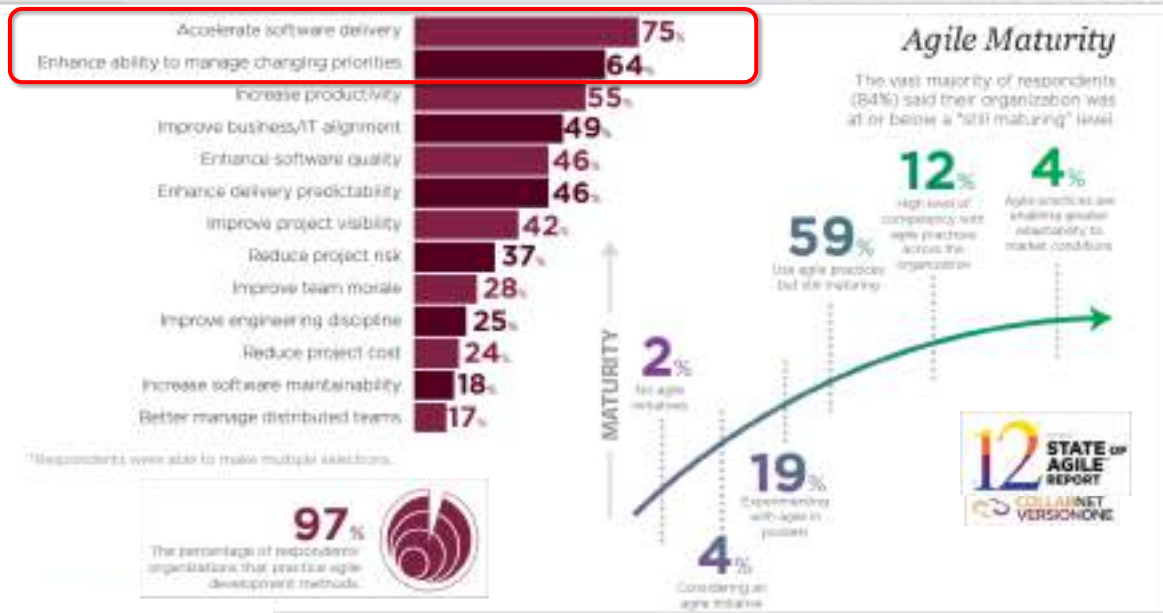
- ▶ Organizations increasingly depend on technology to meet the challenges of a digital age
- ▶ Traditional approaches to developing and sustaining new technologies have proven to be insufficient for 21st century solutions

"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them."
—Albert Einstein

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The world has adopted Agile to overcome similar issues



The Challenge of Change

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Change is hard

Most common barriers to Agile adoption



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Lean-Agile and DevOps
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Organizational Change

Organizational change is prone to failure

“70% of organizational change initiatives fail...”

- Kotter, 1996

“Companies engaging in strategic OC initiatives are more likely to fail than to succeed...”

- Decker, Durand, Mayfield, McCormack, Skinner & Purdue, 2012

“50% failure rate in multiple studies of all types of change initiatives...”

- Shin, Taylor, & Seo, 2012

“70% of all change efforts (in the study) were unsuccessful...”

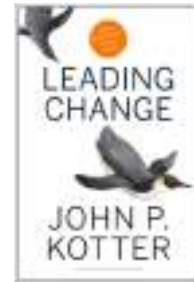
- Burke, 2011

“41% to 93% failure rate among quality improvement initiatives...”

- Cândido & Santos, 2015

“Initiatives involving culture change have a 19% success rate...”

- Smith, 2002



Why does organizational change fail?

- ▶ **Resistance to change**
- ▶ Low readiness for change
- ▶ Inadequate communications
- ▶ Poor planning
- ▶ Lack of training
- ▶ Institutional inertia (process, structure)
- ▶ Technology gaps
- ▶ Lack of organizational alignment
- ▶ History of change failures
- ▶ Lack of employee involvement
- ▶ Bureaucracy, politics, conflict
- ▶ Poor strategy / wrong change
- ▶ Unrealistic expectations
- ▶ Low transparency and trust

- Decker, Durand, Mayfield, McCormack, Skinner & Purdue, 2012

What's the solution?

