7 Questions To Ask Your CIO In January

A one page guide for CEOs, Presidents, CFOs and COOs to have a clear, honest year start conversation about technology, risk and value.

Use this page in a 30 minute conversation with your CIO or technology leader early in the new year. Pick 3 questions if time is tight. The goal is clarity, not perfection.

The 7 questions

1. If we do nothing different with technology in 2026, where are we most at risk as a business?

2. What are the 3 most important technology or data moves that would really help the business this year?

3. Where are we overspending or overcomplicating things, and what could we simplify or retire?

4. Which systems or processes quietly keep you up at night because of fragility, cyber risk or single points of failure?

5. How is our team really doing - in terms of workload, burnout, and the skills we will need next?

6. Where do you see AI and automation helping us in practical ways in the next 6 to 12 months, not abstract ways?

7. What support do you need from me and the rest of the leadership team to make progress on these items?

Key notes from our conversation

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Helping you and your technology leaders de risk, refocus and build practical game plans you can actually run.