Inventures Insights

Standards Can't be Dismissed in Advancing Emerging Technologies

Based on what you're reading in the media, you might assume that blockchain, artificial intelligence, augmented reality (AR), autonomous vehicles are all coming soon and will immediately add value to our lives. But if history is correct, it may be a few more years before these innovations reach widespread adoption.

Stuart Carlaw, Chief Research Officer at ABI Research accurately summed up some of these new technologies on his visit to the Hannover Messe tradeshow earlier this year. "The appetite for new transformative technological approaches was hearty, yet confusion within the market continues to impact velocity."

Consider AR, where Carlaw and other industry adopters question the timing of AR's inflection point – the point where adoption takes off like a rocket. The most optimistic estimate is three to five years before AR becomes a mainstream component of the future industrial landscape. What's not said is the fact that AR is a technology that will require standards for a variety of applications to reach greater adoption rates that maximizes AR's fullest capabilities and creates a competitive ecosystem.

Blockchain is another hot technology we hear about frequently. As the Harvard Business Review puts it, "Blockchain is not a 'disruptive' technology, which can attack a traditional business model with a lower-cost solution and overtake incumbent firms quickly. Blockchain is a foundational technology. It has the potential to create new foundations for our economic and social systems."

Blockchain is considered well suited for uses where there is lack of trust or little transparency. It delivers expediency, automation, and efficiency in certain cases. But an implementation to just jump on the bandwagon won't deliver benefits. Proprietary solutions using blockchain are being developed today, but will they last without any standards to guide their use?

Autonomous vehicles are grabbing attention in positive (and negative) ways. But their success or failure will ultimately depend upon the creation of standards that guide the vehicles down the same roads we use today. If these cars can't communicate with each other, how can they be achieve their full potential? Who is going to facilitate this communication? Politicians or technicians? The companies that first create a standard will have a significant opportunity to bring this new mode of efficient transportation to the market the fastest.
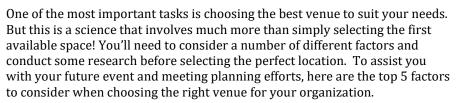
There is a role for standards to help advance these technologies. While it may be easy to implement them in limited or one-off manner, how do you make them work on a global basis? Can the world wait another 10-20 years for them to run reach maturity? We know every industry has unique use cases that will determine whether and how to use these technologies, not to mention making them work across many industries. The reality is these technologies are creating new ecosystems. However, they're not reaching their full potential because all the players are not connected or collaborating in an alliance structured a common goal, yet.

Top 5 Considerations When Selecting Meeting Venues

In person meetings haven't been killed off by video conferencing. They can be one of the most productive ways of making progress or can be a bad dream if not organized for success.

One of the most important tasks is choosing the best venue to suit your needs. But this is a science that involves much more than simply selecting the first available space! You'll need to consider a number of different factors and conduct some research before selecting the perfect location. To assist you with your future event and meeting planning efforts, here are the top 5 factors to consider when choosing the right venue for your organization.

1. Type of Event

The type of event that you're planning is critical to consider when choosing your venue. Certain types of events, like press conferences, member meetings and board meetings, all require different types of spaces. It is important to understand how much space you will need, for example multiple breakout session rooms, foyer for casual breaks and refreshments, a separate dining area for networking lunches or receptions?

2. Location

Before you commit to a venue's city make sure that the spot is easily accessible. Give some thought to how your attendees will get there and back. How long will it take door-to-door? If the event is in a city, are there public transportation options for those without vehicles, or do you plan on offering a shuttle to and from the venue? Taking time to consider your attendees' travel needs will improve your attendance rates.

3. Budget

Before you start shopping around for a venue, make a detailed list of all possible venue-related expenses. This should include things like facility costs, food and beverage expenses, equipment rentals, staffing needs, signage, audio/visual equipment, tax and service charges, etc.

Additionally, make sure that you get quotes from multiple venues as the first response you get may not be the best deal that you can get. Once you receive multiple proposals, you can use them as leverage and gain additional negotiating power to get even better deals at your desired venue. You should also familiarize yourself with any promotions or discounts that the venue may be publicizing before you begin negotiations. It can also help to mention future events or the possibility of becoming a repeat or loyal customer.

