AMRinternational.

Project Sunrise Summary of Market Findings

Sept 2021



Notice (Page 1 of 2):

This report ("the Report") has been prepared in accordance with the proposal agreed between AMR International ("AMR") and the addressee of the Report ("The **Proposal**") and its attached terms and conditions ("Terms and Conditions").

Background:

The Report has been prepared solely for the use of the addressee of the Proposal, which is the business or entity the sale of which forms the subject matter of the Proposal ("the Business") ("the Purpose"), or the owners of the Business. Such addressee wishes reliance on this Report to be extended to the eventual purchaser of the Business, along with persons funding the purchase of the Business. Reliance on the Report is permitted only to the addressees and those parties who have signed a Reliance Letter with AMR ("the Authorised Recipients").

All parties should note that the Report has been prepared solely on the basis of the scope of work contained in the Proposal and not in contemplation of any specific interests or questions that any potential purchaser or funder or other party may have as regards the transaction concerned.

Reliance and Exclusion of Liability

Reliance upon the Report by any party other than an Authorised Recipient, or for any purpose other than the Purpose, will not result in any duty of care or liability on the part of AMR whatsoever and all liability in such circumstances is specifically excluded. Accordingly, any persons other than the Authorised Recipients who seek to rely on the Report do so entirely at their own risk. AMR to the fullest extent permitted by law, excludes all liabilities which may arise to such persons in any event.

For the avoidance of doubt, none of the Proposal, the Terms and Conditions or our Report create any right which is enforceable by any person other than an Authorised Recipient, save (with AMR's prior written consent only, not to be unreasonably withheld) a successor to or assignee of the rights of an Authorised Recipient.

Our Assumptions

The Report has been prepared in reliance on information provided to AMR from a variety of sources, which may include, but are not limited to, the addressees of the Proposal; the management of the Business; plans and forecasts of the Business and other management and financial reports provided by the management of the Business or their advisers; interviews with parties including the management of the Business, market participants, customers of the Business, and competitors of the Business; public market research; published academic and economic research; and other such sources.

The Authorised Recipients accept that it is reasonable for AMR to have relied on such information sources. AMR accepts no responsibility and will not be liable if any such information relied upon by AMR during the course of completing the Report is subsequently found to be inaccurate.

Notice (Page 2 of 2):

The Report is based on information available as at the date of its delivery, and AMR is not liable for, and is under no responsibility to update the Report based on, information which becomes available after this time.

Warranties

The Report consists of factual information on the market and market positioning of the Business, within the terms of reference and approach outlined in the Proposal. Save as aforementioned, AMR gives no representation or warranty, whether express or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness of the Report.

Investment Business

In carrying out our work and in preparing and delivering our Report we do not purport to, and nor do we, carry on any investment business within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

In particular, each Authorised Recipient hereby acknowledges that AMR does not give investment advice and that the Report does not constitute investment advice save to the extent that such advice is an essential part of advice given to the addressees of the Proposal during our normal course of business as advisers on commercial strategy and/or in the conduct of commercial due diligence.

The Report and our work preparing and delivering it do not constitute an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity within the meaning of section 21(1) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

Without limitation to the foregoing, the Report does not constitute advice as to the merits, wisdom or sufficiency of any consideration or investment envisaged by the addressees of the Proposal, any of the Authorised Recipients or any other person, nor of the method, the timing or the financing of any such investment.

Intellectual Property

AMR retains the entire right, title and interest in, and ownership of any copyright, moral right and any other intellectual property rights attaching to or arising in respect of, this Report.

Applicable Law

This notice shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England and Wales. The courts of England shall have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any disputes which may arise in connection with the same.

AMR work

AMR's work was conducted between 3 May 2021 and 18 June 2021

AMR has defined the emerging and developed markets using the following countries

Emerging markets			Developed markets
Region (% of 2020 SL turnover)	Countries for deep-dive	Additional countries in region	North America
Russia (60%)		n/a	(US, Canada)
Emerging APAC (19%)	India Malaysia Vietnam	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste	Mature EMEA
LatAm (12%)	Brazil Chile Colombia	Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay	(Austria, Belgium, Czech, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK)
Rest of Eurasia (7%)	N/A	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Romania, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan	
Emerging EMEA (2%)	N/A	Albania, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malta, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, 30+ African countries including Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria and South Africa	Mature APAC (Greater China, Japan, Korea, Australia, New Zealand)

Source: Softline management, AMR research and analysis

Glossary

Term	Definition
3D	3-dimensional
A (e.g., 2018A)	Actual
AI	Artificial intelligence
APAC	Asia Pacific
арр	Application
AR	Augmented reality
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AWS	Amazon Web Services
B2B	Business-to-business
B2C	Business-to-consumer
BI	Business intelligence
bn	Billion
BPO	Business process outsourcing
с.	Circa
CAD	Computer aided design
CAE	Computer aided engineering
CAGR	Compound annual growth rate
CAM	Computer aided manufacturing

Term	Definition
CASB	Cloud access security broker
CEE	Central and Eastern Europe
CEO	Chief executive officer
CFO	Chief financial officer
CIO	Chief information officer
CISO	Chief information security officer
CRM	Customer relationship management
CSP	Cloud solution providers
СТО	Chief technology officer
dev	Development
DevOps	Development and operations
DM	Developed markets
DX	Digital transformation
E (e.g., 2020E)	Estimate
e.g.	Exempli Gratia
EM	Emerging markets
EMEA	Europe, the Middle East and Africa
EPP	Endpoint protection platform

Glossary

Term	Definition
ERM	Enterprise resource management
etc.	Et cetera
EV	Enterprise value
F (e.g., 2022F)	Forecast
FTE	Full-time employees
FX	Foreign exchange
GCI	Global Cybersecurity Index
GDP	Gross domestic product
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation (EU law)
GPU	Graphic processing unit
GSI	Global systems integrator
GTM	Go-to-market
GVA	Gross value-added
GW	Gigawatts
HQ	Headquarters
HR	Human resources
.e.	ld est
aaS	Infrastructure-as-a-Service

Term	Definition
ICT	Information, Communications and Technology
ID	Identity
IDE	Integrated development environment
IDP	Intrusion detection and protection
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IoT	Internet of Things
IPO	Initial public offering
IPS	Intrusion protection system
ISV	Independent software vendor
IT	Information Technology
ITSM	IT service management
КРІ	Key performance indicator
LAN	Local area network
LatAm	Latin America
Lic.	License
LSP	Licensing solution provider
m	Million
M&A	Mergers and Acquisitions

Glossary

Term	Definition
Vaint.	Maintenance
MDR	Managed detection and response
MFA	Multi-factor authentication
Vgmt	Management
ML	Machine learning
MSFT	Microsoft
MSP	Managed service provider
N/A	Not applicable
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NGFW	Next-generation firewall
D&G	Oil and gas [industry]
SS	Operating system
o.a.	Per annum
PaaS	Platform-as-a-Service
PC	Personal computer
PE	Private equity
PPM	Project portfolio management
RoE	Rest of Eurasia (excluding Russia)

Term	Definition
RPA	Robotic process automation
SaaS	Software-as-a-Service
SAM	Software asset management
SI	Systems integrator
SME	Small and medium enterprises
SVP	Senior vice president
Telco	Telecommunications [industry]
tn	Trillion
UC	Unified communications
USD	United States Dollars
USMCA	US-Mexico-Canada Agreement
UTM	Unified threat management
VC	Venture capital
VPN	Virtual private network
VR	Virtual reality
WAP	Wireless application protocol
XDR	Cross-layers detection and response
уоу	Year-on-year

Market highlights



Global IT spending is c. \$3.6tn and segments in three ways

Market segmentation



Note: The numbers for hardware, software and service split exclude cloud, which will be covered in detail in section 3.2 as a standalone category

