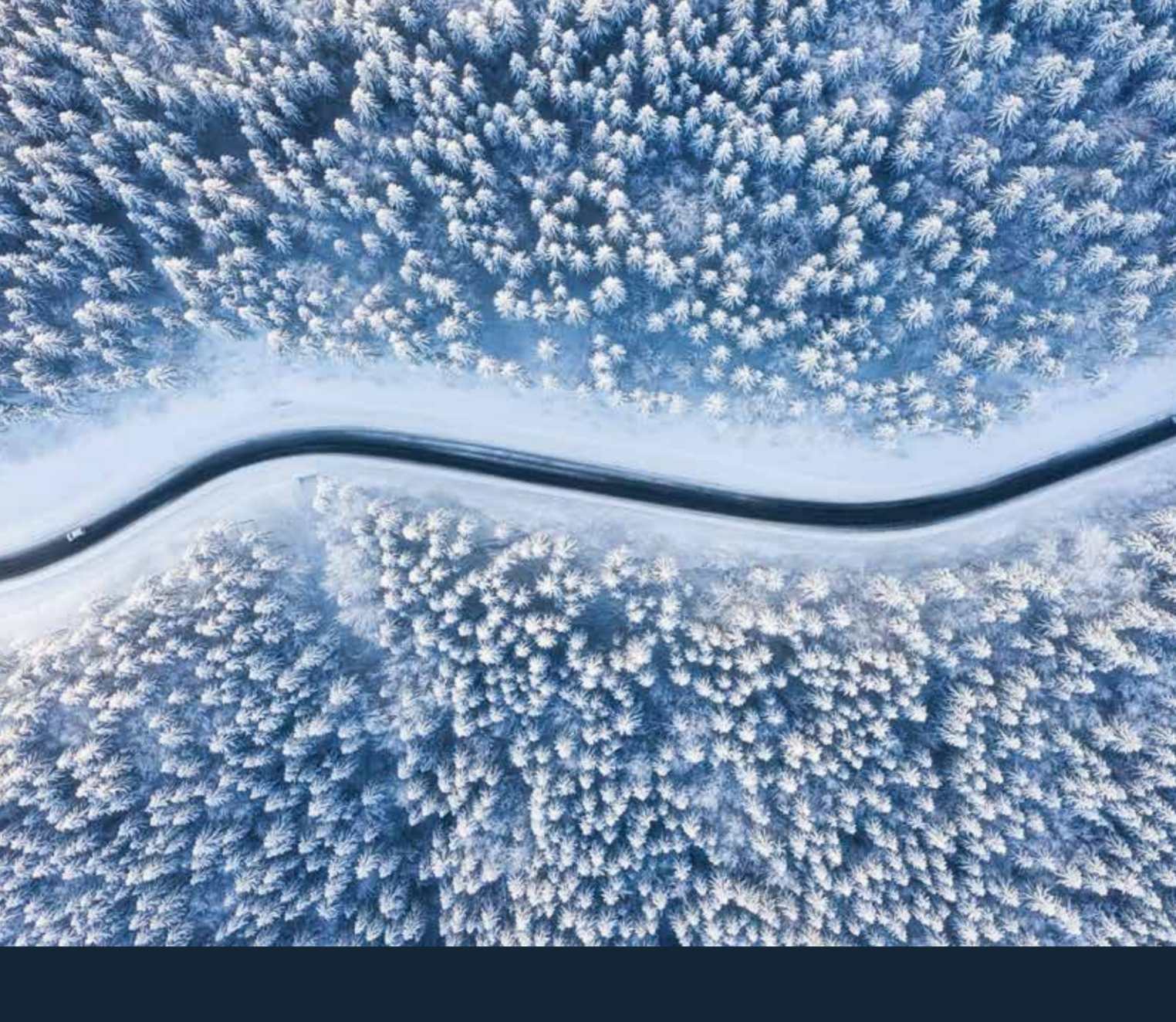# snow *

The Impact of Cloud Adoption on the CIO role

Your guide to understanding the power, opportunities and pitfalls that decentralized IT spending brings to your organization.

