

COBIT 5 proves instrumental for assisting organisations in optimising the value of IT investment and minimising risk

ELY, UK, November 13, 2013 /EINPresswire.com/ -- With the advancement of technology and its importance for the success of all business areas (e.g. finance, marketing, sales etc.), organisations are increasingly spending bigger parts of their budget on IT and Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

The experts from [IT Governance](#) warn organisations that failing to ensure that IT is working as effectively as possible may lead to IT becoming a bottleneck rather than a business enabler. COBIT® 5, a business framework for the governance and management of enterprise IT, enables organisations to tackle key issues that were identified as far back as 2011 in the IT Governance Institute's 2011 Global Status Report. Business leaders reported facing the following IT-related issues in the previous year:

- Increasing IT costs — 42%
- Insufficient IT skills — 33%
- Problems implementing new IT systems — 30%
- Problems with external IT service providers — 29%
- Serious operational IT incidents — 21%
- Return on investment not as expected — 19%
- IT security or privacy incidents — 18%

The survey revealed a significant degree of accord on the contribution of IT to business success. Still, the challenge remains for most organisations how to:

- Achieve transparency of IT projects and processes to support business decisions
- Achieve operational efficiency and service delivery & manage resources effectively
- Ensure IT projects do not fail
- Demonstrate value and ROI of IT

The above challenges and other challenges that are faced by both senior decision makers (e.g. CIOs and Heads of IT Governance) and middle managers (e.g. IT Managers) can be holistically addressed by adopting an IT governance framework like COBIT 5.

COBIT 5 can be used as a framework to reduce escalating skills, operational inefficiencies, poor

IT risk management and a lack of oversight over IT decisions affecting the business. It is the only internationally accepted framework to provide a complete model for governing and attaining value from investments in IT.

Alan Calder, Founder and Executive Chairman of IT Governance, says “The heart of COBIT has, for a long time, been its carefully thought-out and extensively tested control framework. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is both a business enabler and a potential area of significant risk for all organisations, and particularly so for larger enterprises. The COBIT 5 control framework provides detailed controls, together with control objectives and audit guidelines.”

Calder advises that the COBIT controls can be used in any of the four key domains of ICT activity:

1. Align, plan and organise
2. Build, acquire and implement
3. Deliver, service and support
4. Monitor, evaluate and assess

COBIT 5 is particularly suitable for large organisations that are driven by a requirement to implement best practice IT governance control frameworks. They might look at implementing COBIT 5 in its entirety whereas smaller organisations can implement specific parts of COBIT.

Many organisations use the COBIT framework in order to improve services related to or served by IT, streamline complex business processes, increase stakeholder confidence and/or to comply with regulations.

The [COBIT 5 Briefing Paper](#) by IT Governance explains the key facts surrounding COBIT 5 and provides useful information on methodology and implementation. It has been written for anyone who wants to understand more about COBIT 5 and its implementation. Download this free briefing paper from: www.itgovernance.co.uk/green-papers.aspx

Professionals who wish to gain practical knowledge of COBIT 5 should consider booking onto the [COBIT 5 Foundation Course](#) in London. More information is available at www.itgovernance.co.uk/shop/p-479.aspx.

Those looking at embarking on implementation can book on the APMG-accredited COBIT 5 Implementation Course.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

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