Source: AMR market model, research and analysis

Global IT spend (excluding cloud) is forecast to grow at 6% CAGR from 2020-24, reaching c. \$4.1tn in 2024



Source: AMR market model, research and analysis

AMR's categorisation of disruptive DX technologies includes input technologies, cloud and cyber

Disruptive DX technologies



- 1 Digital transformation involves culture, workforce, and technological shifts that enable new operating models and transform businesses' operations, strategic directions, and value proposition
- 2 Established **input technologies** such as AI/ML, IoT, Big Data, RPA and DevOps are used to digitalise businesses and achieve the automations and efficiencies (i.e., faster timeto-value) that DX offers
- 3 Cloud plays a critical role in DX as an enabler of several functions and efficiencies. These include the provision of an online storage facility for information and data, being an essential enabler connecting digitalised processes at an enterprise-wide scale, and enabling quick application development/ maintenance and on-demand access to resources
- 4 Furthermore, digital operations via the cloud are made practical and realistic by securing data via cybersecurity

Enabler

Note: Disruptive DX technologies are expected to significantly alter the way business operates in the next few years. That is not to say that 'base' technology is an unimportant product, only that it mostly relates to technology that was used to support DX in the past. However, the future of DX transformation is more likely to be driven by 'disruptive' tech

Input technologies

© AMRinternational

Security laver

DX is supported by many technologies

DX technology segmentation



Note: This segmentation does not exclude the solution view presented earlier. That is built-in in this segmentation Source: AMR market model

Global investment into digital transformation technology was \$1.8tn in 2020 and is forecast to grow to c. \$3.1tn by 2024 at 16% CAGR



Market highlights



AMR estimates the size of Softline's addressable geographic market at \$352bn in 2020

Addressable market sizing methodology (\$bn)



Note: ¹Emerging regions include: Russia, Latin America, Emerging APAC, Rest of Eurasia and Emerging EMEA. Core countries include: India, Brazil, Russia, Malaysia, Colombia, Chile and Vietnam

Source: AMR market model, research and analysis

Several solution and DX technology segments are expected to achieve very high growth in emerging markets between 2020-24F

Emerging market growth segments and drivers

	Major growth 2020 size segment (\$bn)		2020-24F CAGR	Commentary	
Solution segments	Software 81		9.8%	 Growth in software spending in emerging markets is likely to be driven by increased customer digital advancement, leading to: A greater need for data management solutions, enterprise software and other CRM systems, as well as e-commerce and remote selling management software 	
	Services	93	4.7%	 Services growth in emerging markets is expected to be accelerated by Covid-19 and driven by: Increasing complexity of solutions required to update legacy IT systems and support digitalisation efforts Increasing need for cybersecurity in the form of managed security services 	
DX technology segments	Input technology	121	17.1%	 Al is expected to be the main growth driver: rising adoption of mobile enables more Al use-cases (e.g., via Al-enabled services, mobile banking etc.) IoT, which comprises the largest proportion of input technology, is expected to be highly applicable to emerging markets, as applications can provide viable ways to overcome deficits in existing infrastructure 	
	Cloud	35	28.3%	 Due to strict data sovereignty and security measures, emerging markets have typically not used hyperscalers resulting in the emergence of many local cloud providers However, this is likely to change: the pandemic has instilled an urgency to use cloud to scale and leverage the investments/innovations of public cloud providers 	
	Cybersecurity	31	13.9%	 Developing financial markets, greater digitisation (especially cloud adoption), government incentives and recent high-profile attacks are among the most relevant drivers Cybersecurity spend in emerging markets has been totally resilient during the pandemic, due to the need to protect more attacks stemming from accelerated digitisation and work from home setups 	

Note: Sum of DX tech segments or solution segments displayed does not come to \$352bn as base technologies and hardware are excluded (as they are not high growth segments) Source: AMR research and analysis

The pursuit of DX and efforts in adapting to post-Covid remote working culture are expected to drive EM hardware spending at 4% CAGR

Addressable hardware market



Addressable market hardware spending: SL core vs secondary countries (\$bn)



