# Is your business making the most of its existing technology in 2023?





Many SMEs across the UK aren't making the most of the technology they have invested in and often lack the right knowledge to do so, according to our new research.

The data highlights gaps in technology knowledge amongst SMEs, their focus in 2023 on making the most of what technology they already have, and critical areas where more support is needed.

### Making the best return on technology is as critical as finding new talent

ROI Challenge

Making the most from IT investment is as critical a business challenge to UK SMEs as finding new talent, while concerns around overall increased costs to businesses is seen as the biggest challenge this year.

The biggest challenges IT decision makers face over the next twelve months from a business perspective include:

**41**% **û i 39**% **≤ 29**% **i** 

Cost of living crisis

Rising supply costs

Managing growth

**23**% **Finding and** 

retaining talent

**22% 22** Managing a diverse

hybrid workforce

## A gap in knowledge means performance gains are being missed

A significant majority of those responsible for IT admit they don't possess enough knowledge about critical areas like hardware specifications, cloud computing, and IT security to make the most of the technology they've invested in.



Hardware specifications



**Cloud computing** 



IT security

Poor

Knowledge

Gap Challenge

### Poor advice is holding SMEs back

Poor advice from the beginning of their IT investments and a lack of ongoing expert advice and support are holding businesses back.



Almost half of SMEs believe poor advice from the start of their investments is preventing them from making the most of their IT.

## **26% ຊື້ຊື້**

Over a quarter of SMEs say that a lack of employee understanding holds them back from making the most of their investments in IT.



Source: The research was conducted by Censuswide between 1st February 2023–13th February 2023, and responded to by 5,770 IT decision makers and people who are responsible for purchasing IT within SMEs, from 11 countries (Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK).