



Delivering Business Value
Through IT Leadership

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SIM Study: Facing Economic Uncertainty, 2009 IT Budget, Staffing Remain Strong
Annual SIM survey showed optimism among participants

CHICAGO – Even when faced with a discouraging economic outlook, CEOs, CIOs and top enterprise managers projected increased budgets and staffing needs for 2009. That’s according to a survey commissioned by the Society for Information Management (SIM, www.simnet.org) that was completed in June.

More than three-hundred respondents, primarily senior IT leaders within SIM’s membership base, participated, representing data from nearly three-hundred companies. The results showed that:

- 44% project their 2009 budgets will increase from 2008
- 43% estimate they will have a greater headcount in 2009 compared to 2008
- 75% project IT staff salaries will increase in 2009
- An average of 5.2% of IT budgets is anticipated to be spent on outsourcing (a 2% increase from 2008)

While the survey was taken before the recent financial developments, SIM VP for Academic Affairs and Distinguished Professor and Associate Dean at the Stevens Institute, believes that the results overall are very positive for the IT industry,

“With all of the concern regarding our economy, it appears as though IT and business executives are working closely together to ensure they are well prepared,” says Luftman. “Budget and headcount forecasts remained strong, despite the fact that economic conditions were weakening at the time the survey was taken.”

Luftman says the SIM study confirms that business leaders continue to view IT as an important strategic partner and understand that it plays an important role in growing organizations, even in times of economic distress.

Budgeting and staffing projections are only a small part of the comprehensive SIM study. Additional research results – including the state of the CIO, business/technology alignment, and career development – will be presented during SIM’s annual conference, *SIMposium*, taking place November 9-12 in Orlando, FL. Luftman will also provide his up-to-date views on the impact the current economic situation will have on IT in 2009, based on historical results from SIM’s past surveys.

SIMposium, which is expected to attract more than 700 attendees from around the country, is designed to bring together IT leaders for formal and informal opportunities to discuss business

issues and identify industry best practices. For more information, visit www.symposium.simnet.org.

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Established in 1968, the Society for Information Management (SIM) is the premier network for IT leaders comprised of more than 3,600 members including CIOs, senior IT executives, prominent academicians, consultants, and other IT leaders. SIM is a community of thought leaders who share experiences and apply rich intellectual capital, and who explore future IT direction. Through its 31 Chapters, SIM provides resources and programs inspired by IT leaders for IT leaders that enable CIOs to further develop the leadership capabilities of themselves and the key and emerging leaders in their organizations. SIM provides the collective voice to advocate policy and legislation on behalf of the IT profession across industries.