Leaders hold the key to successful change

People are already doing their best; the problems are with the system.

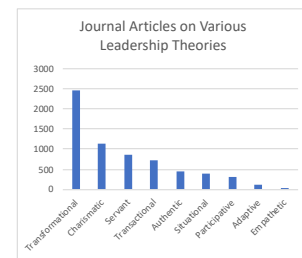
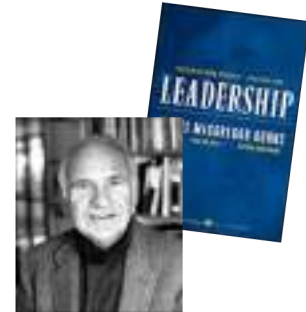
*Only **management** can change the system.*

—W. Edwards Deming



Introducing Transformational Leadership

- ▶ A model in which leaders inspire and motivate followers to achieve higher performance by:
 - Building on values and a sense of purpose
 - Encouraging teams to work toward a common goal through vision, values, communication, example-setting, and evident caring about followers' personal goals and needs
 - Aligning organization and personal vision for the larger good
- ▶ Burn's seminal work has evolved thanks to subsequent researchers such as Bass, Avolio, Riggio, and others
 - More peer reviewed research as been published on transformational leadership than any other leadership model



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It's about competency, not style



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Decentralize decision making Unlock intrinsic motivation

Intellectual Stimulation (IS)

- › Challenge the status quo
- › Develop high performing teams
- › Decentralize decision making
- › Expect relentless improvement
- › Encourage innovative thinking
- › Transition from manager to leader/mentor/coach

Adaptive leadership

Inspire and align with mission

Inspirational Motivation (IM)

- › Articulate a clear vision and intent
- › Inspire passion and motivation to achieve goals - answer "why"
- › Communicate frequently
- › Drive organizational alignment

Charismatic leadership

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Transformational Leadership



Develop leaders

Individualized Consideration (IC)

- › Support personal and professional growth through coaching and active listening; the leader-leader model
- › Offer direct recognition individual and team contributions
- › Exhibit genuine care with empathy
- › **Empathetic, Servant leadership**

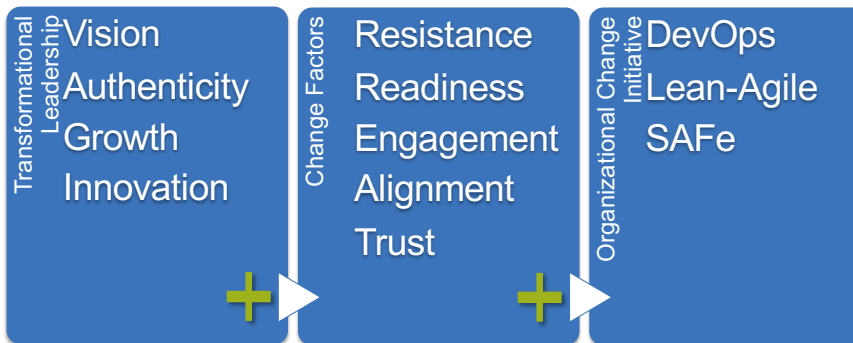
Lead the change Know the way

Idealized Influence (IIA/IIB)

- › Be a role model; set the example
- › Develop self-awareness and a sense of your true north
- › Create an environment of trust and respect through transparency
- › Act with integrity, values, principles
- › **Authentic, Charismatic leadership**

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Transformational leadership and organizational change



Research shows that Transformational Leadership:

- ✓ Predicts high team performance and employee engagement¹
- ✓ Increases positive attitudes of employees during change
- ✓ Improves organizational change outcomes
- ✓ Can be learned!



