# 5 INDUSTRIES IMPACTED BY CHANGING EDGE TECHNOLOGIES

Edge technology has transformed many businesses, allowing them to bring powerful compute and data technologies to where they are needed, speeding performance, increasing security and reducing network issues. But not all industries are impacted equally by edge. To understand how different industries are challenged by edge and the strategies they are utilizing, consider the following.

- ☐ **Manufacturing –** When it comes to edge, manufacturing businesses have been in the forefront, taking advantage of the technology to bring powerful computing throughout factory floors and powering critical IoT systems. But these organizations still face challenges in costs and integration, along with the imperative to adopt AI (the top manufacturing modernization strategy at 45%). By upgrading edge and optimizing connectivity, manufacturing businesses can build the performance and efficiencies needed to lower costs while modernizing with AI.
- ☐ **Retail –** While retail firms often have many locations, they are surprisingly an industry with one of the lowest deployments of edge according to Aberdeen research. This lack of edge can be seen in retail top challenges such as security, storage capacity and difficulty of integration across environments. By reversing this trend and boosting edge deployments, retail can modernize and meet top goals such as improving network connectivity (44%), utilize AI (35%) and better plan for innovation (59%).
- ☐ **IT Services -** As would be expected, IT services firms are among the highest users of edge among industries, as they often need to deliver high-end technology services to geographically dispersed clients. But that doesn't mean these businesses aren't challenged to get the most out of edge. They face key challenges in security, storage capacity and the need to integrate edge with their complex technology environments. Which is why our research shows that a top strategy of IT services (55%) is to upgrade and improve edge and network capabilities.
- ☐ **Public Sector/Defense -** While organizations in the public sector and defense are about average when it comes to edge adoption, our survey shows that they are among the lowest in overall IT modernization. Among the critical challenges that the public sector faces are rising costs and integration with legacy systems and regulatory requirements are a major hurdle (they are the only industry to list it at the top). But the public sector is increasing plans for modernization and AI adoption, while looking to edge to improve security, compliance and increased management and monitoring capabilities.
- ☐ **Engineering –** For engineering firms, AI isn't just a new trend, it's a must have. Aberdeen finds that engineering businesses are both among the highest adopters of AI and the most likely to be pressured about AI usage (at 47%). To reach this high level of AI innovation, engineering firms are working to overcome challenges in costs and integration with their high-end systems. Looking at the top strategies they are following to succeed, we find that engineering businesses are working to optimize their edge and network capabilities.

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