4. Food and Beverage

First, you'll need to decide if you're looking for a venue that has a kitchen on-site that can provide catering services for your event. If this is the case, you should see if the venue is willing to waive the facility fee, perhaps opting for a deposit and food and beverage minimum. One helpful tip is saving the dessert from the lunch buffet and serving it instead during the afternoon break to save on food costs. Also if you're having a

reception, consider a taco or pasta bar instead of hand passed appetizers as it feeds more and costs less overall.

5. Response Times
When you've found a venue that meets all event needs, pay attention to how quickly the venue's sales team responds to your inquiry. This may well be indicative of what the venue's service will be like throughout the planning process and an indicator of success for the actual event.

With these top 5 considerations in mind, you should be off to a good start when planning your next event. And if you need a helping hand, the Inventures staff of accredited and experienced event managers are ready and available to assist. The team has deep experience in providing support for [member meetings](#) or [tradeshows and events](#) of all shapes and sizes.

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9 Simple Ways to Delegate

One of the key attributes of any top leader is the ability to delegate. Leaders can increase productivity and instill trust in others when they delegate effectively. "When your people know you trust them enough to delegate an important task, it boosts their motivation to get the job done," says columnist Peter Economy. But there is an art to it, says Economy. He offers the following nine tips to delegate effectively.

1. Make sure to contribute both positive and negative feedback so the person you are giving responsibility to will understand what he or she is doing well and what they need to improve.
2. Be sure to keep a close eye on their progress. Your monitoring the work of others will not only motivate them, but also help you catch problems as they arise.
3. Make sure staffers understand the responsibilities they are assuming when they accept them.
4. Delegate the right things such as recurring tasks, detail work, attendance at certain meetings, and activities that will be part of team members' future responsibilities. There are certain tasks related to leadership, confidentiality, performance, and other areas that of course should not be delegated.
5. Provide guidance when necessary. If the work that has been delegated veers too far from the organization's guidelines, take immediate and decisive corrective action.
6. Be sure to give employees the authority they need to get the job done.
7. Have the right attitude about delegating. To this end, remember that planning to delegate is an investment in your people, your organization's culture, and in the overall mission.
8. Consider one's skill and interest in the task before assigning it to him or her.
9. Set clear expectations. "Make sure the goals are specific, attainable, relevant, and measurable," writes the author.

Inc.com (07/01/18) Economy, Peter

Client News

Mopria Alliance Continues Mobile Printing Momentum with Android 9 Pie

With the recent announcement of Android 9 Pie, Mopria Alliance once again hits a significant milestone with its code contribution to the Default Print Service that now features Wi-Fi Direct Printing. The Default Print Service was first debuted in the launch of Android 8 last year, and was a result of an ongoing collaboration with the Google Android team via the Android Open Source Project and the Mopria Alliance. The Default Print Service delivers convenient and intuitive printing with automatic printer discovery allowing easy printing to more than 3,000 models and 100 million deployed Mopria certified printers from any Android 8 or 9 device.

A key tenant of the Mopria Alliance strategy is to simplify print while also focusing on improving the printing experience on Android. Through continuous contributions to the Android Open Source Project, the Mopria Alliance will continue to make printing on Android as streamlined, secure and intuitive as possible.
To date, Mopria print technology has been installed on more than 850 million devices and has been used to print more than half a billion pages. Additionally, print isn't the only objective Mopria Alliance has a laser focus on. The Alliance recently released the Mopria Scan beta app with mobile scanning capabilities and the final release will be rolled out later this year.

ONVIF Conformant Products Tops 10K in 10th Year

In 10 years, ONVIF has made significant strides and has now surpassed 10,000 conformant products that meet its global interoperability standards, further broadening the organization's offering and relevance in the IP-based physical security marketplace. This level of conformant products marks yet another milestone for ONVIF as it celebrates its 10th year as a standards organization, providing interoperability specifications for IP-based physical security products. The Profiles offered by ONVIF address video surveillance and access control functions and are growing increasingly applicable in security and connectivity environments such as Safe City initiatives, IoT applications and intelligent building automation.

Fast Spec Gets Fast Views for SD Express

This July, the SD Association introduced a revolutionary specification SD Express that will turn the loved SD memory card into a removable solid state drive. Inventures helped write, direct and produce the video which has been viewed over 1 million times on YouTube in less than two months thanks to efforts by Inventures public relations and Tech Image social media promotion.