Disruptive digital technologies and implications for Rail

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McKinsey&Company

Market disruption

Implications for rail and transportation How to adapt and capture the opportunity The next 15-20 years will see unprecedented change



Technology is disrupting every aspect of our lives

Cybersecurity threats





3 major drivers of digitization

Every 2 days, we create as much data as we did from the dawn of time to 2003





New technologies are upending some "fundamental truths" of business

What we used to believe:

Disrupting companies:



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How to adapt and capture the opportunity

Digital technologies offer big opportunities to improve existing businesses



Automation and new work flows



New channels



Involvement of and adaptation to customers



Increased predictive knowledge through "big data"



Banks can predict when a customer is in need of advice regarding, e.g., loans





Transparency on internal cost structures

More than 3.3 million Swedes have

100% digitalized acquisition of new

customers with simple products

tested the mobile service Swish

Over 50% of sales and customer support is being done online, with real-time feedback

BANKING EXAMPLE

Digital technologies offer big opportunities to improve existing businesses



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WHAT IT MIGHT MEAN FOR TRANSPORTATION

Step-change in efficiency of workand information flows

Omni-channel access to information across all modes of transportation

Real-time information on traffic- and shipment status accessible by all end-users

Predictive maintenance across all asset types based on real-time sensor data



New data sources provide much better cost and quality data (from automated workflow tools, new channels, remote monitoring tools)

Real-time monitoring and predictive maintenance are setting a new standard for cost efficient rail reliability



Siemens EUR 560' 14-year maintenance contract for 26 Velaro E high-speed trains between Madrid and Barcelona sets new benchmark in terms of punctuality of trains:

- >99.9% on-time rate (10 min)
- Ticket refund if train is +5 min delayed

State-of-the art predictive maintenance leads to:

- Extremely high reliability and availability of trains
- Cost efficient service delivery from optimized utilization of staff and extended lifetime of parts



When booking a Thalys ticket, various door-to-door options can be integrated





Connecting rail travel

The **"all Belgian train stations**" (ABB) fare makes it possible to continue travel with any Belgian train or to travel from any Belgian station to a Thalys station for a small surcharge. This fare can be booked on the Thalys Web site



Rental car at destination stations

Using **ThalysDrive**, travelers can rent a car from Europcar at their destination stations for EUR 49. Rental is limited to 5 hours, but can be extended by the hour



Taxi at destination stations

First-class passengers can order a **taxi** on board the train (only possible in Paris or Brussels). Passengers are picked up from the train in the Paris or Brussels station and brought to the taxi



- In recent years, Thalys has established cooperations with various transportation providers
- The focus of most offerings is demanding business travelers

Qixxit is a information portal for multiple transit companies, providing real-time info and ability to book travel





Objective

Qixxit recommends an optimal mix of all types of transportation in line with the user's preferences (e.g., "fast," "inexpensive") along with current circumstances

Current offering

- Qixxit is available on its own Web site and smartphone apps
- Users can eliminate certain transportation options from search results
- Real-time information on rail and road traffic
- Booking requests are forwarded to partners

Future improvements

- Additional transportation types and partners
- More convenience and support functions
- Friends feature
- Planning for group and business travel

Partners (selection):











berlinlinienbus.de

Digitalization of customer interface can also optimize internal processes



Customer pain points:



Toilet not working, heating/cooling not working, trash in the carriage, graffiti, etc.

Digital improvement opportunities:





Over-crowded trains



Potential to monitor people in trains and suggest alternative options ahead of time for other traveller

Use big data to better predict peak travel and increase number of train carriages/sets

12:50 12:50 13:00 13:00 13:10 13:10 13:15 DELAYE 13:15 DELAYE 13:20 DELAYE

Unforeseen changes in schedule



Based on actual starting point and destination, provide new time table and best route to reach destination

Limit number of significant delays (+30 min) to avoid paying out refunds by modeling number of people on each train and the optimal economical actions

Market disruption

Implications for rail and transportation

How to adapt and capture the opportunity

How companies can adapt



Prepare for disruption

Create full "map" of opportunities; study the environment broadly; drive efficiency aggressively



Think deeply about strategic control points and new business models Take an attacker's view of your business; reflect on potentially new industry boundaries



Experiment and innovate at speed

Crowd-source ideas; focus on "minimum viable product"



Redesign the organization

Cross-functional innovation processes; more agile ways of working; two-speed IT



Invest more in talent and capability building

Re-think recruiting; subsidize up-skilling programs for employees; instill culture of lifelong learning



Anticipate and manage risks

Incumbent business loss; cybersecurity

Questions to bring home...

Do you have a good understanding of how you can leverage digital – and are you proactively shaping your industry? Do you have the management, capabilities and culture required to succeed in a digital world?

What changes do you need to make in how the company operates? How can the board be a challenging and value-adding partner to management on this journey?

Thank you

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