



Please Welcome

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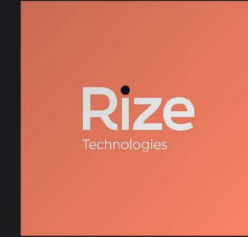


Rize
Technologies

- Keynote

Navigating the Shifting Sands: IT Leadership in the Caribbean's Digital Age

Gilbert A. Darrell
CEO - Rize Technologies



More Pressure Than Ever Before

IT leaders are under immense pressure.

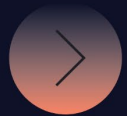
You're expected to be cybersecurity experts, AI strategists, and architects of the modern workplace – all while navigating budget constraints and regional challenges.

Three Key Challenges



Security & Compliance:

Facing a rising tide of threats and new data protection laws.



The AI Dilemma:

Balancing the promise of AI with the complexities of cloud adoption and a skills gap.



Hybrid Work & Infrastructure:

Maintaining security and productivity in a mixed on-premise/cloud, remote/office environment.

The Caribbean IT Reality: Three Key Challenges



Security & Compliance: *A Rising Tide of Threats*

- Cybercrime costs the Caribbean region an estimated \$90 billion annually (OAS, 2023; UN News, 2023).
- New data protection laws (Jamaica, Bahamas, Bermuda, Trinidad & Tobago, Barbados, OECS) demand compliance.
- Limited cybersecurity personnel and reliance on legacy systems increase vulnerability.
- Submarine cable disruptions pose a significant risk (Atlantic Council, 2021).

The Caribbean IT Reality: Three Key Challenges



The AI Dilemma: *Promise and Peril*

- AI offers immense potential for Caribbean industries.
- Cloud adoption is crucial for effective AI implementation.
- A significant digital skills gap hinders progress (CDB, 2023).

The Caribbean IT Reality: Three Key Challenges



Hybrid Work & Infrastructure: *Balancing Act*

- Hybrid work is the new normal, demanding flexibility.
- Maintaining security and productivity across diverse locations is a challenge.
- Complex hybrid environments (on-premise/cloud) create vulnerabilities.
- The digital divide impacts equitable access to remote work opportunities (ITU, 2023; World Bank, 2020).

Turning Challenges into Opportunities



Strengthen cybersecurity resilience through proactive measures and training.



Unlock AI's potential by developing clear strategies and investing in upskilling.



Build secure and flexible hybrid workplaces that empower employees.



Drive economic growth by becoming leaders in digital transformation.

According to you...

These are the **Top 4** IT Challenges



Persuading non-technical
decision-makers to invest in IT



IT resource awareness and
maximizing efficiency



Managing growth, ensuring
cybersecurity and collaboration



Securing funding for
IT initiatives