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Sep. 21, 2020



Grant Thornton LLP has launched alyx, a new digital platform for transformation and innovation. The platform is available to all of Grant Thornton's service professionals so they can help solve business problems for clients with new and emerging technologies.

The alyx platform uses a 'concierge-enabled' system that, while automated, methodically shares business problems with teams of subject-matter specialists and technologists. These teams subsequently develop solutions by combining know-how in Grant Thornton's core service areas — accounting, tax and consulting — with technologies such as intelligent automation, data extraction, data cleansing, analytics and blockchain.

"Our alyx platform connects the people who identify business problems with those who build practical technology-driven solutions," says Jamie Fowler, chief transformation officer at Grant Thornton. "This kind of collaboration means our

people don't need to spend hours searching for answers or duplicating efforts; we

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Brown further explains that, through alyx, Grant Thornton matches business needs with tailored solutions. "We put the right people and the best technology in one easily accessible place. This helps cut through the complexity and confusion of the transformation and innovation landscape."

The alyx platform could prove especially useful as businesses negotiate the coronavirus pandemic, which is making digital transformation integral to effective operations and resilience. Not only does the platform deliver the right solutions for the specific problems at hand, but it also empowers Grant Thornton to help its clients focus on a series of small, targeted wins as opposed to large, costly multi-year programs.

Grant Thornton has used alyx to complement its coronavirus *Pandemic Risk*Assessment tool, which the firm launched last spring to help companies benchmark their operations against factors critical to business resilience during the pandemic.

"Our risk assessment tool presents clients with new fact patterns and provides viewpoints allowing them to sharpen their pandemic response and recovery plans," says Kyle Murphy, product management lead in Grant Thornton's Enterprise Transformation group.

Grant Thornton is also using alyx as a tool that its professionals can tap into to enhance and rearchitect the firm's operations, and to create new commercial offerings and services. With alyx, the firm's professionals can individually drive product- and service-offerings in ways that directly address the real-world needs they see every day.

In addition, the firm expects to tie a number of its internal systems into the alyx platform, which will improve how its professionals access and use firmwide

information ranging from standardized materials to technical audit and tax

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Grant Thornton has been piloting alyx since January 2020. To date, alyx has yielded more than 100 technology solutions and tens of thousands of hours of saved time.

Grant Thornton's Brown sums it up simply: "alyx is the power of technology made practical."

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