

CEO Roundtable: Leading the Industrial Tech Revolution Executive Summary

May 7, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER: Barbara Humpton, CEO, Siemens USA

This CEO Roundtable featured Barbara Humpton, CEO, Siemens USA and focused on the company's role in guiding one of the biggest technology trends that still isn't well understood: the rise of an industrial tech sector. In sharing her optimistic outlook, Barbara touched on three key priorities leaders must focus on as the worlds of tech and industry fuse together: ensuring energy prosperity, building a skilled workforce, and cultivating strong ecosystems.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Leverage Industrial Tech Advancements: The industrial tech sector is rapidly evolving with significant advancements in AI and data utilization. Embracing industrial AI can lead to transformative impacts, making operations more efficient and innovative, helping companies create value and maintain a competitive edge. Leaders should encourage their teams to think beyond efficiency and explore new possibilities enabled by AI. For example, companies that successfully integrate AI see a 15% reduction in workforce costs and a 10% improvement in customer satisfaction scores.
- Adopt Sustainable Energy Practices: Achieving energy prosperity by prioritizing innovative approaches to energy efficiency, storage, and distribution is crucial for long-term success. Implementing renewable energy solutions and smart grid technologies can result in substantial cost savings and contribute to sustainability goals. Practical examples, like microgrids in urban areas, highlight the benefits of these initiatives. Efficient energy management can lead to significant savings and make possible alternative community investments.
- Invest in Workforce Development: Addressing the skills gap through comprehensive workforce training and development programs is essential as technology and industry converge. By debunking myths about automation and AI, companies can enhance productivity and expand human capabilities. Innovative hiring practices and continuous learning opportunities are key to preparing employees for future challenges. Emphasizing the importance of curiosity and initiative can help bridge the skills gap and foster a culture of continuous improvement.
- Foster Collaborative Ecosystems: Building strong partnerships between the private sector, government, and academia is vital for achieving significant goals in today's interconnected world. Emphasizing the importance of partnerships can lead to outstanding results and help companies effectively navigate complex challenges. Understanding the value of data and exploring how it can be leveraged to create new opportunities is crucial. Encouraging a mindset shift towards viewing AI as a tool for innovation rather than just efficiency can unlock new potential.

"In this era that we're in, it's not all about scale as the primary differentiator. It's about speed, adaptability, and innovation. Scale matters less than it did even 18 months ago. Speed matters more, and innovation matters most of all." – Ali Furman, Consumer Markets Industry Leader, PwC "We are now at the dawn of the Industrial AI age. For the first time, we have the tools to make sense of all the data. Eighty percent of all data that exists in manufacturing operations go to waste. Now with AI, we aggregate that data and we're able to do transformative things with it." – Barbara Humpton, CEO, Siemens USA "We are entering this era of radical abundance. It's an inflection point. AI was confined to a deterministic world and now it's bleeding into a more probabilistic world."

– Sushant Tripathi, VP & North America Transformation Lead, Tata Consultancy Services

Participating current and former executives from:

