

# Near-shore Outsourcing

Ensuring success when utilising strategic nearshore options for portfolio companies

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CROSSLAKE 



# About Crosslake

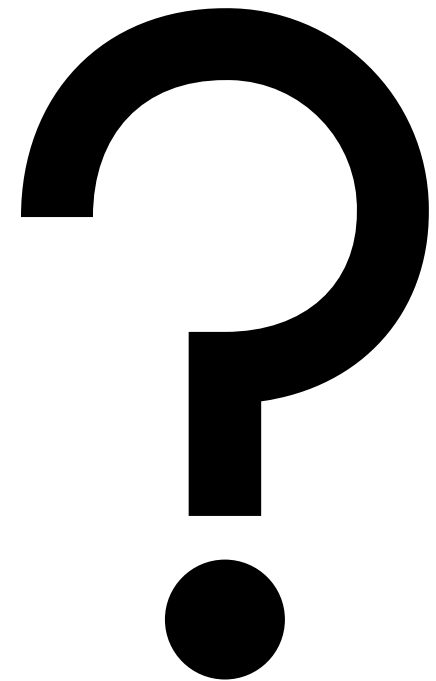


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Helping companies buy, build and run better software

1. What is and Why companies outsource?
2. How to approach outsourcing. What to do and what to avoid?
3. How to make the case for outsourcing?

Is Portugal or Bulgaria a better outsourcing option





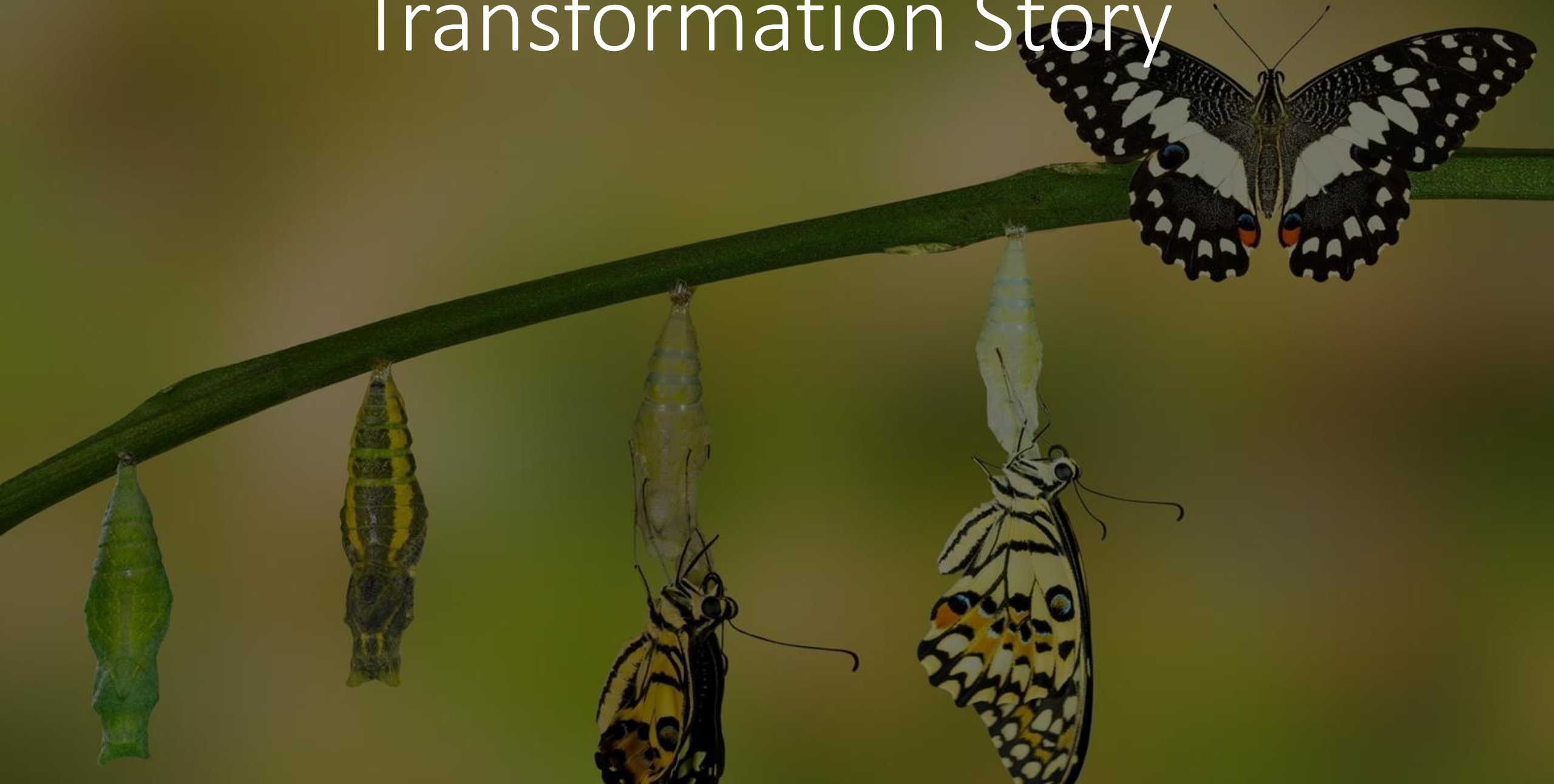
# Why and When to Outsource?



# Growth Story



# Transformation Story





# Top Outsourcing Reasons

- **Cost (59%)**: Reduce expenditures. Control costs
- **Capacity (57%)**: Improve focus. Delegate time-consuming tasks
- **Time (47%)**: Free resources for new roadmap work – core business
- **Services & Quality (31%)**: Distributed customer service. Testing
- **Speed (28%)**: Faster time to market. Competitive threat
- **Talent (28%)**: Access to resources. Tap into global talent pool
- **Expansion (17%)**: Access to new markets. Local presence

Outsourcing can have a healthy ROI advantage if done right or a negative effect if not well-thought out or executed well

North America and South America (AMERICAS)

Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMA)

Asia and Oceania (ASPAC)

Statistics Source: Deloitte's 2016 Global Outsourcing Survey

# Generalized Outsourcing Options for both Near-shore & Off-shore

**A**

Classical Outsourcing (Hotel or Airbnb)

**B**

In-Sourcing – (Rent)

**C**

Captive – (Rent With-Option-to-Buy)

**D**

DIY – (Build to own)



A



- **Team:** Create dedicated software teams; abstract recruiting, HR, payroll, administration and facilities; classic outsourcing.
- **Facilities:** Provide office space including access security; cater to specific needs and different team sizes.
- **Legal/HR:** Take care of finance, accounting, global payroll, compliance and cash management; can help hire, and create a subsidiary.
- **Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT):** Provide all the above and transfer the team to the client within ~2-3 years of engagement. Easy to bow out if needed.





# D Own Center

Feeling of belonging

Exciting work environment

Growth and learning

One Team

Work on Roadmap



# Outsource Options

	Classical Outsourcing Hotel or Airbnb	In-Sourcing Rent	Captive Team Rent to Buy	DIY - Own Center Build to Own
<b>What</b>	People for hire	People for hire/Dedicated Team	Dedicated Team → Sub	Own Team / Sub
<b>Pros</b>	Talent instantly available No setup required	Staff augmentation	Lower Attrition Minimized Overhead	Loyalty if setup right Longer term investment
<b>Cons</b>	Resource Competition Large Player Competition	Higher Attrition Some Overhead	Contract Termination Fee Management Overhead	Require Setup Investment Management Overhead Ancillary overhead
<b>Typical for</b>	Business Process, Customer Support, Test Automation Backlog, Temporary spikes, Expert skills, Maintenance Work	Short-term (1-2 years) Legacy Transformation	Longer-term setup Roadmap execution Core functionality	Longer-term setup Roadmap execution Core functionality
<b>Resources Availability</b>	1-2 months + Ramp-up Resources Available	2-3 months + Ramp-up Vendor Recruits	3-4 months + Ramp-up Vendor Recruits	6-12 months + Ramp-up You Staff or use 3 <sup>rd</sup> party



