
DECEMBER 2011 IVC FORUM

The December IVC (Information Value Chain) forum drew the curtain on the monthly forum for the year 2011. The fora which holds every second Wednesday of the month except for January has become a viable and notable platform for information sharing and idea generation for middle and senior level executives. This month's forum, like the previous ones, lived up to expectation as it was both interesting and educative. The forum focused on the Aviation sector with the theme **"Transforming the Aviation Sector using IT"**. We had the **CIO of NAMA, Mr. Ogochuckwu Ifeanyi**, gave an impressive presentation illustrating how Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), is using IT as a tool to transform the Aviation sector. The session also featured a dose of thought generating and stimulating guidelines and critical success factors for Transformation from our own Adedoyin Odunfa, MD/CEO of Digital Jewels.

Ogochukwu Ifeanyi F. is currently the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA). He is responsible for managing technology infrastructure, applications and services whilst providing IT leadership, guidance, strategic planning, governance, compliance, security, capacity building as well as enterprise project management having mid-wifed the establishment of Project Management Office (PMO) for the Agency across 26 airports and en-route stations. Mr. Ogochukwu, an accomplished Aviator and ICT professional, has over 20 years experience in Aviation (Aeronautical Telecommunications) and ICT and was the technical lead in the industry wide Aviation network (AVINET) committee. He holds Masters Degrees in Information Technology; Communications Management, the Prince 2 certification; is a Certified Information Security Consultant; Licensed Air Traffic Engineer and Certified CNS/ATM specialist. He is currently pursuing a Masters in Law (LLM) – IT Law.

Mr. Ogochukwu kicked off his presentation proper with a brief description of the aviation sector. He highlighted the three major classifications in the sector namely civil, general and military. According to the guest speaker, it was important to take note of the three major classifications as different flight rules apply depending on which of the classification is in view. He also gave a brief description of various bodies operating within the sector before turning his focus on NAMA; the creation, mission and vision, functions, initiatives and challenges. The guest speaker provided extensive details on NAMA's IT initiatives and projects that seek to drastically transform the sector into an enviable one among committee of nations. He remarked that one of the agency's objectives was to make Nigeria an aviation hub of the continent, especially with the key advantage of the geographical location of Nigeria in Africa. One of such projects geared at this achievement, the guest speaker said, is the TRACON project presently been implemented by NAMA across the nation. According to the speaker, this project, and a few more embarked on by NAMA, will ensure that the aviation sector, particularly the airspace management body meets up with international standards and guarantees safer airspace as well as boost the economy of the nation. This will invariably create more investment opportunity and ensure the sector truly becomes effective and efficient in service delivery to its numerous customers.

The second session was anchored by the MD/CEO of Digital Jewels, Mrs. Adedoyin Odunfa. In her action oriented presentation, Mrs. Odunfa described what transformation is to the aviation sector and the key areas that will best trigger transformation along the value chain. She

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discussed how technology can enhance competitive ability by enabling or facilitating business through accelerating transaction processing, improving communications, managing data more efficiently and changing expectation of customer service. In her submission, Mrs. Odunfa stated that in the aviation sector, quality is a function of punctuality, reliability and service and that technology can impact all three factors. Mrs. Odunfa went further to discuss catalysts that will enable transformation as well as key success factors required for the transformation across sectors.

The sessions were thought-provoking and stimulated quite a few ideas. The participants were provided with a well-articulated road map and guide that will foster, deliver and sustain the much-hoped-for transformation of the aviation sector as well as bring into limelight the several business opportunities embedded in the aviation sector in Nigeria.