

An IT Strategy Assessment Tied to the Business's Future

Formed over 25 years ago, the client has grown into a global, vertically integrated manufacturer of casual clothing and related apparel products. Over the years, the client has made significant investments to strengthen services and the quality of its products for business partners and customers. As a result, the client continues to be known as an innovative leader and is repeatedly recognized for commitment and quality assurance excellence.

As a result of targeted acquisitions and organic growth, the overall business has expanded. While the IT organization has evolved over the years along with the growth of the business, the client wished to maintain that development and ensure IT was well positioned for the business' future. Although it has sufficiently supported all business needs to-date, an evaluation of the current state was necessary to further define a strategic future path forward.

The client engaged Clarkston to assess the business' IT organization against both internal and external benchmarks, identify opportunities for improvement, and define a roadmap to addressing those opportunities.

Consumer Products Case Study

PROJECT OVERVIEW

INDUSTRY:



Apparel and Textile
Products Manufacturing

PRODUCTS + SERVICES



Provides full-service capabilities
from ideation, design,
manufacturing, and distribution
of apparel products both to
wholesalers and direct to
consumer.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES:

Clarkston partnered with the client to:

- Perform an assessment of IT organization and determine gaps and opportunities,
- Assess level of operational maturity against COBIT framework, and
- Provide insight and advice on how the IT organization can address opportunities for improvement.

RESOLUTION:

To meet the initiative's objectives, Clarkston:

- Conducted stakeholder interviews and performed analysis of the existing IT organizational structure, roles, and responsibilities while also documenting existing capabilities,
- Performed an assessment of IT operational maturity against COBIT framework to identify areas for improvement,
- Facilitated future-state visioning workshop to identify role of IT organization and desired capabilities on a go-forward basis, and
- Formulated recommendations with targeted initiatives to strengthen IT operations and facilitate support for business operations and corporate strategy.

KEY BENEFITS:

As a result of the project, the client has realized and will continue to realize the following benefits:

- Defined understanding of the future role of IT within the context of the larger organization and strategic outlook; targeting 'business partner' as the desired mode of engaging with the business
- A clear baseline of existing and future capabilities for the IT organization,
- Identification of low-effort initiatives to immediately shore up IT governance and decision-making processes,
- Recognition of gaps between corporate strategy and IT investments in terms of time, resources and funding, and
- A single vision statement to bound the various IT departments across the enterprise to realize a more collaborative and cooperative path forward.

CLARKSTON
CONSULTING

On the foundation of IT strategy supporting business objectives, maintaining and evolving the relationship between IT and the business requires roles that are functionally aligned and represent IT to the business.