# At First Glance... It can be Tricky!

Salary Estimates (not loaded)	Canada	Chile	Czech Republic	Ireland	Poland	Portugal	Sweden	Ukraine	Bulgaria	Romania	Ukraine	Spain	India
Architect	\$ 113,899.75	\$ 74,878.65	\$ 93,836.45	\$ 100,571.00	\$ 106,516.00	\$ 68,713.00	\$ 160,248.00	\$ 67,209.56	\$ 66,319.00	\$ 104,505.51	\$ 64,571.60	\$ 49,829.00	
Data Scientist	\$ 77,434.98	\$ 68,365.56	\$ 85,674.38	\$ 77,974.00	\$ 85,516.00	\$ 68,435.60	\$ 131,000.00	\$ 67,607.37	\$ 112,499.46	\$ 105,124.07	\$ 52,460.49	\$ 24,719.75	
Sr Engineer	\$ 93,840.00	\$ 57,727.28	\$ 62,710.00	\$ 81,950.00	\$ 85,516.00	\$ 49,521.00	\$ 150,513.00	\$ 42,857.90	\$ 52,851.00	\$ 61,825.00	\$ 65,585.44	\$ 21,353.69	
Jr Engineer	\$ 48,144.60	\$ 35,529.60	\$ 44,525.00	\$ 34,810.00	\$ 44,525.00	\$ 35,566.00	\$ 77,932.00	\$ 35,135.57	\$ 58,466.00	\$ 45,780.00	\$ 54,633.01	\$ 5,808.84	
Test Lead	\$ 79,989.47	\$ 59,030.38	\$ 73,975.71	\$ 57,834.80	\$ 79,989.47	\$ 49,090.00	\$ 111,316.00	\$ 39,850.18	\$ 66,311.16	\$ 27,785.00	\$ 104,121.59	\$ 20,845.70	
Test Professional	\$ 64,400.84	\$ 38,677.93	\$ 48,470.43	\$ 46,950.00	\$ 52,400.00	\$ 32,027.95	\$ 88,348.00	\$ 32,885.00	\$ 47,667.00	\$ 27,404.00	\$ 42,646.54	\$ 9,739.26	
Automation Test Engineer	\$ 68,546.16	\$ 39,392.44	\$ 34,305.00	\$ 53,709.00	\$ 33,330.00	\$ 33,330.00	\$ 93,728.00	\$ 99,486.00	\$ 42,687.37	\$ 93,957.00	\$ 61,981.00	\$ 62,473.18	\$ 21,168.97
Scrum Master/Product Owner	\$ 74,008.65	\$ 71,034.78	\$ 89,019.40	\$ 85,681.67	\$ 96,244.92	\$ 96,244.92	\$ 169,015.90	\$ 126,572.00	\$ 70,246.99	\$ 116,891.82	\$ 109,228.48	\$ 69,754.75	\$ 35,440.67
DevOps, System Admin	\$ 69,200.81	\$ 48,153.57	\$ 60,345.12	\$ 69,043.00	\$ 65,243.20	\$ 65,243.20	\$ 54,538.89	\$ 109,564.00	\$ 47,619.54	\$ 79,239.47	\$ 74,044.59	\$ 51,127.23	\$ 16,473.15
<b>Blended Rate</b>	\$ 76,607.25	\$ 54,754.47	\$ 65,873.50	\$ 67,613.72	\$ 70,949.00	\$ 70,949.00	\$ 115,795.57	\$ 117,219.89	\$ 49,566.61	\$ 77,133.55	\$ 68,630.85	\$ 63,041.54	\$ 22,819.89
<b>Blended Hourly</b>	\$ 36.83	\$ 26.32	\$ 31.67	\$ 32.51	\$ 32.51	\$ 32.51	\$ 53.64	\$ 56.36	\$ 23.83	\$ 37.08	\$ 33.00	\$ 30.31	\$ 10.97

Blended Outsourced rates are typically slightly higher than SaaS

	Blended High	Blended Low
Canada	\$ 31.25	\$ 26.52
Bulgaria	\$ 31.33	\$ 27.23
Romania	\$ 33.22	\$ 30.15
Portugal	\$ 34.01	\$ 29.50
Ireland	\$ 35.75	\$ 32.51
Ukraine	\$ 33.00	\$ 33.38
Spain	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
Poland	\$ 37.69	\$ 37.69

\* Pricing estimates include facilities, taxes)

Instead...Do the Analysis First!

