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and Finance

From transportation to communication to currency, technology is transforming nearly every aspect of business. Accounting is no exception, and research shows keeping up with technological advancements is the greatest source of pressure for the profession t

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CFOs were asked, “In general, what would you say is the single greatest pressure facing your accounting and finance function?” Their responses*:

Keeping pace with changing technology	41%
Meeting regulatory compliance mandates	24%
Harnessing/managing big data	17%
Finding and keeping skilled staff	16%
Don't know	1%
	99%
*Responses do not total 100 percent due to rounding.	

“Technology touches every aspect of accounting and finance, and many organizations struggle to keep pace and understand the associated opportunities and risks,” said Paul McDonald, senior executive director for Robert Half. “Although updating technology requires an initial investment of time and resources, it can pay off in terms of improved financial reporting, enhanced security and the ability to make better decisions. It also helps companies strengthen their internal controls and remain compliant with regulatory mandates.”

McDonald added keeping pace with technology and using it effectively are impossible without skilled teams. “Companies need accounting and finance staff who are proficient with enterprise resource planning systems, are able to automate financial processes, and can tap business intelligence tools to mine data they can

turn into strategic guidance. For specific projects, consultants can step in to assist

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