



“Get Out the Tech Vote” Survey Results

President Elect Obama plans to appoint the first chief technology officer (CTO) of the U.S. At the 2009 Consumer Electronics Show (CES) respondents were asked what the new administration’s CTO should focus on to continue to enhance technological growth and innovation in the years to come. Intel CTO Justin Rattner wrote a letter to the incoming CTO, including the results provided from this survey, around the top ideas and suggestions. Below are the results of the survey.

Question 1: How would you rank the following - with 1 being the most important and 3 being the least important - for the Obama Administration’s CTO re: technology and healthcare?

Results: Two in three respondents (69 percent) see technology as *the* tool that can help fix the healthcare network system by connecting doctors, patients, hospitals and labs by 2012.

Although not a top of mind issue, 54 percent of the respondents consider somewhat important and 16 percent of respondents consider very important that Obama’s CTO would help designate funds for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct extensive research on technology solutions to enable independent living for seniors in preparation for the coming age wave. This becomes a second healthcare priority for the new CTO.

Funding discounted Broadband deployment for seniors, disabled and chronic disease patients to connect remotely to care providers who monitor their vital signs and provide two way video communications for care and treatment was the least important for half of respondents.

Question 2: How would you rank the following - with 1 being the most important and 3 being the least important - for the Obama Administration’s CTO re: technology and education?

Results: A majority of respondents (62 percent) see investing more in technology to improve K-12 education (basic math, science and technology skills) as the top priority. A significant percentage of respondents (47 percent) consider somewhat important that the new CTO would promote training more teachers in the effective use of technology in the classroom. Increased access to technology in classrooms in K-12 education was somewhat to least important for majority of respondents (80 percent).

Question 3: How would you rank the following - with 1 being the most important and 3 being the least important - for the Obama Administration’s CTO re: technology and the environment?

Results: Most respondents (60 percent) consider very important the national policy around green technology and renewable energy which indicates that they view the CTO’s involvement in these areas as essential. About one-third believe that working with global partners to establish international requirements that align with the EPA’s Energy Star Program is somewhat important for the new CTO. And 41 percent see mandates/incentives for business operations to move to carbon neutral as the least important priority.

Question 4: How would you rank the following - with 1 being the most important and 3 being the least important - for the Obama Administration's CTO re: technology and broadband/Internet?

Respondents are divided regarding what is most important direction for the new CTO in terms of technology and internet. More than one third (38 percent) believe that the most important direction is providing incentives to citizens to make fast, affordable, high-quality broadband deployment a reality for all Americans. Another third of respondents (37 percent) see the top priority as advocating open spectrum policies that enable mobile carriers and manufacturers to make market-driven agreements to deploy next-generation wireless broadband technologies like WiMAX. A significant percentage of respondents (28 percent) see focusing on federal initiatives that expedite the roll-out of wireless broadband technologies across entire cities as the most important imperative for the new CTO. Interestingly enough, almost half of respondents (46 percent) see this direction as somewhat important. This gives this seemingly least important imperative a boost which closes the gap between it and the other two top options.

Respondents Profile

- Three-quarters of respondents are men (77 percent)
- About 60 percent of respondents are between the ages of 28 and 47
- Majority (85percent) are U.S. citizens.

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