

A rowing team of seven people is shown from behind, carrying a long, narrow boat on a wooden dock. They are wearing white shirts and dark shorts. The scene is set at sunset, with the sun low on the horizon over a body of water. The text is overlaid on the image.

Collaboration is Key Bringing Technical, Data, and Business Teams Together

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- Authority on trusted data, governance, and AI readiness
- Advisor and advocate for data security, privacy, and responsible AI
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- Advocate for equity in the workforce
- Believer that *Data Rights are Human Rights*
- Cat mom

The Importance of Collaboration

- **Clear Communication**

Open, transparent, and frequent communication among team members to ensure everyone is on the same page.

- **Shared Goals and Objectives**

Aligning team members towards a common purpose and shared vision for success.

- **Complementary Skills and Expertise**

Leveraging the diverse capabilities of team members to achieve synergy and drive results.

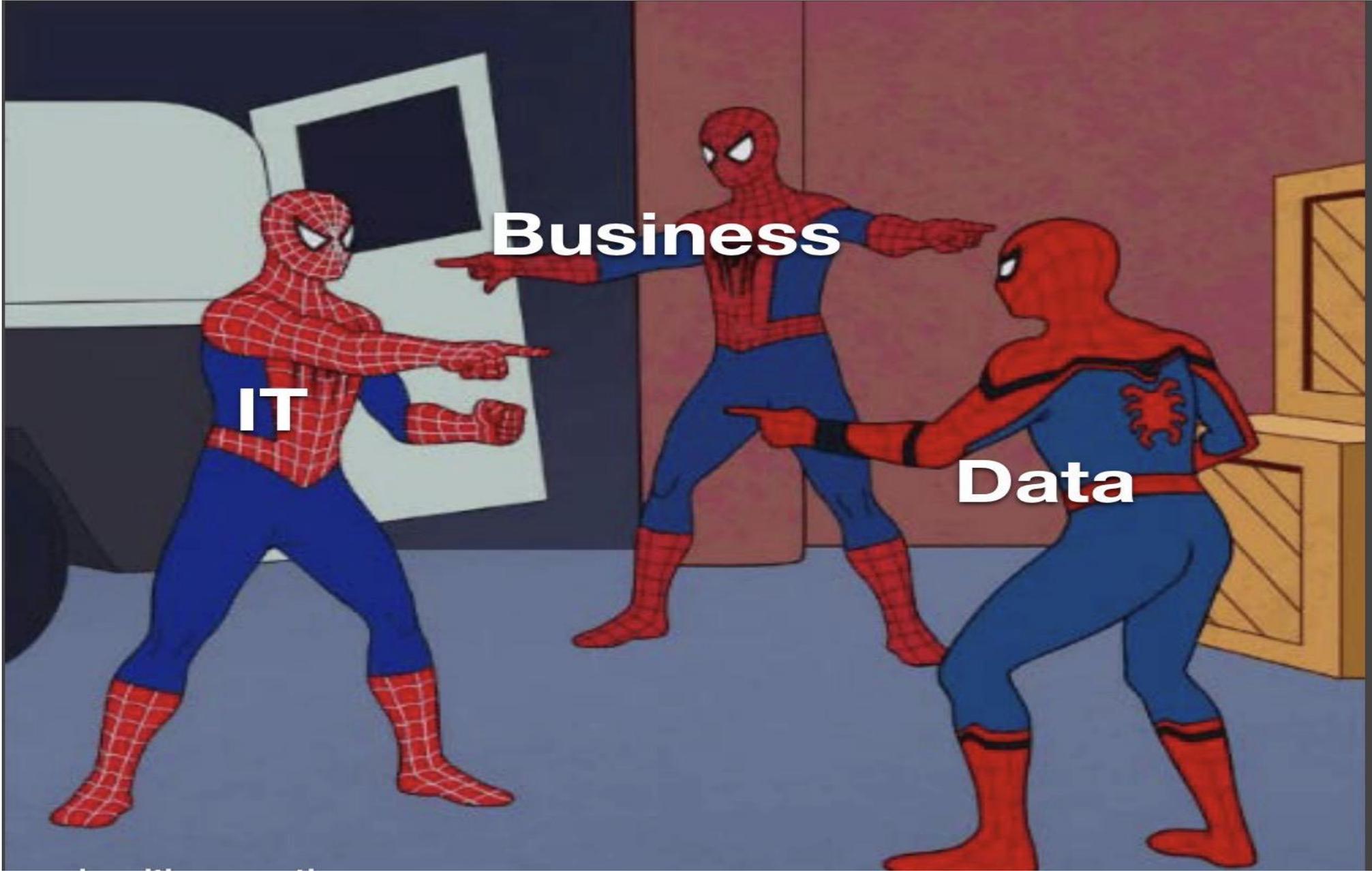
- **Mutual Accountability**

Fostering a sense of collective responsibility where team members hold each other accountable.

- **Adaptability and Flexibility**

Embracing change, being open to new ideas, and adjusting approaches as needed to overcome challenges.





IT

Business

Data

Different Languages, Different Measures of Success

Business Focuses on Outcomes and Speed

The business function is focused on achieving desired outcomes as quickly as possible to meet customer needs and stay ahead of the competition.

Data Focuses on Accuracy and Trust

The data function is focused on ensuring the accuracy and trustworthiness of the information used to drive decision-making, which may not always align with the business's need for speed.

IT Focuses on Stability, Security, and Scale

The IT function is focused on maintaining the stability, security, and scalability of the technology infrastructure, which may not always prioritize the business's need for rapid innovation.

Misalignment Isn't Always Cultural Failure