Change is hard because people overestimate the value of what they have and underestimate the value of what they may gain by giving that up...

James Belasco and Ralph Stayer,
authors of *Flight of the Buffalo*

¹ The Science Behind DevOps. Nicole Forsgren, Jez Humble, Gene Kim. 2017

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Why it matters:

Transformational leadership has a greater influence on followers' commitment to supporting organizational change than implementing specific change management practices.

Herold, Fedor, Caldwell, & Liu. (2008).

Leadership and Change: A Case Study



U.S Federal IT Services Company
\$1.3B, 5,600 FTE, Founded 1978

Circa 2013-2015

- ▶ Burning platform - shrinking addressable market
 - sequestration
 - slowing economy
 - dramatic reduction in global operations
 - hyper competition
- ▶ Visionary leadership – Dr. Bill Ballhaus
 - protect the base
 - wickedly efficient
 - perform better than the competition
 - take market share



Don't just survive... thrive!

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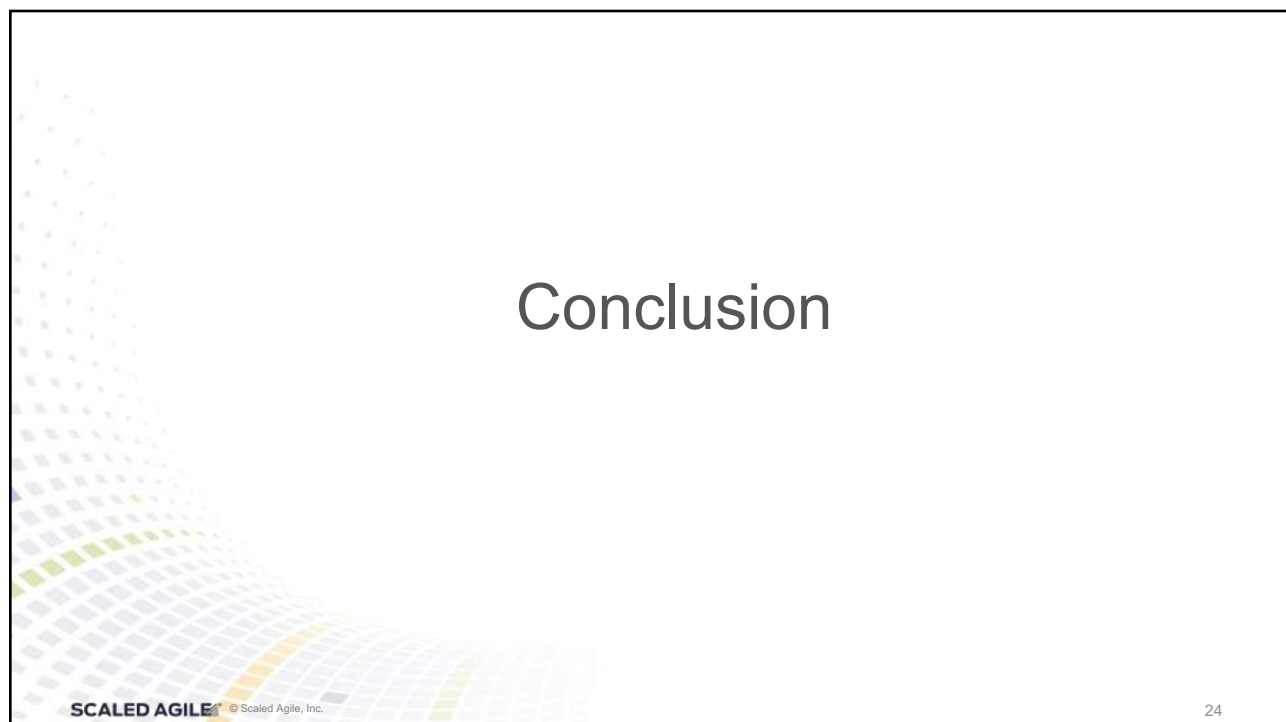
