

e-STRATEGY PURE & SIMPLE

Connecting Your Internet Strategy To Your Business Strategy

MICHEL ROBERT and BERNARD RACINE

MICHEL ROBERT is founder and president of Decision Processes International Inc., a consulting firm with 60 partners in 15 countries. Since coining the phrase "strategic thinking" in 1980, Mr. Robert has had a number of articles published in business magazines and journals. He is also the author of six books, including *The Strategist CEO*, *The Essence of Leadership* and *Strategy Pure & Simple*. Mr. Robert has worked personally with the CEOs and management teams of over 250 corporations.

BERNARD RACINE is director of research and development at Decision Processes International Inc.

The firm's Web site is located at http://www.decisionprocesses.com.

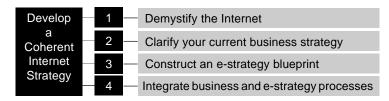
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MAIN IDEA

Many CEOs are baffled by the Internet, and are delegating their decisions about an Internet strategy to consultants and IT staff. The only problem is that's roughly equivalent to having a plumber design a new house – you end up with loads of pipes but not much else. Similarly, when Internet consultants or IT staff design an e-business strategy, you end with loads of nice hardware and software but it doesn't quite mesh with the strategy the rest of the business is following.

To overcome this mismatch, the CEO and Executive Team should become the architects of their own Internet strategy which not only connects to the business strategy of the entire enterprise but helps further execute that strategy rather than working at cross purposes. Achieving that requires four basic imperatives to be followed:



Only when CEOs and key executives are able to design their own Internet strategy are they in control of their own destiny.

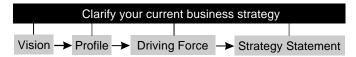
Imperative #1 – Demystify the Internet

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The arrival of the Internet is permanently and dramatically altering the traditional rules of play for all businesses. By understanding the Internet's capabilities better, executives can begin to anticipate where the greatest points of impact will be on the business model currently in use.

Demystify the Internet Understand the Internet's 4 key features Analyze the 12 basic capabilities of the Internet Identify any "Killer.Com" opportunities which may exist

Before you can develop an Internet strategy that matches the strategy of your business, you must be perfectly clear and explicit about the future direction you want to move in. In other words, the foundation for an Internet strategy is to have a clear business strategy.



Your e-strategy blueprint specifies how you will leverage the Internet as a strategic weapon to cause more commercial transactions to occur.



Imperative #4 – Integrate business and e-strategy processes

Pure and simple, the Internet is another vehicle by which an organization executes its business strategy. Both processes need to work in tandem for great results to be achieved.

Integrate business and e-strategy processes
The central role of the CEO
The logistics of the integration process
Making strategic thinking an ongoing process

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