These differing priorities and measures of success are not the result of a cultural failure, but rather a structural issue rooted in the inherent differences between these functions.

AI Changes the Cost of Misalignment

Intro

AI demands tighter alignment across business, data, and technology

The Changing Landscape

Regulation, speed, and rising expectations make silos unsustainable

The Impact of AI

AI accelerates value, but it also amplifies data and governance gaps

Concrete Risks

Misalignment leads to flawed outputs, compliance exposure, and reputational risk

Conclusion

Sustainable AI requires shared ownership, trust, and cross-functional partnership

AI Exposes the Gaps



Business intent isn't clearly defined

When the business goals and expected outcomes for AI are not well-defined, the system has no clear target to achieve.



Data isn't trusted or consistent

Inconsistent, incomplete, or low-quality data undermines the accuracy and reliability of the AI system's outputs.



Technology is deployed without shared accountability

Lack of cross-functional ownership and responsibility leads to AI implementations that don't meet the organization's needs.

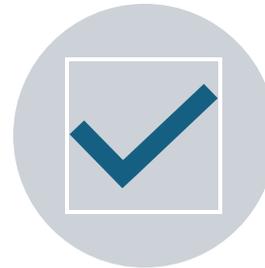
These are collaboration failures, not technology failures. AI simply amplifies the gaps that already exist in how the organization works together.

It Takes a Village

More than just IT, Data, and Business to make the process successful



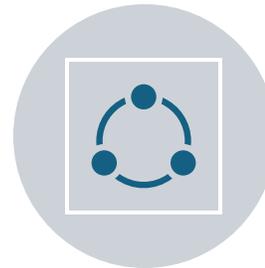
Defined and repeatable
project management
discipline



Proper change
management



Stakeholder
Involvement



Adherence to SDLC
and controls

Collaboration Is an Operating Discipline

Collaboration Isn't a Soft Skill

In the age of AI, collaboration is not about team-building exercises or improving communication. It is a critical operating discipline that must be designed into the way the organization works.

Shared Outcomes and Accountability

Collaboration means aligning on common goals, clear decision rights, and collective ownership across business, data, and IT functions. It's not about goodwill, but about intentional structural alignment.