# Step #0



## Understand the Vision (i.e. The WHY)

Clarity on the short- and long-term goal  
Will help you save costs ultimately



# What to consider?

Maximizing opportunities  
Optimizing cost  
Mitigating risk



## Vision and Goals

Clarity concerning company goals and objectives  
Short- and long-term goals  
Short-term financial justification  
Staff Communication (may feel disposable/threatened)  
Open communication with stakeholders



## Company Readiness

What can be outsourced and what should not  
Engineering practices that must be upgraded  
Collaboration techniques implemented  
Understand prioritized criteria



## Location Options

Language capabilities, Culture  
Travel proximity and Time zone  
Regulatory compliance  
Data security and intellectual property  
Attention to personal issues (for location choices)



## Vendor/Partner Options

Pilot project for vendor selection  
Partner ecosystem  
Properly vendor agreement (fees, currency, confidentiality)



## Site Readiness

Location, office setup, dedicated space  
Governance model, IT Infrastructure setup  
Hiring plan and redundancy planning for attrition  
Local culture considerations  
Shift to an outcome-based business model (innovation)



## Local Leadership

Senior leadership support and involvement  
Employees #1, Local leader, Product Owner



## Training

Cross-training at HQ and Remote office  
Travel plan setup  
Distributed Development Training

## Strategy

- Assess company outsource readiness, Architecture, Organization, Process, and Tools
- Outsource Strategy & Locations
- Outcome:** Understand current state, resource needs; identify suitable high-level options

## Planning

- Finalize location, Vendors
- Site Readiness / Setup
- Develop Governance Model
- Outcome:** Identify best option/location

## Execution

- Local Leadership
- IT Infra, Process and Tools
- New hire onboarding
- Scaled Agile. Requirement process
- Outcome:** Stand-up new site/team, hiring, Org model, infrastructure, collaboration model and training

# Distributed Development Practices

Keys to successful execution:

- Scalable governance
- Optimal locations
- Team and product alignment
- Organization structure, roles & responsibility
- Requirement hand off structure
- Cross team communication
- Buy In from Key Stakeholders

Aligned Roadmap &  
Strategy & Vision

Organization Setup &  
Division of Work

Locations & Cultures

Team Dynamics

Stakeholder Buy In to  
go Distributed

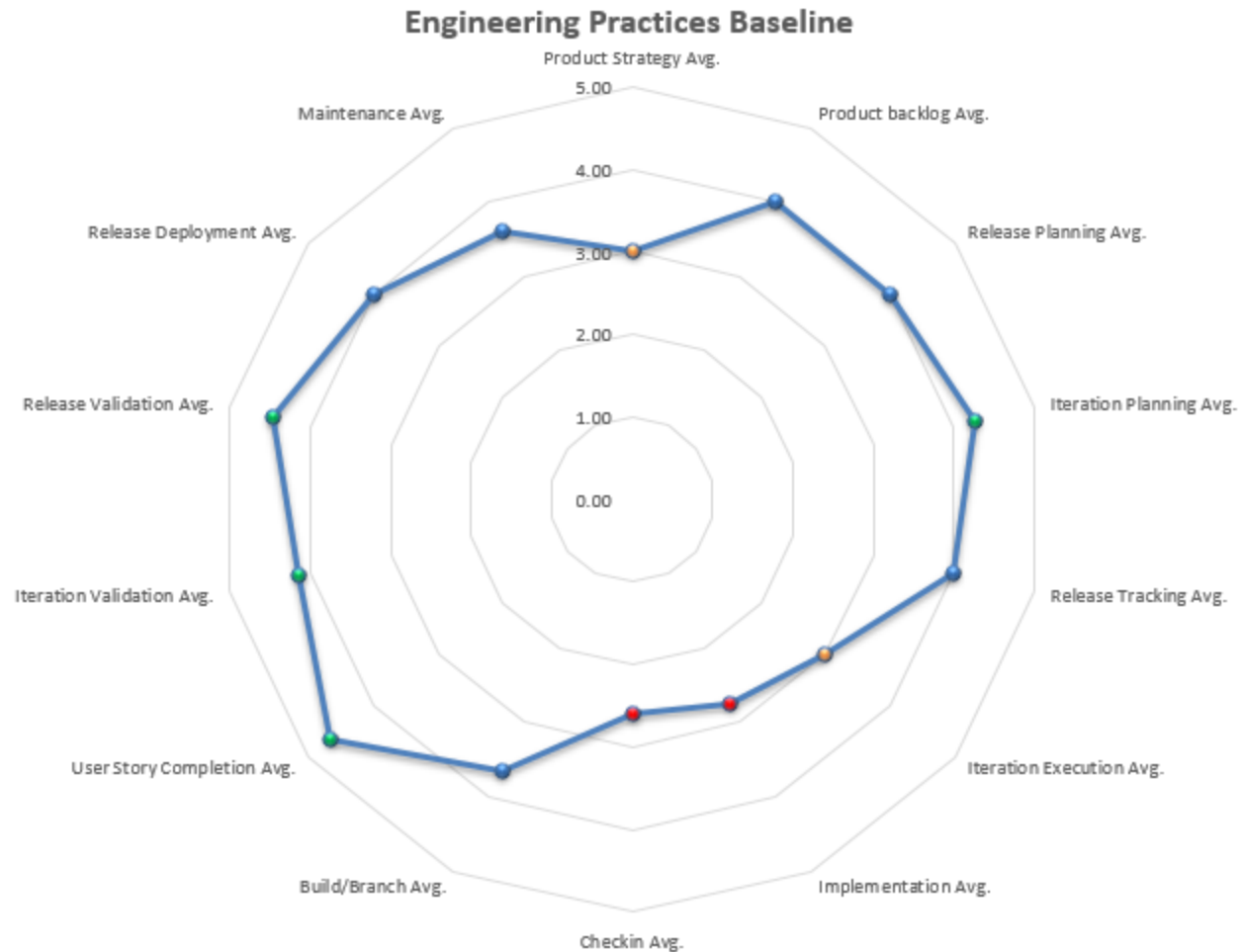
Communication, Soft  
Skill, Practices & Tools