- Hardware spending across EM markets increased slowly between 2018-19 at 2% CAGR, attributed to countries amongst the different beginning stages of DX gradually shifting spend towards software and services
- However, Covid-19 has reignited demand for hardware (mostly devices e.g., PCs, tablets, laptops) to support necessary user equipment, network and data storage and architecture needed for remote working
- Additionally as countries resume their DX efforts, spend towards infrastructure, wireless network equipment and servers are likely to drive spend in the forecast period

- Softline's core and secondary addressable markets are expected to see growth in hardware spend at 3.5% and 3.7% CAGR respectively between 2020-24
 - The nature of hardware spend will vary by the different stages of DX and IT market characteristics (e.g., government support, industry sector concentration etc.)
 - Less advanced countries such as Vietnam and Colombia are likely to see a sustained increase in hardware spend for the next 1-3 years before it's gradually substituted for software and service spend

Source: AMR market model, research and analysis

ERP, CRM and e-commerce applications are expected to drive software spend at 10% CAGR as EM regions undergo digitalisation

Addressable software market



Addressable market software spending: SL core vs secondary countries (\$bn)

Forecast



- Growth in software spending is likely to be across several fronts:
 - Digital advancement of businesses will increase emphasis on data management solutions, enterprise software and other CRM systems as countries in EM wrestle with the enhanced software needs associate with a digitally advancing economy
 - Increased migration to cloud will support application development deployment software segment, as user and language requirements will need cloud services and applications to be synced with local platforms and other local enterprise systems
 - E-commerce and remote selling management software is also expected to see uptick in sales driven by Covid and parallel rise in digitalisation across economies

- Core and secondary markets are expected to see 10.0% and 9.7% CAGR respectively in software spending over the forecast period
 - Within EM, more advanced countries such as India, Malaysia, Brazil and Russia, growth in software is likely to mirror the overall EM software growth as these countries have the infrastructure to support rapid software growth
 - However, other countries with relatively basic IT infrastructure will take longer (3-5 years) to see similar acceleration of software spend

Source: AMR market model, research and analysis

The focus of rising services spend is set to include systems implementation and managed security services

Addressable services market



Addressable market services spending: SL core vs secondary <u>countries (\$bn)</u>



• Growth in IT services spend is supported by:

- Increasing complexity of solutions required to update legacy IT systems and support digitalisation efforts. Project oriented services such as systems implementation and custom application development could be the cornerstone of this spend
- Higher governmental and enterprise importance towards risks posed by weak cybersecurity infrastructure supporting the demand for managed security services
- Changes in business models and processes led by Covid-19, resulting in demand for IT outsourcing, which offset any decline in spend from lower budgets

Focus of IT services spend across countries will vary:

- Lack of skilled IT workers is particularly pronounced in emerging EMEA and LatAm region (e.g., Pakistan, Egypt, Argentina, Peru). Demand for basic IT outsourcing and managed services (e.g., systems implementation, integration services etc.) is likely to support spend on services
- Other slightly advanced countries such as Malaysia, India, Brazil will experience demand to support digitalisation efforts and manage associated security risks
- In general, most EM countries could also serve as attractive location for offshore IT delivery centres serving the local regional, given low cost base

Soaring cloud adoption is expected to see the addressable cloud market grow at 28% CAGR 2020-24 reaching \$95bn in 2024

Addressable cloud market

Addressable market cloud spending (\$bn)







