Top Development Issues for Federal IT Professionals

IT professionals in the US Federal Government face many of the same challenges as their peers in the private sector. But common challenges like BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) initiatives, cloud platforms and agile methodologies don't always translate to similar priorities and initiatives. Comparison of survey responses from attendees at the Gartner AADI Summit and the Serena Federal User Group highlights the unique characteristics of IT organizations in the US Federal Government.

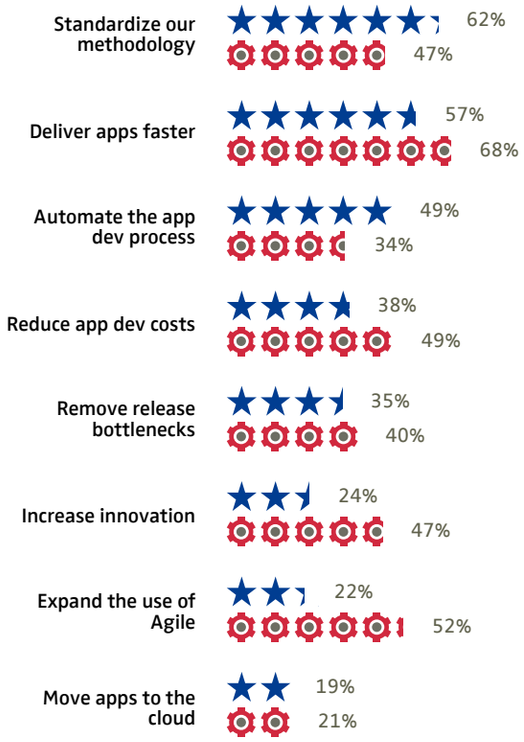
Top 3 Rated Application Development and Delivery Priorities for the US Federal Government

62% Standardize Our Methodologies

57% Deliver Apps Faster

49% Automate the App Dev Process

Key Differences with Development Priorities Across Public and Private Sectors



While delivering applications faster was a top 3 priority for both public and private IT organizations, there were some key differences as well.

Standardization & Automation

Standardizing development methodologies and automating the application development process were much more important for federal IT organizations.

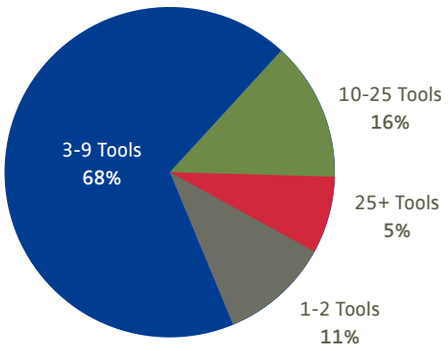
Different Agile Viewpoints

Agile was considered much more important in the private sector than in the public sector.

The Hype of the Cloud

While cloud technologies have garnered a lot of press, interestingly enough it was the lowest rated priority.

★ = Federal ⚙ = Private Sector



Tool Proliferation Forcing Federal IT Agencies to Pursue Standardization

Federal IT professionals indicated that they use a number of tools throughout the application development process – including requirements, coding, testing, project management, deployment – likely causing them to focus on standardizing tools and processes across their agencies.

Development Priorities May Differ, but All IT Organizations Agree on Key Initiatives

#1 Management of application development as a business process

#2 Central or federated repository for all app dev artifacts

#3 End-to-end traceability from production back to requirements

Based on responses from conference attendees at the Serena Federal User Group in March 2012 and the Gartner Application Architecture, Development and Integration (AADI) Summit in November 2011.

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