## REFERENCES

[7 Warning Signs Of Troubled Distributed Development](#)  
[Successful Distributed Development - What You Need To Know](#)  
[Outsourcing Checklist](#)



# Example: Diagnostics to Understand Readiness



# Example: Criteria to Consider

Financial		Regulatory/ Legal/ Political		Cultural		Operational	
Criteria	Priority	Criteria	Priority	Criteria	Priority	Criteria	Priority
Cost (~50 - 30%) Lower than US	High	High Political Stability	High	Large Talent Pool	High	Scalable Operation	High
Stable Currency	High	No Revenue Sharing	High	Low Attrition	High	Full Stack Development	High
Streamlined Financial Reporting	Medium	No Ownership sharing with Govt.	High	Values - Respect, Unselfish, Sharing, Collaborative, Learning, Questioning	High	High Quality, Fast Hiring/ Onboarding	High
Tax Handling - Business vs Income vs Payroll	Medium	Anti-Bribery Conformance	High	Key Attributes - Hungry, Humble, Smart, Self-Starters, Persistent, Problem-Solvers	High	Experience with distributed teams	High
Facilities Cost	Low	High IP Protection	High	Proximity to Restaurants, Coffee-Shops	High	Time Zone Overlap with MT	High
Streamlined Integration w Payroll Software	Low	No Conflict of Interest for Legal Representatives	High	Travel Friendly	High	Proximity to University (College Talent)	Medium
Streamlined Integration w Accounting Software (e.g. QuickBooks)	Low	Experience with Regulatory Requirements (e.g. FINRA, ISO 27000, SSAE, SOC 1/2)	Medium	Work/Life Balance	Medium	Opportunity to Hire & grow Interns	Medium
		Insurance Requirements	Medium			Domain Experience	Low
		Easy to Incorporate	Medium				
		Data within Borders	Low				