Decentralized IT is giving your organization's business units more power, freedom and influence.
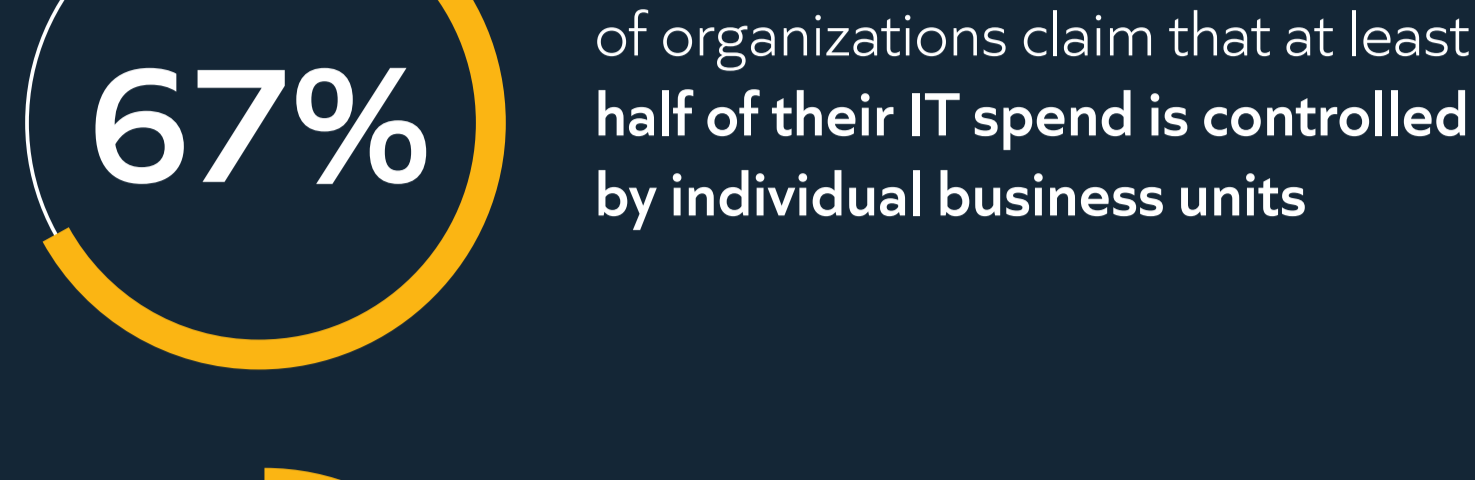
But what about the cost, governance and security implications that come with it?

Discover what CIOs and IT leaders are doing to manage these challenges and unlock the opportunities.

The shift in IT buying power

**You've adopted the cloud** across your organization and are seeing IT spend becoming more decentralized.

Business units hold the power and SaaS (Software as a Service) and IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service) are letting these teams make their own tech purchase decisions. Although, it is still responsible for budget, security and compliance, needs to define a new role for IT leaders – and a new way of working.

67% of organizations claim that at least **half of their IT spend** is controlled by individual business units

45% of IT leaders believe this shift will let their organization become **more agile and innovative**

Address the challenges around cost and security

The opportunities are clear, **but so are the challenges.**

Concerns include:

Rising cloud costs | Integration with legacy technologies | Security | Auditing
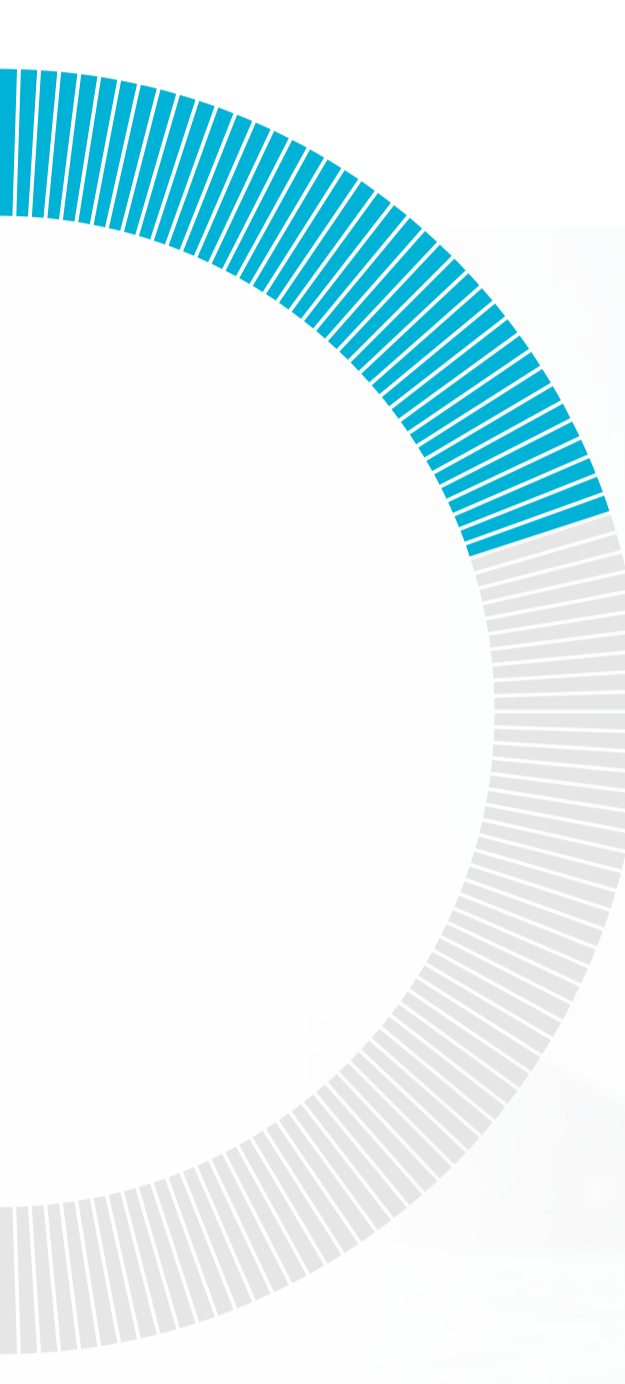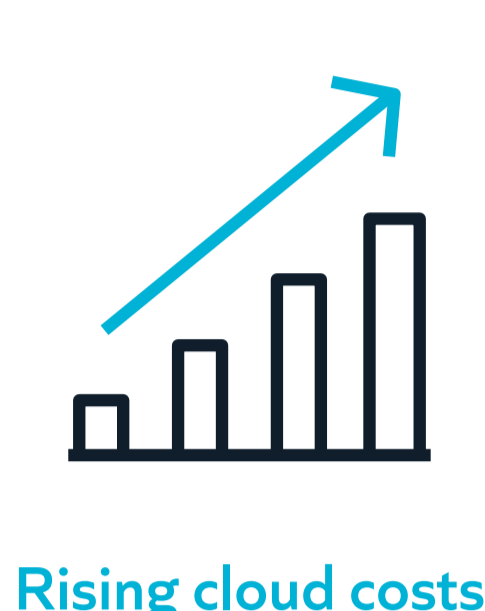
40% of IT leaders are 'somewhat concerned' by the effect of increased business unit ownership.

IT leaders need to find a way to maintain control over business technology, without limiting the productivity of tech-reliant business units.
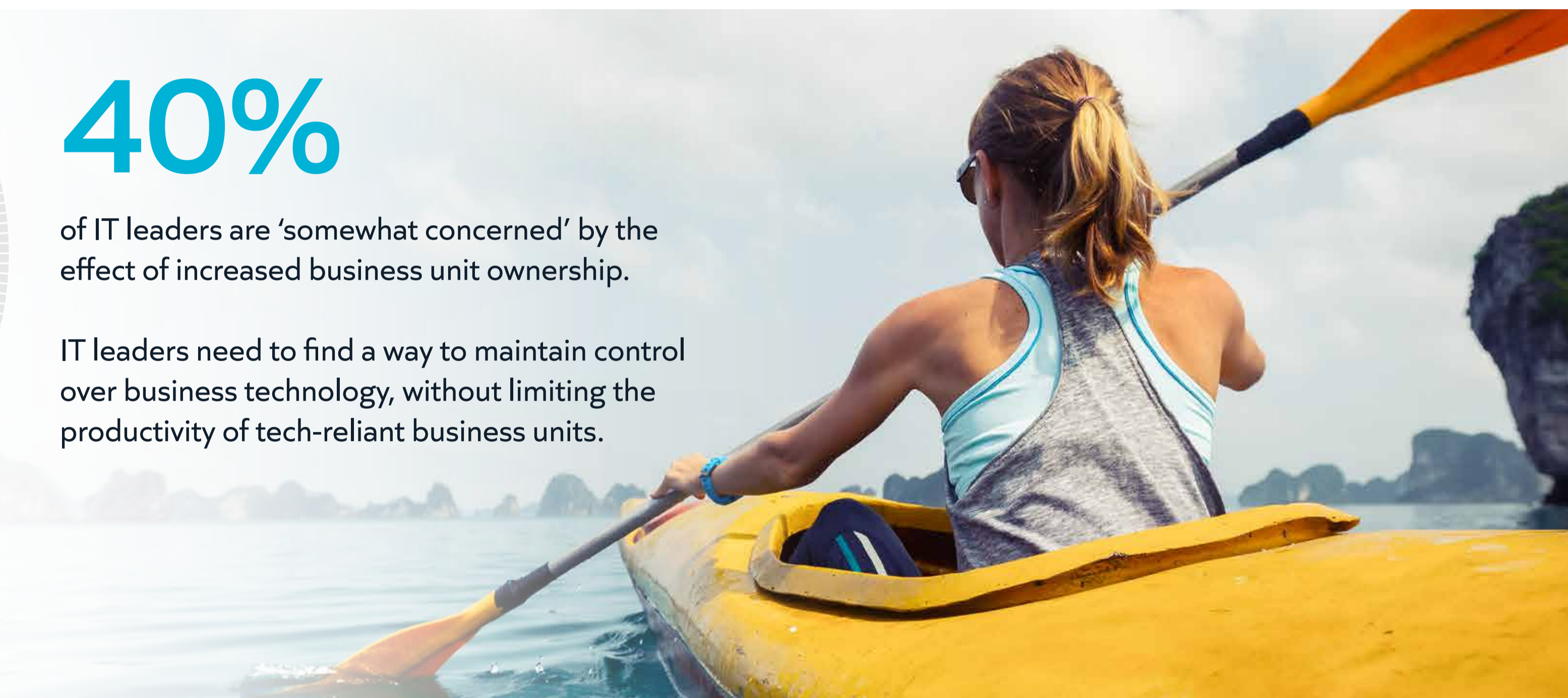
The challenge with: SaaS solutions

