

Consider the CTO/IT-Director –

The CTO/IT-Director is charged with establishing, directing and managing an IT infrastructure that supports the technological resources and implements of the entire organization; a task that can prove daunting to even a small organization. An IT-Director takes a more active role in day-to-day IT/IS support and functions, which is generally not customary to the CTO role; however, a skilled and competent IT-Director is capable of providing the higher-level strategic elements that are generally brought to the table by a CTO, of designing, authoring and bringing to fruition a strategic IT plan. A meaningful and viable plan comprises strategic alignment of the organizations technological infrastructure to meet and achieve the organization's long-term business strategies and objectives. As much an artist as an accomplished scientist, the CTO/IT-Director is truly a master at orchestrating and blending all the technological components necessary to advance the corporate agenda.

Position: IT-Director

Typically Reports to: The CEO or COO

Role:

1. The IT-Director is charged with leading and directing the work of others to ensure the organization stays focused on its long-term IT strategies and is consistently executing its highest-priority IT initiatives; establishing, directing and managing an IT infrastructure that supports the technological resources and implements of the entire organization.

Job:

1. Focus on planning the organization's long-term strategic IT goals, policies and procedures; directing technological resources, implements, programs and systems, and providing technical support to the organization's non-technical users
 - a. IT Policies
 - b. IT Goals
 - c. IT Objectives
2. Execute highest-priority IT initiatives to ensure the organization's long-term IT strategies are achieved; make certain the organization's IT/IS systems, network, hardware implements and software applications are secure, stable, scalable and properly supported for maximum effectiveness and performance efficiency in accomplishing the organization's business objectives

Responsibilities:

1. Ensuring maximum systems uptime and reliable IT support to all non-technical users
2. Achieving short-term and long-term IT goals and objectives
3. Demonstrating mastery of generally accepted IT concepts, practices, tools, systems and procedures; staying abreast of new and emerging technologies
4. Assuring the organization's network and systems are secure, stable and scalable, and conform to privacy rules and confidentiality laws; and authoring and ensuring company-wide adherence to the organization's corporate IT rules and guidelines

Footnote:

Information Technologies is in and of itself an extremely "niche function" comprising very focused and narrowly specific job duties and responsibilities. With such being the case, some organizations might opt to outsource the entire IT Department, from high-level strategic planning and development to the day-to-day helpdesk and backroom administrative support functions.