# Example: Analysis of Characteristics by Location

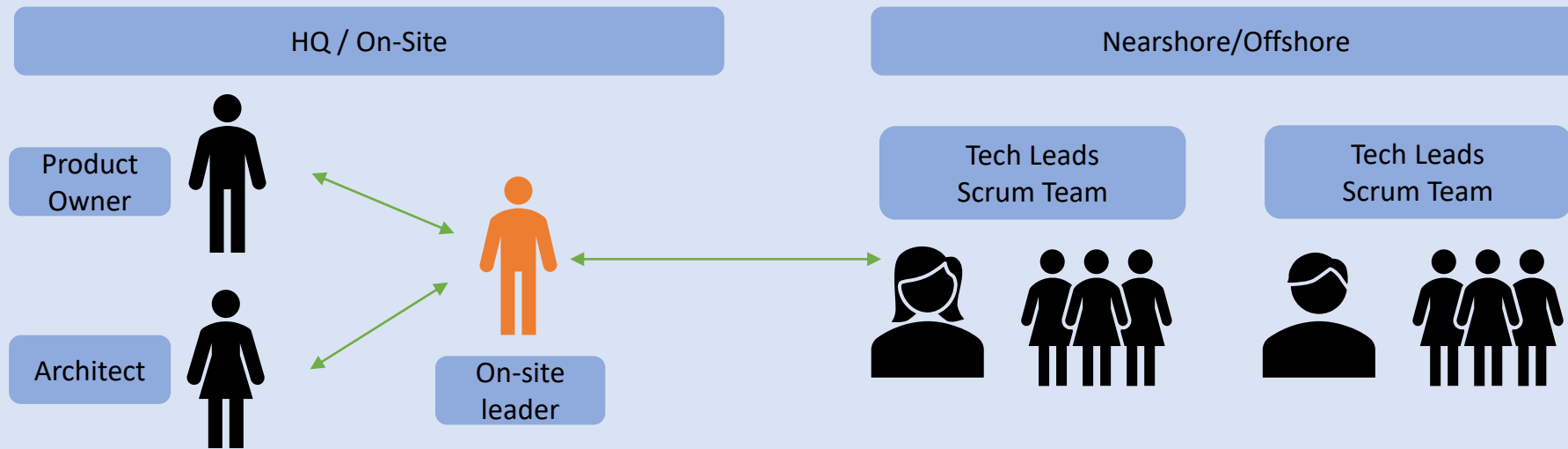
Area	Criteria	Priority	Brazil (Rio-De-Janeiro)	Bulgaria (Sophia)	Canada (Calgary)	Chile (Santiago)	Czech Republic (Prague)	Estonia (Tallinn)	Hungary (Budapest)	Latvia (Riga)	Lithuania (Vilnius)	Malta (Valletta)	Northern Ireland (Belfast)	Poland (Warsaw)	Portugal (Lisbon)	Romania (Kluj-Napoca)	Slovakia (Bratislava)	Spain (Barcelona)	Ukraine (Kiev)	
Financial	Cost (~50 - 30%) Lower than US	↑	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Regulatory/Legal/Political	High Political Stability	↑	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Regulatory/Legal/Political	Anti-Bribery Conformance	↑	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Regulatory/Legal/Political	High IP Protection	↑	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Cultural	Large Talent Pool	↑	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Cultural	Proximity to Restaurants, Coffee-Shops	↑	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Cultural	Travel Friendly	↑	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Operational	Time Zone Overlap with MT	↑	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Operational	Opportunity to Hire & Grow Interns	↓	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
<b>Cumulative Comparative Score</b>				102	78	174	138	138	110	84	96	110	134	144	156	162	96	132	126	90

Low Value	●	1
Medium Value	●	3
High Value	●	9
Low Priority	↓	1
Medium Priority	→	2
High Priority	↑	3

**Cumulative Comparative Score (CCS)**  
 CCS is calculated by adding the product of the Priority and Value of all criteria in a column to get the cumulative score for the country. Higher scores are better.  
 Red CCS scores are Bottom 6 countries. Green CCS scores are Top 6 countries.

# Example: Team Structure for Collaboration

## Recommended Team Model for Outsourcing





# Example: Distributed Team Models

- Hub and Spoke

- Strategic vs tactical division of work eases communication
- Reduced cross-site dependencies and component ownership simplify collaboration
- Middle management in spoke carry vision forward
- Challenge: Limited career opportunities could impact employee tenure

- Peer-to-Peer

- Shared business ownership helps strategic product breadth, market penetration
- Balanced input and decision making across nodes increases inclusivity
- Challenge: Peer leaders may compete and mis-align on strategy/product planning

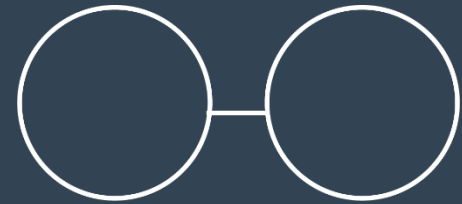
- Constellation

- Appropriate for scaling organizations for growth and innovation
- Not recommended for small organizations (e.g. < 5000 employees)
- Challenge: Requires strategic org design and investment for maximum benefit

