



# **The Impact of Standards and Technology on Financial Ratings**

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# The Impact of Standards and Technology on Financial Ratings

- Credit for technology in rating assessment
- Questions/Issues for Chief Information Officer (CIO)
  - General Strategy Questions
  - Competitive/Cost Issues
  - Operational Issues

# General Strategy Questions

- What is your company's Information Technology philosophy?
- What is your architecture data strategy? How many systems do you have and how old are they?
- Is senior management supportive of technological innovation?

## General Strategy Questions (cont.)

- How is the information systems build versus buy decision made?
- Why did you choose to use a mainframe or PC based platform?
- Are you familiar with XML strategy and implementation best practices? If not, what standards are you using?

# Competitive/Cost Issues

- Can technology be used as a basis for a competitive advantage in your markets?
- How are IT cost/benefit decisions made? Is there ongoing tracking of results vs. benchmarks?
- How are IT costs allocated throughout the company?
- What is the ratio of resources spent on maintenance versus development? What part of development is going toward support and what part is going toward new strategic initiatives?

# Operational Issues

- What is the disaster recovery plan?
- How do you prioritize requests?
- When putting a major new system in place, do you rollout all at once or in stages?
- After a merger, how do you decide which systems to use?

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