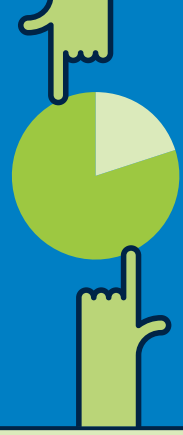# DIGITAL DISRUPTION AND THE NETWORK

DRIVING TECH ENABLEMENT, COLLABORATION & INNOVATION

Network Professional Role in the Coming Year

87% of network professionals expect their job to become more challenging

80% agree that greater collaboration between the network and other parts of the organization are driving innovation

78% feel that the network will become more important to IT's mission

WHAT'S INFLUENCING THESE CHANGES?

Network Investments

Primary Investment Drivers

IMPROVING NETWORK SPEED/ PERFORMANCE
61%

IMPROVING DATA SECURITY
55%

ENSURING AVAILABILITY
55%

AVERAGE IT BUDGET: $125 MILLION

Technology areas expecting an increase in budget allocation in 2017

Technology area	2017	2016
Cloud Services	69%	63% in 2016
Network Security	55%	50% in 2016
Application Development	50%	42% in 2016
Data Management/Analytics	43%	35% in 2016

3rd PLATFORM TECHNOLOGY SPENDING ▶ EXCEEDED 2nd PLATFORM SPENDING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2016

SOURCE: IDC

Technology Involvement: From Research, to Purchase, to Adoption

Network professionals must be aware of tech trends, as they have responsibility in **6 DIFFERENT TECH AREAS**
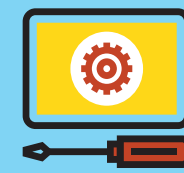
▶ THE TOP 3 ...

55% NETWORK/SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

52% NETWORK SECURITY

51% IT OPERATIONS

Daily/weekly collaboration with ...

IT OPERATIONS

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION

IT SECURITY

Tasked with making tech purchase decisions

Involved in **determining tech requirements** for these technologies:

66%	Architecture
66%	Network Security
63%	Data Management/Analytics

Involved in the **the evaluation stage** for these technologies:

68%	Architecture
67%	Systems Engineering
66%	Network Security

Key Players in Security Practices

82% say the network team is involved in security initiatives to a greater degree than in the past

Security challenges that network professionals face

#1 EMPLOYEE AWARENESS & COOPERATION

#2 PROTECTING AGAINST THREATS FROM OUTSIDE THE ORGANIZATION

#3 BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS/ DEMONSTRATING ROI

Current and future network-security initiatives

GEARING UP FOR INVESTMENTS

ON THE RADAR/ ACTIVELY RESEARCHING

35%	Data Loss Prevention
34%	Next Generation Firewalls
34%	ID Management Solutions

INSTALLED/ IN-PRODUCTION

56%	Network Security
52%	Endpoint Security
35%	Corporate Data Encryption

Status of security vendors

81% OF NETWORK PROS ARE CONFIDENT IN THEIR NETWORK SECURITY AUTOMATION

47% SAY EMERGING VENDORS ARE EQUALLY AS RISKY AS ESTABLISHED VENDORS

SOURCE: NETWORK WORLD 2017 STATE OF THE NETWORK SURVEY