Hub and Spoke



Peer-to-Peer



Constellation



# Making the case for Outsourcing

Working with  
CEOs to make  
the case

- Upfront research on company specifics and outsource ecosystem
- Enlist the help of an expert behind the scenes for data, examples and case studies
- Make the case for a trial run to step into it
  - Application development for small non-core project
  - Application maintenance for legacy
  - Data center operations, Database administration
  - Help desk, Disaster recovery
  - IT security, Network operations, Desktop support
  - Web hosting and operations
- Prepare for toughest questions (e.g. how it increases revenue, saves money, data security)
- Base it on a value-driven approach with the Core Value Creation Levers
  - Higher Customer Value
  - Faster Time to Revenue
  - Enhance Productivity
  - Reduce Cost of Delivery
  - Increase Product Quality



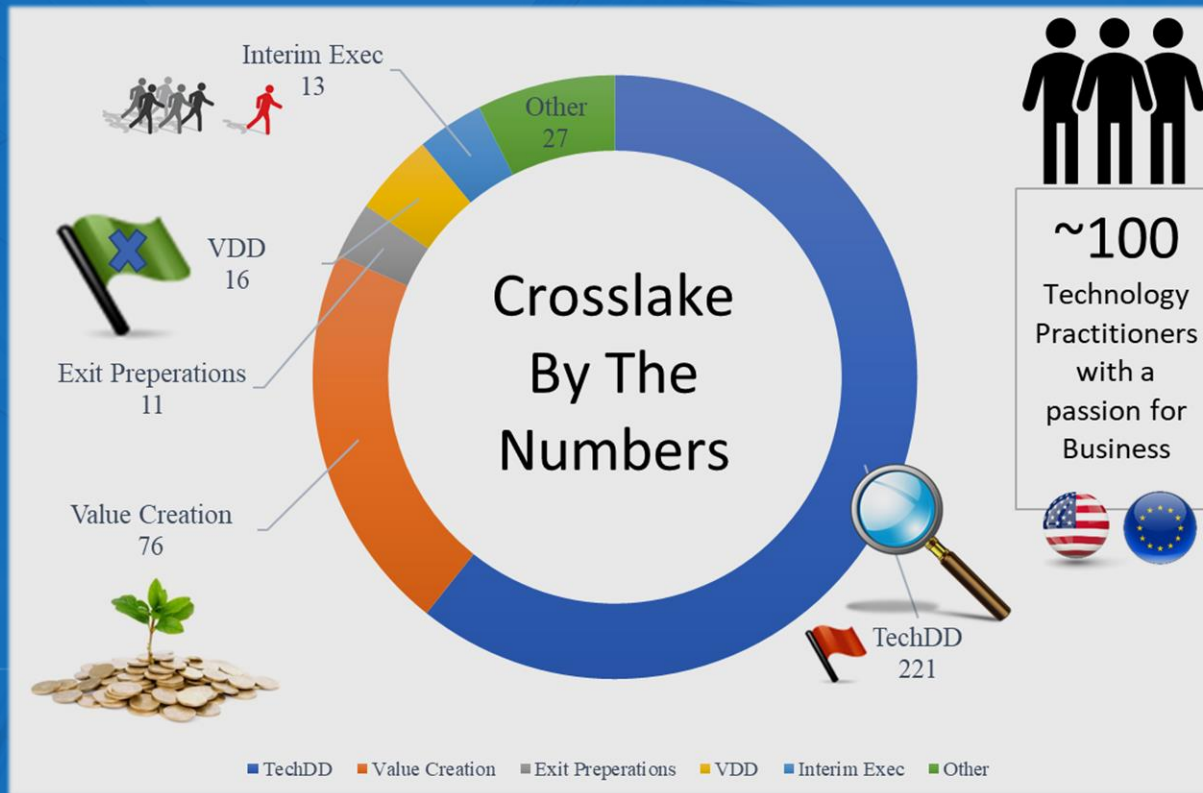
# Summary Take-aways

- Determine from the outset whether the objectives are tactical or strategic
- Cost should not be the only or primary driver
- Ramping up a successful nearshore centre takes time and management commitment; plan accordingly
- Location *and* provider choice are critical to success

# Thank You

## Key Capabilities

- Technical Due Diligence
- Value Creation Programs
  - Leadership
  - Strategy
  - Architecture
  - Organization
  - Agile Development
  - Quality Engineering
  - Dev, IT and Cloud Ops
- Exit Preparation
- Vendor Due Diligence (Sell Side)



## Industries (partial)

- Financial Services
  - Telecom/ Media
  - Healthcare
  - Education
  - Transportation
  - Entertainment
  - Data Services
- ## Companies
- On-Premise to SaaS Products
  - Technology Enabled Services
  - Mature to growth companies

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