

## SPONSORED RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

The APQC sponsored research program is a fee-based opportunity for our professional services firms, associations, and technology providers to sponsor and participate in APQC research. This program allows you to gain unparalleled access to this learning and APQC's data, research, and audience.

Showcase your firm as a thought leader on any of these available topics below. The links below will provide you a project description.

### *Recently Completed*

#### **KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

- [Virtual Collaboration: Rules of the Road](#)

#### **SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

- [Improving Supply Chain Planning](#)
- [Understanding Procurement Benchmarks and Best Practices](#)

### *Upcoming*

#### **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

- [Evolving Practices in Enterprise Risk Management](#)

#### **HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

- [Benchmarking Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [HR Transformation](#)
- [Workforce Transformation](#)

### *Upcoming*

#### **KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

- [Fixing Process and Knowledge Productivity Problems](#)
- [Keeping Content Fresh and Findable](#)

#### **SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

- [Analyzing Benchmarks in Supply Chain](#)
- [Building and Maintaining Sustainable Supply Chains](#)

#### **PROCESS AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

- [Strategic Planning and Organizational Agility](#)

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*For more information about the benefits and deliverables included in sponsoring APQC research, [click here](#) or contact Cathy Hill or Katy Cook at [psfirm@apqc.org](mailto:psfirm@apqc.org) or +1-713-685-4652.*

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## **ANALYZING BENCHMARKS IN SUPPLY CHAIN**

This project includes an in-depth dive in benchmarks in supply chain management. It includes key benchmarks in various process groups, as well as tune-up diagnostics and guidance for improving performance on selected KPIs. Contact Cathy Hill or Katy Cook at [psfirm@apqc.org](mailto:psfirm@apqc.org) for more information.

## **BENCHMARKING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

A number of trends are driving the need for diversity and inclusion benchmarks. This research will collect a set of D&I benchmarks that align with APQC member needs. Contact Cathy Hill or Katy Cook at [psfirm@apqc.org](mailto:psfirm@apqc.org) for more information.

## **BUILDING AND MAINTAINING SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAINS**

APQC has been hearing about the need more insights into “sustainability” across the supply chain. This is a broad umbrella that includes environmental factors, social issues, and corporate governance (ESG) commitments and goals. There is increasing conversation about seeking lower carbon emissions, ethical sourcing, and improved human rights throughout the end-to-end supply chain. We are seeking to synthesize the latest insights from secondary research as well as conduct a survey to gather fresh data on the current state of corporate practices. To read more, [click here](#).

## **EVOLVING PRACTICES IN ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT**

In partnership with ERM subject matter expert and thought leader Dr. Paul Walker (Schiro/Zurich Chair in Enterprise Risk Management at St. John’s University), APQC launched its Evolving Practices in Enterprise Risk Management study to understand the current practices and tools of enterprise risk management (ERM) at organizations and how these practices are evolving in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This project gathered both survey as well as interview data and focused on the following scope areas: ERM processes and practices; what organizations do to drive a culture of ERM; ERM tools and technology for understanding, modeling, and reporting risk; and how ERM teams measure their success and demonstrate the value of ERM in their organizations. To read more, [click here](#).

## **FIXING PROCESS AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTIVITY PROBLEMS**

Wasted time, duplicated work, and inefficient processes have a bearing on an organization’s bottom line. Small inefficiencies add up—and they also impede innovation, agility, customer experience, and other drivers of competitive advantage. In this research, APQC seeks to gauge the impact of inferior knowledge and process management on individual employees and—by extension—business outcomes. The research will also assess the relative value of various interventions to better define and standardize work and connect employees to one another and the information they need to work effectively. Contact Cathy Hill or Katy Cook at [psfirm@apqc.org](mailto:psfirm@apqc.org) for more information.

## **HR TRANSFORMATION**

As organizations change, their needs from HR change too. This research will gather information on how technology, analytics, and digital business are affecting the HR function. It will report on HR function structure, staffing, delivery models, and performance – looking at both current practice and future plans. To read more, [click here](#).

## **IMPROVING SUPPLY CHAIN PLANNING**

As the discipline continues to grow in maturity and importance, supply chain planning becomes even more complex. Supply chain planning is necessary to ensure the strategic integration of critical such factors in supply chain decisions, affecting everything from sourcing and forecasting to inventory management and distribution.

Look at some of the work completed:

- [Supply Chain Planning: Blueprint for Success](#)
- [Understanding Supply Chain Planning Processes](#)
- [Planning for the Supply Chain of the Future](#)
- [Supply Chain Planning Practices: Cross-Industry](#)

## **KEEPING CONTENT FRESH AND FINDABLE**

This study is designed to uncover the latest best practices for managing all forms of enterprise content, including customer-facing, formal internal, and user-generated content. The project will look at how organizations formulate their content strategies; steer the content lifecycle; and ensure content can be easily found, accessed, and used. To read more, [click here](#).

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ORGANIZATIONAL AGILITY**

Organizational agility is defined as the ability to identify opportunities and risk quickly and execute on the opportunities and risks that align with the organization's overall strategy. The COVID-19 pandemic has been a wake-up call that organizations need to ensure their organization for the next black swan event and bolster the flexibility of their decision-making practices and responsiveness to the implementation of new initiatives. APQC is conducting a research project to identify the key characteristics that drive organizational agility. To read more, [click here](#).

## **UNDERSTANDING PROCUREMENT BENCHMARKS AND BEST PRACTICES**

This collection is a road map to success in improving sourcing and procurement efficiency and effectiveness. The content within covers key performance indicators (KPIs) for sourcing and procurement, as well as proven performance improvement drivers and best practices. This content derives from an analysis of the Procurement Open Standards Benchmarking® survey, and is a collection of both benchmarks and metrics, as well as best practices and business drivers.

Look at some of the work completed:

- [Sourcing and Procurement Blueprint for Success](#)
- [Interactive Procurement Tune-Up Diagnostic](#)
- [Robotic Process Automation for Procurement](#)
- [Understanding Procurement Benchmarks and Best Practices \(Webinar\)](#)

### **VIRTUAL COLLABORATION: RULES OF THE ROAD**

Digital transformation, social distancing, and “work from anywhere” are expanding the prevalence and scope of virtual collaboration. APQC surveyed more than 800 people to understand their experiences collaborating virtually with coworkers. The results emphasize how people are collaborating differently, what's working and what's not, and the need for better norms and guidelines for the digital workplace. Look at some of the [work completed](#).

### **WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION**

As organizations build digital capabilities and adopt digital business models, their talent needs are changing—skills, roles, structure. This research will explore two aspects of this change: upskilling and reskilling. To read more, [click here](#).

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