

Report excerpt:

Mapping out IT spending by large Benelux companies

The financial crisis and the resulting economic recession is creating a high level of uncertainty for Benelux companies as there are no credible forecasts of the duration of the downturn and how fast the recovery will take place. The recession is however bound to continue to impact on the IT spending in the companies in the short- to medium-term future. The question is how large the impact on IT costs will be and how the IT spending will develop in comparison with other key figures such as turnover and number of IT users.

Changes in Key Figures

It is important to keep in mind that IT cost key ratios change not just because IT costs change, but also because turnover, number of employees etc. change. What might seemingly look like a reduction in IT costs might actually be an increase for example because turnover increases faster than IT spending. It is therefore valuable to examine what share of Benelux companies expect their IT costs, turnover, number of employees, users and PCs will increase, decrease or remain the same. It is also useful to know what the average change will be.

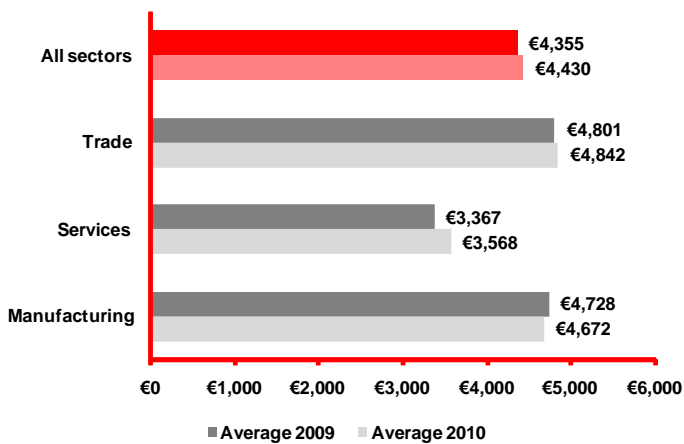
IT Cost Key Ratios

In order to show as comprehensive a picture as possible of the IT cost situation of Benelux companies several different key ratios are used in this report:

- IT costs per internal IT user
- IT costs per PC
- IT costs per employee
- IT costs as a share of turnover

IT Resources Costs

This chapter reports total IT costs and not merely IT budgets. Total IT costs are made up of those IT costs that are included in the IT budget as well as those belonging to the budgets of other departments.



Key Ratios

IT costs per PC 2009/2010: Sector comparison (means)

IT resources:

- Hardware
- Software
- Internal staff
- External services
- Data communications
- Facilities
- Outsourcing

IT functions:

- IT Infrastructure
- ERP system
- Other systems

IT processes:

- Development
- Other

Method

This report is based on data collected from surveys of 100 large (300 or more employees) Benelux companies. The respondents are all leading decision makers with solid knowledge of their respective companies' IT spending. In the majority of the cases these are IT managers or CIOs but in some cases other persons such as CFOs and CEOs have also been interviewed.

The respondents were selected randomly from a comprehensive database of survey targets. The interviews were made in the second quarter of 2009.

The results from the survey is presented and analysed broken down by industry: Trade, Services and Manufacturing.

Answering your key questions:

How will the recent economic development influence Benelux companies' IT spending plans?

How does your IT cost level compare to other large Benelux companies in your industry?

What differences are there in the allocation of IT resources?

How much do other large companies spend on IT development?

What is the cost of IT functions such as infrastructure, ERP and web?

Where are cost-savings most likely to exist according to Benelux companies?

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Our customers are large North European companies and organisations and our target audience is decision-makers such as IT managers, IT strategists, financial managers and controllers.

Waagstein Research's industry-specific analysis, competitive insight and strategic advice give businesses the tools they need to optimise their IT operations.

Who should buy this report?

Benelux IT Costs – Large companies' budgets & forecasts 2009-2010 is written based on mainly the needs and requirements of the IT management of large Benelux companies. The target group of the report is primarily: CIO/IT managers, CFOs, Controllers, IT strategists, Consultants and CEOs. The report will however also be interesting for vendors of IT products and services in order to better understand their customers.

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