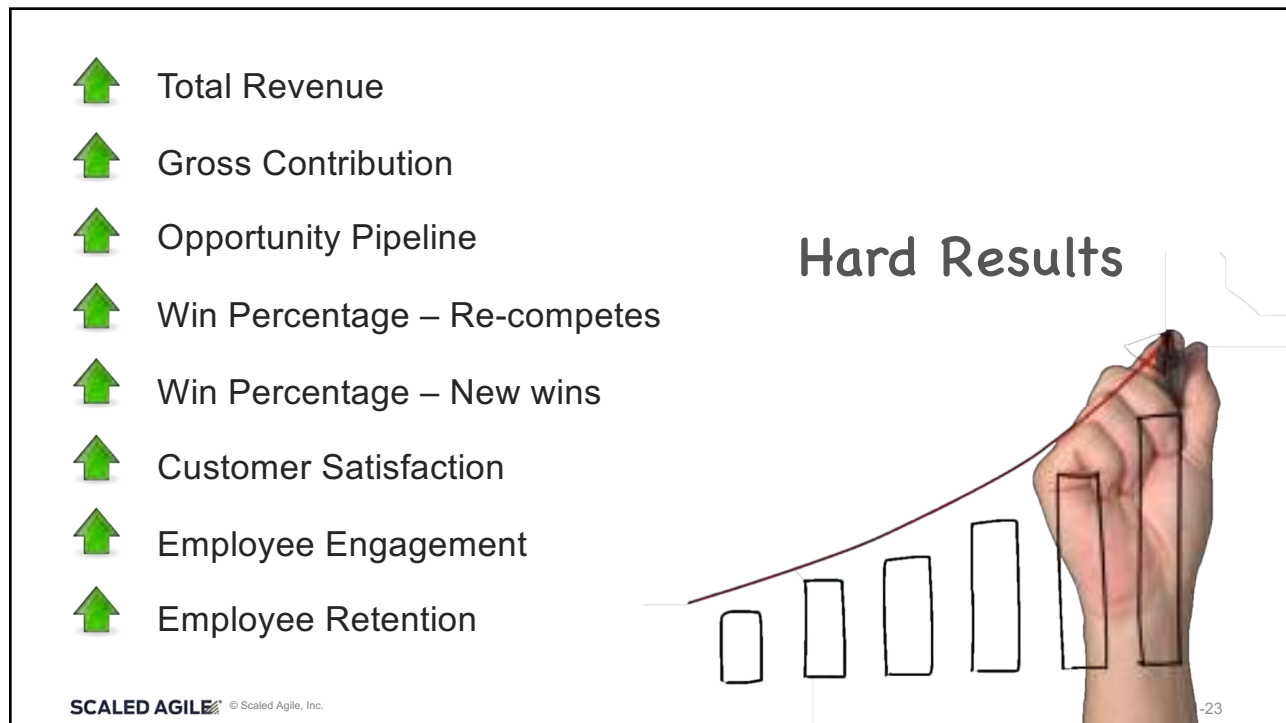
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Transformation leadership initiative

- ▶ Synthesis of organizational development, transformational and adaptive leadership principles
- ▶ 360 assessments
- ▶ Small cohorts
- ▶ Four in-residence immersion workshops
- ▶ Assigned one-on-one mentors
- ▶ Reading list
- ▶ Virtual check-ins with cohort coaches
- ▶ Adaptive challenge of their choice – apply their new skills to solve meaningful problems or seize new opportunities

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Session Takeaways

Lean-Agile and DevOps requires significant change
 Change is hard, and likely to fail without effective leadership
 Only leaders and managers can change the system
 How we lead is a choice
 High performing leader behaviors are key to successful change
 These leader behaviors can be learned
 Developing transformational leaders requires focused effort

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Thank you!



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