IT struggles to get the appropriate level of oversight to manage sprawl, cost, compliance and security.
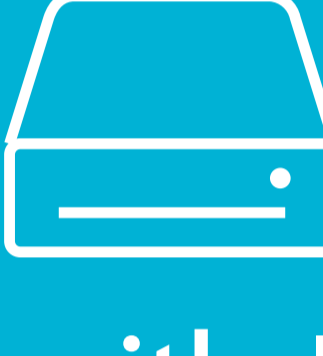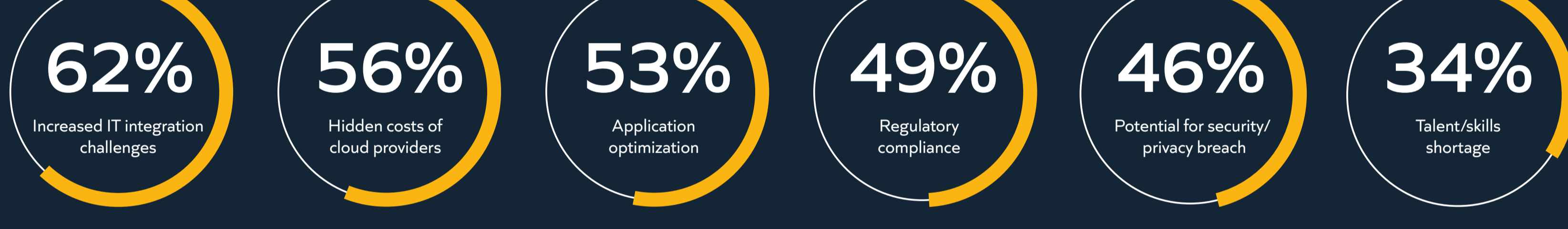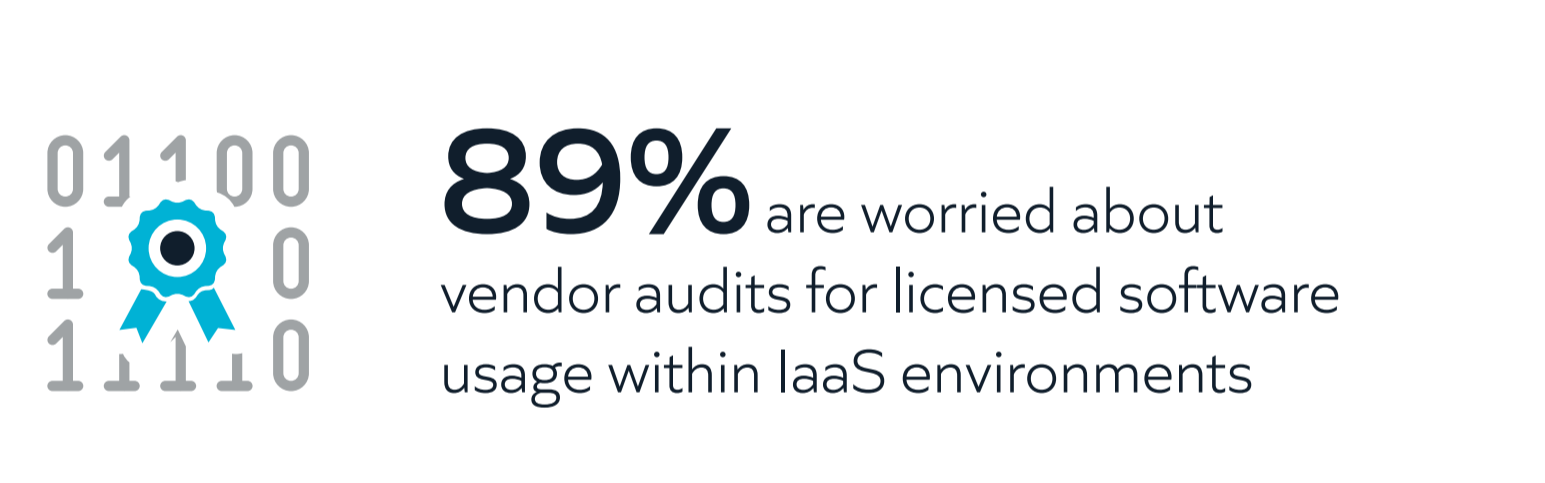
The challenge with: IaaS platforms

