

## **Tuck roundtable brings together top European IT execs to discuss strategies for M&A and divestitures**

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HANOVER, N.H.— On April 4th, Tuck’s Center for Digital Strategies will run a roundtable discussion focused on all aspects of mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures, including the rationale for and choice between affecting a merger or acquiring a company, and the role of IT and IT integration or separation. The roundtable, to be hosted by BT Group in London, England, is part of the “Thought Leadership Roundtable on Digital Strategies” series and will include members of the roundtable’s European Chapter. M&A and divestitures was also the topic of a meeting held earlier this year, on February 5th, in San Jose, California, with members of the roundtable’s U.S. Chapter.

Chief information officers (CIOs) and other senior executives from leading companies will participate in the roundtable, which will analyze questions like: What have the key drivers of M&A or divestiture activity been in the last couple years? How do firms “organize” for acquisitions, i.e., who runs them, and how is IT engaged to balance the new workload with existing projects/priorities? How closely are IT-integration decisions tied to the rest of integration?

Participating companies include ABB, BMW, BT, Erste Bank, Hilti, Holcim, and Nestlé. They will be joined by academics from Tuck and the Institute for Management Development (IMD). Dave Margulius, a technology analyst and consultant from Enterprise Insight, will moderate the discussion.

The “Thought Leadership Roundtable on Digital Strategies” series is held in locations around the globe so that Global 1000 CIOs can discuss business issues and the role of information technology. The discussions prompt a focused, participative collegial working group. Participating CIOs are encouraged to bring senior executive colleagues

from other functions in their corporation so that they may further their thinking on the topic together, while also benchmarking with peers from other industries. The aim of each roundtable is to share best practices, discuss problems, and examine possible leading-edge solutions.

The roundtable series is run by Tuck's Center for Digital Strategies with the guidance of a newly expanded executive committee from ABB, Bechtel, BMW, BT, Cargill, Cisco Systems, Hasbro, and Nestlé.

The Center for Digital Strategies promotes the development and practice of digital strategies—the use of technology-enabled processes to harness an organization's unique competencies, support its business strategy, and drive competitive advantage. Through its programs and research, the center examines the impact of technology on all aspects of management and strategy, including supply chain, marketing, and product development. The center also addresses issues throughout the extended enterprise, including globalization, organizational change, and information security.

To read more about this upcoming roundtable, visit [www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/roundtable](http://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/roundtable). To receive a copy of the overview that will be released after the roundtable, please contact the Center for Digital Strategies at 603-646-0899.

*Founded in 1900, Tuck is the first graduate school of management in the country and consistently ranks among the top business schools worldwide. Tuck remains distinctive among the world's great business schools by combining human scale with global reach, rigorous coursework with experiences requiring teamwork, and valued traditions with innovation.*