- With increasing cloud adoption in the addressable emerging market, cloud spending is forecast to grow at 28% CAGR from 2020-24F
- Overall, EMs are mirroring the same trend in cloud evolution that can be observed across more developed markets with SaaS driving growth in the nascent stages and IaaS and PaaS adoption gaining momentum as the market matures
- Historically, due to strict data sovereignty and security measures, EM countries have not used hyperscalers (i.e. global public cloud providers such as Azure, AWS, Google, Oracle), resulting in the emergence of many local cloud providers
- However, this is likely to change: the pandemic has instilled an urgency to use cloud to scale and leverage the investments/innovations of public cloud providers
 - Hyperscale clouds have an advantage over other players due to their provision of services that sit on top of the cloud (e.g., security, data services), and cost efficiencies that come from scale
- At the same time, part of the demand will still be serviced by private cloud solutions, reflecting demand from the sectors dealing with highly sensitive data
- Despite the increase in overall cloud spending across the addressable markets, there are varying levels of adoption across regions and countries
- In countries with relatively higher levels of cloud adoption (India, Brazil), companies have migrated to hyperscale public cloud while most SMEs and midmarket customer have on-premise private cloud solutions. Overall, in these countries, public cloud represents an increasingly larger share of the overall cloud market despite growth in private cloud
- Countries with a basic cloud market (Vietnam, Cambodia etc.) companies mostly adopt 'off-the-shelf' public cloud offerings as the remove the need to invest in local infrastructure and management of on-premise services

Source: AMR market model, research and analysis

Market highlights



Collectively, emerging markets have substantial IT spend. These regions have the most potential for digital transformation

Geographic segmentation approach



\$20,281bn GDP

Russia: \$1,474 bn Emerging APAC: \$6,561 bn LatAm: \$4,425 bn RoE: \$895 bn Emerging EMEA: \$6,926 bn

\$352.4bn

Russia: \$21.4 bn Emerging APAC: \$108.6 bn LatAm: \$105.9 bn RoE: \$5.4 bn Emerging EMEA: \$111.1 bn

5.32bn Population

Russia: 146 m Emerging APAC: 2.57 bn LatAm: 597 m RoE: 171 m Emerging EMEA: 1.84 bn

Higher growth is forecast in emerging countries, attributed to their low maturity and a variety of fundamental market changes



Time

All of the regions within addressable markets are expected to grow at over 8% CAGR between 2020-24; higher than the global rate

Given low growth rates before pre-Covid, it is likely that these regions are going to go through a period of accelerated growth. This is expected to be driven by their natural progress in maturity leading to structural shifts such as cloud, increasing sophistication of customers, adoption of modern technology, consolidation and modernisation of the value chain, and pent-up demand induced by the pandemic

- While some countries in these regions are adopting cutting-edge solutions, growth may also occur as countries strive to 'catch up' on basic IT usage

Note: ¹Global includes both the developed and emerging regions Source: AMR market model, research and analysis

Softline's revenue growth has outpaced market growth locally. This is forecast to continue in all regional IT markets in which it is present









Source: Softline management, AMR market model

Russia is an attractive market, with expected high growth rates. Softline is the top solutions provider



Russian 2020 KPIs and drivers

Population (m)	GDP (\$bn)	IT spending as a % of GDP	Hardware as a % of IT spending	Cloud as a % of IT spending		
146	1,474	1.5	44.0	12.6		
Drivers	 The Russian IT market has seen a pronounced shift towards cloud solutions, boosted by the accelerating effects of Covid-19 Demand for public cloud solutions is formed predominately by the tertiary sector, with roughly 80% of use coming from the retail, services (including financial and telco) and government sectors 					
	 The government is highly involved in shaping and regulating business processes throughout the economy so market trends follow policy closely. As a result, Russian vendors could be favoured whilst start to gain market shares from foreign vendors 					
	Russ	sian Microsoft solu	tions market share (9	%) Indicative		
	(Others 27% Croc 2% Lanit	43% Soft	ine		

SoftwareONE

India's IT market is forecast to grow at 8% CAGR, driven by rapid digital transformation



Malaysia has a relatively mature IT market with strong forecast growth, driven by the increasing adoption of cloud



Malaysian 2020 KPIs and drivers

Population	GDP	IT spending as a	Hardware as a % of	Cloud as a % of IT spending
(m)	(\$bn)	% of GDP	IT spending	
32	338	2.3	26.5	14.1

 Adoption of cloud and cybersecurity solutions is high, particularly among large businesses and MNCs at over 90%. Covid has accelerated spending on these

