

# IT innovation: We have seen a lot, but haven't really seen anything



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I HAVE spent 25 years in the world of IT. My first project at Intel was to make our New Mexico fab go paperless. Twenty one years later, I completed the transition of our fabs to 300 mm wafers with complete automation.

Throughout this period, I saw first-hand the impact that IT had on our manufacturing capabilities — from reducing throughput time (TPT) to improving quality — through workflow automation and data analytics. Since then, I oversaw the ap-

plication of IT in the enterprise and chip design world. Everywhere, IT brought cost reduction, efficiencies and scale. What I saw in this microcosm is now playing out everywhere, in a much bigger arena.

IT is turning out to be an enabler of social and national causes. It is radically transforming how we live and work, our future opportunities, our societies and our economies.

These are exciting developments that are changing our country in profound ways — socially, economically, and digitally. They are challenging old paradigms.

Large IT giants who made themselves India's calling card are being joined by startups that are also focused on

IP creation and product development. At the macro level, there is a new focus on building a holistic tech ecosystem. While India did a great job in becoming a powerhouse in software and services, we have lacked focus on building a tech ecosystem that can meet the needs of local consumption, especially in the device

manufacturing space. Having a vibrant ecosystem that takes advantage of our current software and services excellence is a must. At the micro level, this is translating into innovation across di-

mensions, with emerging domestic companies playing alongside global ones.

Over the next decade, I see innovation and use of technologies playing a key role in accelerating business transformation. The relentless pursuit of Moore's Law has resulted in transistors that are thinner, lighter, power-efficient, more powerful and affordable. This is enabling devices to become ubiquitous, and that is leading to what we refer to as a virtuous cycle.

As devices become ubiquitous, they drive more computing power in data centres and the need for more services, which, in turn, create

the demand for more devices. This has resulted in staggering numbers when it comes to data transactions, connectivity and mobility. But what's making mobile devices really interesting isn't just the thing in your hand; it's what they're connected to and what they can connect you to. Computing is shifting from being task-based to defining our lifestyle, to becoming totally integrated in everything we do.

Today, even though we have seen a lot, we haven't really seen anything — as measured by computing penetration or harnessing the power of computing. The era of wearables and Internet of

Things (IoT) is ushering in application of exciting new technologies — from voice and gestures to use of video and media, predictive analytics and security. Ultimately the paradigm of today — the number of devices per person — will become irrelevant, as devices become thoroughly integrated into our lifestyle and environment, including those that are ingestible and injectable.

The economy will become one of digital services. The winners will be the enterprises that most aggressively adopt technology and make it a way of doing business.

As a foundational building block supplier, Intel is excited to be a catalyst of this transformation and to enable innovation in every segment of this digital economy.

*The writer is president, Intel India*



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