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with confidence

# Portco Speed Rounds

Creating value through supply chains: operational efficiency and AI integration

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The better the question. The better the answer. The better the world works.

# 88%

 of supply chain leaders believe their C-suite sees the supply chain as a cost center rather than a strategic asset.<sup>1</sup>

Chief supply chain officers (CSCOs) of the future recognize the supply chain as a value creation lever – one that can unlock further value with AI. The integration phase can create significant challenges, but starting small with a practical use case is the first step toward growth.

<sup>1</sup> Source: [Strategic supply chain management: bridging the C-suite gap | EY - US](#)

## Buyer perspective

### CSCO/Chief operating officer (COO)

Proactively collaborate with the C-suite and boards to demonstrate how effective supply chain management drives competitive advantage. Secure executive alignment on AI ROI to enable impactful procurement strategies and data-based improvements, strengthening business resilience, customer satisfaction and financial results. Develop AI initiatives that prioritize holistic strategies involving data and change management over individual use cases. Establish internal and external visibility and make no assumptions of where the real issues lie.

### Chief technology officer (CTO)

Stay up to date with new and established technologies to guide strategic goals. Create clear AI adoption plans by integrating it into current systems, training teams and launching pilot projects that build business value. Recruit and retain key talent vital for ongoing tech transformation.

## Portco perspective

Strategically integrating AI is critical, shifting supply chains from being purely cost focused to truly value-driven operational efficiencies, becoming a key differentiator for private-equity-backed portfolio companies.

## Takeaway

Despite the clear advantages, the journey toward an AI-supported supply chain is not without its obstacles. CSCOs of the future will recognize that opportunities outweigh the barriers. The key to success? Just get started or risk being left behind.

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