

## Interim management in the era of digitalization: shaping the future



The digital transformation is no longer a distant vision, but an immediate reality. Artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT) and blockchain are no longer visions of the future, but core elements of a modern business strategy.

Advancing technologization is not only changing business models, but is also shaping the world of work and requires organizations to be agile and adaptable. In this context, interim management is becoming increasingly important. Interim managers are the architects of change who are able to navigate companies through the complex waters of digitalization.

This article is dedicated to the central question: How can interim managers contribute to actively shaping the future of companies in the era of digitalization?

## Current examples of digital innovation



### Blockchain in the supply chain

Companies use blockchain technology to improve **transparency and security** in supply chains. Every step of a supply chain is recorded in an unchangeable digital ledger, which prevents counterfeiting and strengthens trust between partners.



### IoT in logistics

Transportation companies use IoT sensors to collect real-time data. This data enables **precise tracking information** for customers and helps to optimize stock levels, monitor **supply chains** and increase **efficiency**.

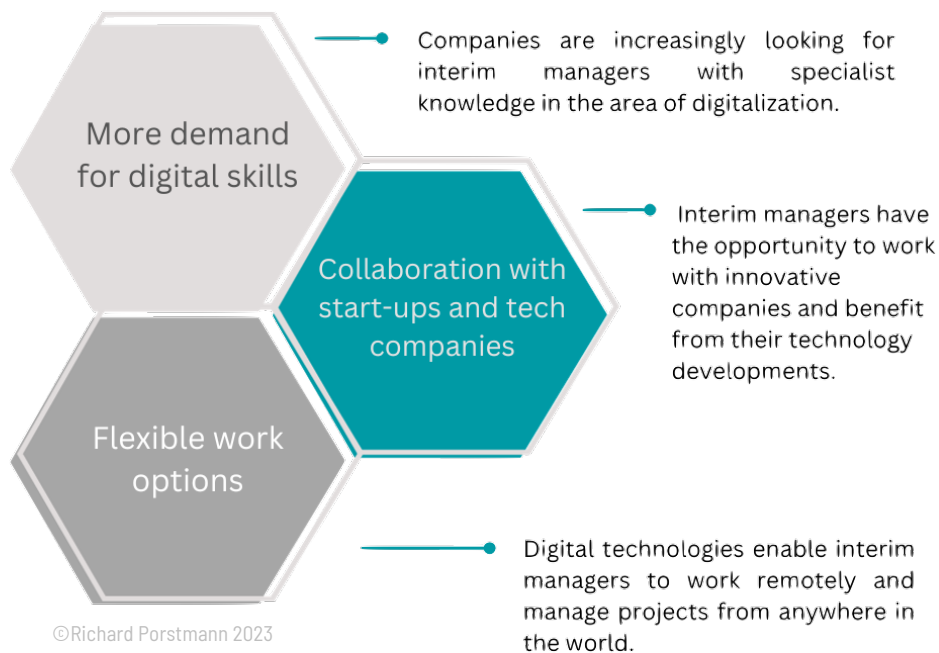


### AI in customer service

Companies are using **chatbots** that process customer inquiries with the help of AI and machine learning. They not only provide quick answers, but also learn continuously in order to optimize **customer service**.

## The role of the interim manager in digitalization

Interim managers play a crucial role in managing the digital transformation in companies. They are experienced experts who are temporarily deployed in companies to take on special tasks and bring about change. The digital transformation opens up exciting opportunities for interim managers:



## How interim managers can use digitalization

Various tools are used in the procurement and supply chain management (**SCM**) of companies, with the interim manager playing a central role in the integration of these tools.

1. needs analysis and strategy development

The interim manager begins with a comprehensive needs analysis. It examines existing **processes** and **identifies weak points** and opportunities for **optimization**.

2. selection and implementation of the tools

In close cooperation with the company management, the interim manager selects the appropriate solutions. He focuses on **end-to-end procurement, supplier relationship management** and the **tools' analytical capabilities**. The manager monitors the correct implementation and ensures that they are seamlessly integrated into the existing infrastructure.

3. process optimization and training

The interim manager monitors the process optimization to ensure that the tools are used efficiently. He conducts training for the internal team to ensure that employees are familiar with the new tools and can use them effectively. He attaches particular importance to a smooth flow between **supplier management** and the **digital procurement process**.

4. performance monitoring and adjustment

After implementation, the interim manager continuously monitors the performance of the integrated systems. He analyzes data to ensure that the targets set are achieved. If necessary, he makes adjustments and optimizes the use of the tools to ensure the **greatest possible benefit** for the company.

5. change management and communication

The interim manager is also in charge of change management. He communicates the **benefits of digitalization** and the reasons for introducing these tools to employees. It ensures that everyone involved understands how the tools improve the workflow and make the company more competitive.

## A holistic approach with an interim manager at your side

The integration of tools into the organization requires a **holistic approach** which includes not only technological solutions, but also strategic thinking and employee commitment. With an experienced interim manager at your side, you can ensure that this **integration** runs smoothly and your company can take full advantage of the benefits of digitalization.

### Conclusions

- **Growing demand for digital skills:** Companies are increasingly looking for interim managers with digital skills, leading to an increased demand for qualified experts.
- **Flexibility and collaboration:** Digital technologies enable interim managers to work remotely and manage international projects. They will also have the opportunity to work with innovative start-ups and technology companies.
- **Digital transformation as a reality:** Digital transformation is no longer a vision of the future, but a current reality that is forcing companies to adapt in order to remain competitive.
- **Interim managers as key figures:** Interim managers play a central role in digital transformation, as they are deployed on a temporary basis to take on specific tasks and bring about change in companies.



#### Richard Porstmann

Ich bin Interim Manager durch und durch. In jedem meiner Mandate steckt ein Teil an Beratung, Know-how, das ich mitbringe und an meine Auftraggeber transferiere. Als Global Citizen verstehe ich Zusammenhänge länder- und kulturübergreifend und versuche, unseren Planeten durch meine Entscheidungen nicht nur gerechter, sondern auch sicherer und nachhaltiger zu machen. Sicherlich ist es dabei vorteilhaft, dass ich selbst in Brasilien geboren und als Deutsch-Brasilianer in einem internationalen Umfeld, darunter Asien, Südamerika und Osteuropa, gelebt sowie auch an mehreren Produktionsstandorten gearbeitet habe.