Collaboration by Design, Not Default

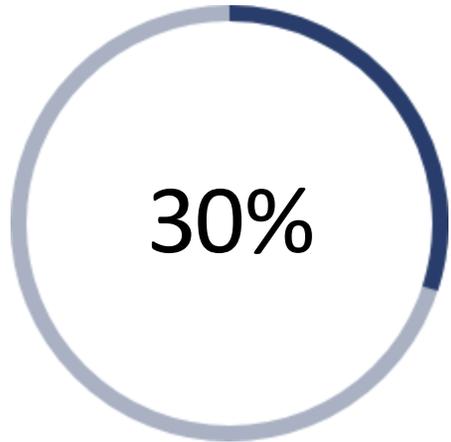
Organizations can no longer afford to let silos persist and hope for the best. Collaboration must be built into processes, systems, and incentives to ensure the organization can fully leverage the power of AI.

Collaboration as a Competitive Advantage

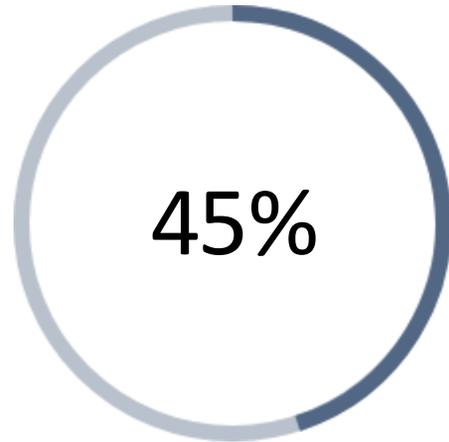
Aligned organizations that can rapidly translate strategy into execution, make better data-driven decisions, and build trust in their AI systems will have a significant competitive edge in the age of AI.

What Changes When Teams Align

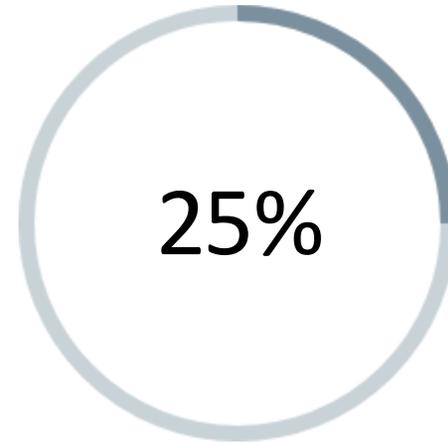
Aligned organizations see improvements in these areas



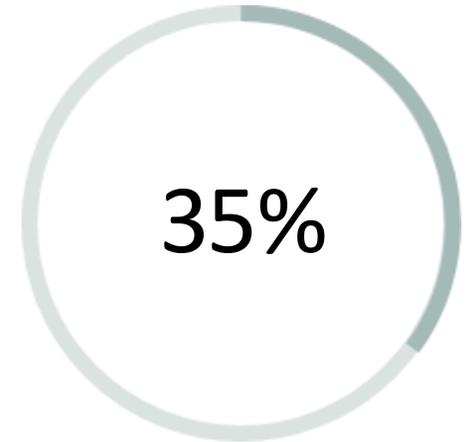
Speed to Market



Rework Reduction



Decision Quality



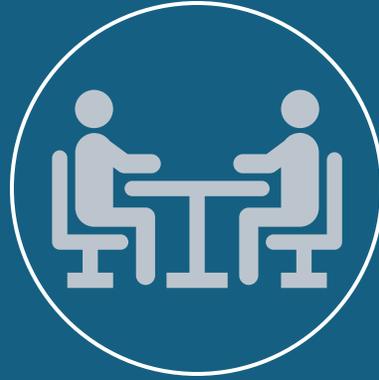
Trust in Systems



Clear Communication
Open, transparent communication keeps teams aligned and reduces confusion.



Shared Goals
Unified objectives ensure IT, data, and business teams prioritize what matters most



Consistent Messaging
Reinforces purpose and direction so teams stay coordinated and informed.



Feedback Loops
Regular checkpoints surface issues early and drive continuous improvement.



Collaborative Tools
Shared platforms enable visibility, coordination, and efficient execution.

Communication and Alignment

Thank You!



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