Drivers Four hyperscale CSPs, including Microsoft and AWS, have obtained approval to build in-country data centres, further accelerating cloud adoption

Malaysia is ranked 2nd in APAC for its cybersecurity commitment



Vietnam's IT market is growing moderately; rapid growth is expected in the medium term when more industries digitalise



Vietnamese 2020 KPIs and drivers

Population	GDP	IT spending as a	Hardware as a % of	Cloud as a % of IT spending
(m)	(\$bn)	% of GDP	IT spending	
96	341	1.4	63.4	16.5

 Digital transformation is being led by early adopters of tech such as the finance industry, which is investing large amounts into digitalising payment and e-commerce processes

Drivers Vietnam's government has targeted to expand the country's digital economy from 5% of GDP in 2019 to 30% of GDP in 2030. This is being driven by initiatives to develop local IT talent as well as increase adoption of cybersecurity solutions



The Brazilian market is growing rapidly, helped by market-leading cloud adoption growth and government reform



Brazilian 2020 KPIs and drivers

opulation (m)	GDP (\$bn)	IT spending as a % of GDP	Hardware as a % of IT spending	Cloud as a % of IT spending			
213	1,434	2.9	29.6	14.4			
	 The pattern of growth in Brazil is similar to that of the rest of the LatAm region, as Covid hampered demand in the short run but accelerated transformation over time 						
rivers	The Brazilian government has implemented successful reform to ensure the digital transformation of the economy						
	 Brazil's cloud market is experiencing faster growth than most countries, both in the LatAm region and globally 						
	Firms in Brazil are typically ill-prepared for cyber attacks. Rising awareness and updated regulations will contribute to growth						
	<u>Brazi</u>	lian Microsoft solu	itions market share (%) Indicative			
	C	Others	Brasoftware 19% 9% Softwa 4% ^{4%} Logical	areONE is			

Colombia's recent stability supports renewed IT market growth. Cyber is particularly strong at 14% CAGR to 2024



Colombian 2020 KPIs and drivers

Population (m)	I GDP IT spending as a (\$bn) % of GDP		Hardware as a % of IT spending	Cloud as a % of IT spending			
51	271	2.7	49.9	19.8			
	 The Colombian IT market is less mature than most of LatAm, however this is changing as software spending is expected to grow at 13% p.a. 						
Drivers	 Continued political stability is key to sustained IT market growth in Colombia as the public sector is the largest IT spender 						
	 Colombia's public cloud market is expected to grow at 30% p.a., spurred by increasing trust in off-premise data storage 						
	 Colombia developed a national cybersecurity strategy ahead of its neighbours, so spending growth rates have been strong 						
	<u>Colon</u>	ibian Microsoft so	lutions market share	(%) Indicative			
	C	Others 38%	SoftwareONE 19% 17% Globar	<u>:</u> nt			
		11% Sonda	15%				

Chile's economy is going through rapid transformation as a result of the effects of Covid



Market highlights



Softline is active in every stage of the IT solution and service value chain

IT solution and service value chain

			IT solution a	tion and service delivery to end-customers			
Participant type	Major steps	Advise & Design	Procure & Purchase	Develop & Build	Deploy & Deliver	Manage & Optimise	
IT consultancies Deloitte. accenture	CONSISTANCY SERVICES						
Global & regional solution & softline software	service providers Crayon 🏒 Softchoice						
Systems integrators Capgemini Cognizant	vipro)						
Next-gen digital service providers							
Managed service providers	NO Nordcloud						
Pure-play reseller Mostly local & regional rese	ellers						

Source: Softline management, AMR research and analysis

Area of focus: High

Low

The IT procurement value chain is typically two-tier, involving distributors and IT solution providers

IT procurement value chain¹ (illustrative²)



Note: ¹Only applicable to software and hardware (excluding service and cloud); ²The interactions amongst participants are not always linear; participants can have multiple positions Source: AMR research and analysis

There are various types of distributor and solution provider, each with a slightly different service provision focus

