

THE FUTURE FOR CLOUD-BASED SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

A global survey of attitudes and future plans for the adoption of supply chain management solutions in the cloud

This survey of senior managers and directors was conducted in four regions – North America, Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA), Central and South America, and Asia-Pacific – with the aim of discovering attitudes towards and plans for the adoption of cloud-based supply chain management (SCM) solutions.

We focused on three key areas:

1. The criticality of supply chain to their business
2. How to reach their business objectives through supply chain processes
3. The propensity to use the supply chain cloud and reasons for adopting / not adopting

We found that the ball is in the vendors' court: companies are ready to adopt cloud-based SCM processes but need to see concrete evidence of business benefits, and want both full vendor support and end-to-end solutions.

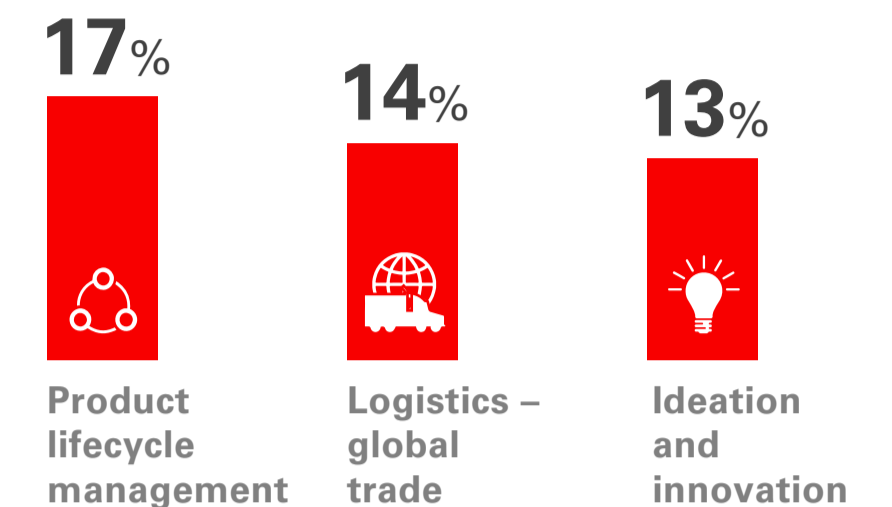
Top three strategic advantages of SCM

All respondents clearly see a range of advantages to SCM, though there is some variability in the perceived advantages dependent upon organisation size. For example, in organisations of 25,000 or more employees, customer-centricity was the most popular advantage.



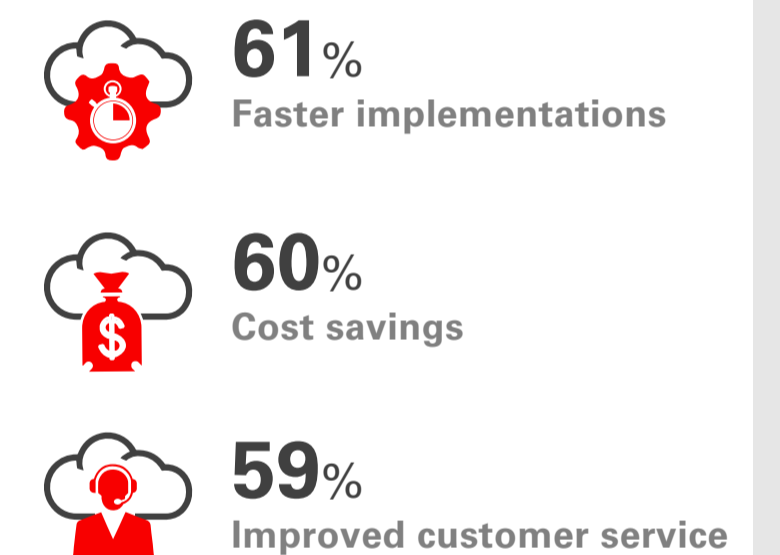
SCM to grow in next two years

Product lifecycle management is expected to experience the most growth in cloud-based SCM over the next two years, followed by logistics – global trade, and ideation and innovation.



Cloud-based SCM advantages

Respondents saw several advantages of cloud-based SCM, with all listed advantages receiving significant responses. While not in the top three, security is also seen as a big advantage for cloud-based SCM.



SCM challenges

Challenges exist in all stages of all business processes, and SCM is no different. Respondents saw several challenges in adopting cloud-based SCM processes, with concerns regarding cloud security being the biggest challenge, followed fairly closely by concerns over disruption – both IT disruption and business disruption.

