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World Economic Forum Updates: Industries in the Intelligent Age

Client Alert

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The World Economic Forum's (WEF) Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland (January 20 - 24, 2025) has concluded. One of the central themes of the meeting, "**Industries in the Intelligent Age**", focused on the transformative impact of rapid technological advancements, particularly in **Artificial Intelligence (AI), Quantum computing, and Blockchain**, on various industries. The discussions highlighted that technology is now the primary driver of change and disruption for businesses across all sectors, necessitating a significant shift in business strategies.

A key challenge identified was that while many organizations have experimented with AI, **scaling** these efforts to achieve **sustained and transformative impact** remains a significant hurdle. Industry leaders emphasized the need to adapt to not only technological shifts but also to significant geo-economic changes. The conference underscored the importance of balancing short-term objectives with long-term strategic imperatives.

Several sessions were dedicated to specific aspects of the "Intelligent Age", including the need for reliable and sustainable supply chains for **electric vehicles** amid rising geopolitical tensions. Other topics included the importance of **technology interdependence**, requiring organizations to collaborate and partner to evolve their understanding of industry disruption, and the rapidly shifting landscape of digital assets, including cryptocurrencies and central bank digital currencies.

The event explored the crucial role of **cybersecurity** in maintaining customer trust, as a majority of organizations report a decline in trust following a cyber incident. Discussions also covered the advancements in smart factories leveraging AI, digital twins, and next-gen robotics. The potential of **Artificial General Intelligence (AGI)** was a topic of concern, with

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discussions about its potential to be a force for progress or a threat to humanity. The healthcare sector's digital transformation, along with ways to scale up the use of digital solutions, was also examined.

The conference included sessions on how to ensure the safety of modern AI agents, collaborative partnerships in supercomputing, and the need for responsible AI adoption. The event addressed how the rapid advancement of technologies is increasing **energy demand** and its implications for industries' decarbonization and net-zero goals. Overall, the "**Industries in the Intelligent Age**" theme at Davos 2025 emphasized that in the face of **constant disruption, transformation** is essential for organizations to prosper.

[Links to the sessions and reports:](#)

1. The Intelligent Age: A time for cooperation
2. AI, tech and more at Davos 2025: What to know
3. Industries in the Intelligent Age
4. AI in Action: Beyond Experimentation to Transform Industry
5. Getting EV Supply Chains Right
6. Lift-off for Tech Interdependence?
7. From Crisis to Confidence in Cyberspace
8. The Dawn of Artificial General Intelligence?
9. Global electricity demand rose moderately in 2023 but is set to grow faster through 2026
10. Digital transformation as a catalyst for sustainability and open innovation

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