IT procurement participant by sub-types

Category	Туре	Description	Softline focus ¹		
Distribution	Value-added distributor	Typically, international distributors with specialised product segment focuses			
		 Most offer additional value-added services to vendors and resellers, e.g., marketing and sales support, cash collection etc. 			
	Broadliner	Typically global distributors with high volume distribution across several product categories	\bigcirc		
		Most focused on more mature IT technology segments and vendors and provide a limited service offering	\bigcirc		
IT solution provision	Systems integrator	 Typically local resellers who offer products and value-added services (e.g., implementation, IT outsourcing services etc.) to end-customers 			
	Pure-play reseller	Firms only specialised in bringing together components (software and hardware) and ensuring that those subsystems function together seamlessly	\bigcirc		
		A sub-type is global systems integrators (GSIs), who are typically telecom firms with global reach	\smile		
	End-to-end solution providers	 On top of functions fulfilled by pure-play resellers, end-to-end solution providers provide additional offerings across IT service and solution value chain (IT services, cloud services, distribution, platform or even proprietary IT products as demanded by customers) 			
	Managed service provider (MSP)	MSPs provide outsourced monitoring and management of IT devices and systems			
		As MSP signs on new customers, they can also be tasked to upgrade customers' IT set-up, so they can provide procurement of IT solutions for customers			
	Consultancies	 Consultancies advise organisations on their use of information technology to meet business objectives, and to improve the structure and efficiency of IT systems 			
		Consultancies can act as an anchor to procure solutions from vendors			
The boundaries between reseller sub-types are becoming increasingly blurry. IT solution providers often sit across categories					
Note: ¹ Softline management assessment Source: AMR research and analysis Softline focus					
		35 © AMRI	nternational.		

The IT service value chain encompasses five main steps; global solution and service providers can provide end-to-end offerings

IT service value chain (illustrative)¹

	IT solution and service delivery to end-customers						
<u>Key steps</u>	Advise & Design	Procure & Purchase	Develop & Build	Deploy & Deliver	Manage & Optimise		
<u>Description</u>	 Map out vision and objective of required demand Draw out delivery roadmap and plan for execution considerations Set goal and anticipate outcome of proposed service 	 Based on vision and objective procure appropriate solution from vendors (For details, please refer to IT procurement section) 	 Develop offerings to meet agreed needs of the business in terms of costs, quality and delivery times Build process and service components with requirements and specifications 	 Deliver developed offerings to end- customers and provide support in the transition period Integrate service components into customers' existing IT infrastructure and comply with existing protocols 	 Continuous management of services throughout their lifecycles Provide support and maintenance to the daily operation and execution of business functions and activities 		
<u>Relevant</u> <u>services¹</u>	IT consulting		Custom application dev.	System & network implementation	Application management		
	IT education & training			Software deploy & support	Hosted infrastructure services		
				Hardware deploy & support	Network & endpoint outsourcing		
		\$	offline end-to-end	offerings ²			

Note: ¹Based on IDC IT spending taxonomy and the details to the services can be found on the following page; ²Based on Softline management assessment

Source: AMR research and analysis

50

Softline claims a strong focus across all types of services

IT service by category

Value chain	Type ¹		Category ²	Description	focus ³	
Advise & Design	IT consulting		Project- oriented	Delivery of advice to customers aimed at managing their IT organisation and at improving an organisation's IT performance, infrastructure and related processes		
	IT education and training		Support and training	Education of IT-related topics to ensure development of employee competencies and training professionals in business and IT		
Develop & Build	Custom application development		Project- oriented	Delivering standalone, custom code sets or software to meet a client's business needs. The services can span the entire application development life-cycle		
Deploy & Deliver	System and network implementation	Network consulting and integration	Project- oriented	Building local and wide area data networks including converged wireless, and wireline networks to be propagated across a single, common infrastructure		
		System integration		Integration of various platforms and technologies. This may include hardware, software, and services and is consumed on-premise, on-demand, or in the cloud		
	IT deploy and support	Hardware deploy and support	Support and training	Deployment services consist of the installation and basic configuration of hardware; support services comprises remote and on-site diagnostics, remediation		
		Software deploy and support		Deployment services consist of the installation and basic configuration of software; support services comprises remote and on-site diagnostics, remediation		
Manage & Optimise		Application management		Managed security services, support services and application of software and hardware		
	Technology outsourcing	Hosted infrastructure services	Managed services	Managed infrastructure includes establishing LAN, WAPs, and various connections alongside managed backup and storage options.		
		Network and endpoint outsourcing		Outsourcing the support and management of one or more elements of the client/server and network communications infrastructure of an organisation		

Softline focus

O None

C - (11) - -

Note: ¹Type of services can be mapped on the service value chain across key steps on previous page; ² Based on IDC IT spending taxonomy; ³Softline management assessment Source: Softline management, AMR research and analysis

© AMRinternational.

High

Market highlights



The largest IT vendors (hardware and software), each with over \$10bn in revenue, constitute approximately 45-50% of the global market

Vendor landscape – by size



Note: Top-ten next-gen service vendor data not available Source: Pitchbook, AMR research and analysis

Leading disruptive tech vendors are continuing to grow through M&A. The long tail of IT vendors is getting longer as new entrants carve niches

Vendor landscape – market dynamics



- Likewise, the IoT industry set a new venture capital exit record in 2020, achieving \$14bn in total value across 61 exits
 - Growth in the market has been driven by a reduction in the cost to produce IoT hardware: sensor costs have declined by around 50% since 2010 which has directly led to the explosion in IoT vendors

There is a constant influx of new entrants to the IT market as new tech niches are continuously created

- Despite the strength of industry leaders, the IT market is experiencing a strong growth in the number of vendors: the number of new US tech companies set up in 2019 was 30% higher than in 2016
 - In a survey by Zwyft Filings, 56% of business owners in the technology industry said that increased demand for products and services was a driver for growth in 2019

Number of new US technology companies founded – 2016 indexed



A primary driver of this growth has been the increasing relevance of the SaaS model, which spawns thousands of new vendors every year



Source: Pitchbook, Crunchbase, CardConnect, State of Zwyft, AMR research and analysis

Softline works with over 6,000 vendors, amongst which MSFT is of greatest importance due to its significant turnover contribution



Source: Softline management, S&P Global Market Intelligence, AMR research and analysis

Softline is one of MSFT's 10 globally managed partners and has a strong track record of delivery in emerging markets

One of MSFT's 10 globally managed partners

 Globally, MSFT relies upon an extensive partner ecosystem to deliver its suite of technology, services and solutions enabling business transformation. Softline is one of only ten companies worldwide holding the Globally Managed Partner designation

<u>Current Microsoft channel split in emerging markets (est.) for</u> <u>cloud vs industry norm</u>



- Since becoming MSFT's CEO in 2014, Nadella has reinforced MSFT's partner strategy which has helped to re-engineer MSFT's business model as a hybrid computing provider with its Azure platform
- In April 2021, MSFT began to urge partners to sell its full technology portfolio with the goal of longer customer engagements and greater consumption
- Given MSFT's continued dependency on partners, particularly within emerging markets where MSFT requires local expertise, Softline is a highly relevant and valued partner

Strong partnership track record and delivery in emerging markets

- Softline is a top two IT solution provider in MSFT's addressable cloud solutions and licensing & subscriptions businesses within emerging markets
 - The majority of other providers are mostly national/regional providers



Note: ¹Other major players include Sonata (3%), Logicalis (3%) and Sonda (2%); ²Other major players include Logicalis (3%), Sonata (3%) and Sonda (3%) Source: Microsoft, AMR market model, research and analysis

AMRinternational.

AMR International Limited 77 Farringdon Road London EC1M 3JU United Kingdom

Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7534 3600

london.info@amrinternational.com www.amrinternational.com

Florent Jarry

Partner

Min Li

Principal