Investment in IaaS platforms drives business growth and innovation, but costs can quickly spiral out of control.

IT leaders are concerned about losing the ability to view and manage workloads across multiple on-premise and cloud environments.

The multiple concerns that IT leaders have with the shift in IT spending

62% Increased IT integration challenges

56% Hidden costs of cloud providers

53% Application optimization

49% Regulatory compliance

46% Potential for security privacy breach

34% Talent/skills shortage

Decentralized IT spending is putting IT leaders in a difficult situation when it comes to protecting the organization from audit exposure

89% are worried about vendor audits for licensed software usage within IaaS environments

73% of organizations have been audited by at least one software vendor in the past 12 months

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It's not just IT leaders who face multiple challenges with the spending shift

Organizations can expect to face challenges like:

40% Audit preparation becoming more time-consuming and complex

35% Increased risk to data security

32% Cloud spend spiraling out of control

96% of IT leaders believe they are judged on IT's effectiveness in driving business growth – not IT operational measures
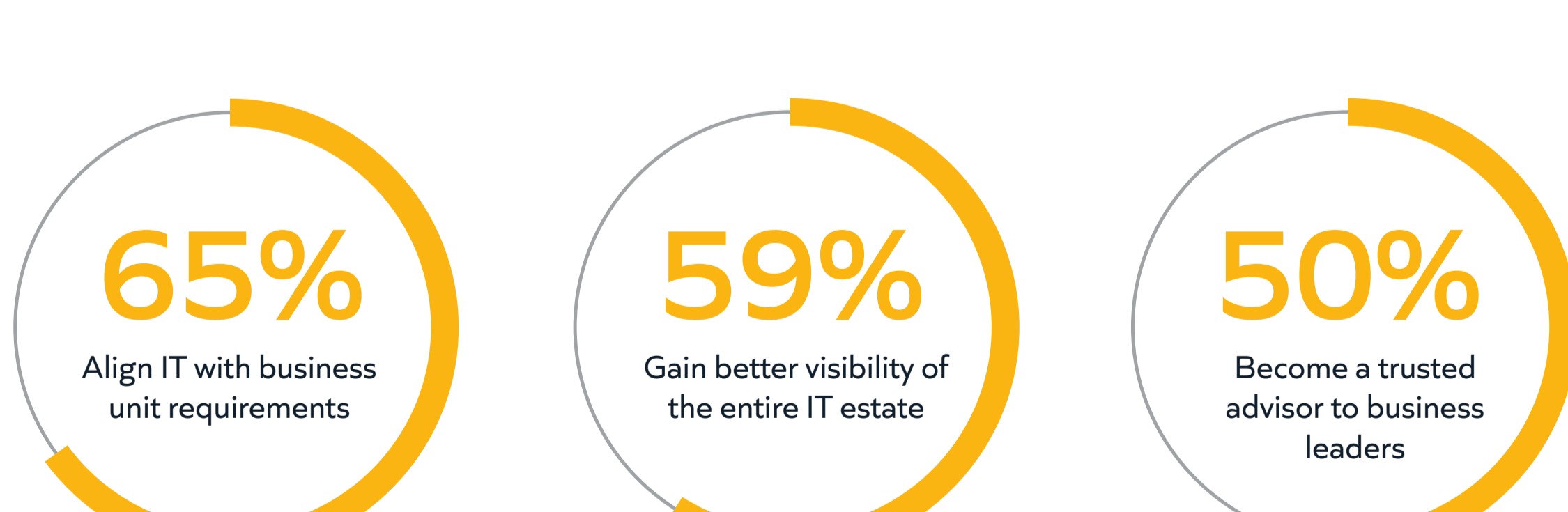

What does this shift mean for the CIO role?

Many organizations are already seeing positive results from this new way of working. Thanks to decentralized IT spend, CIOs and IT leaders are:
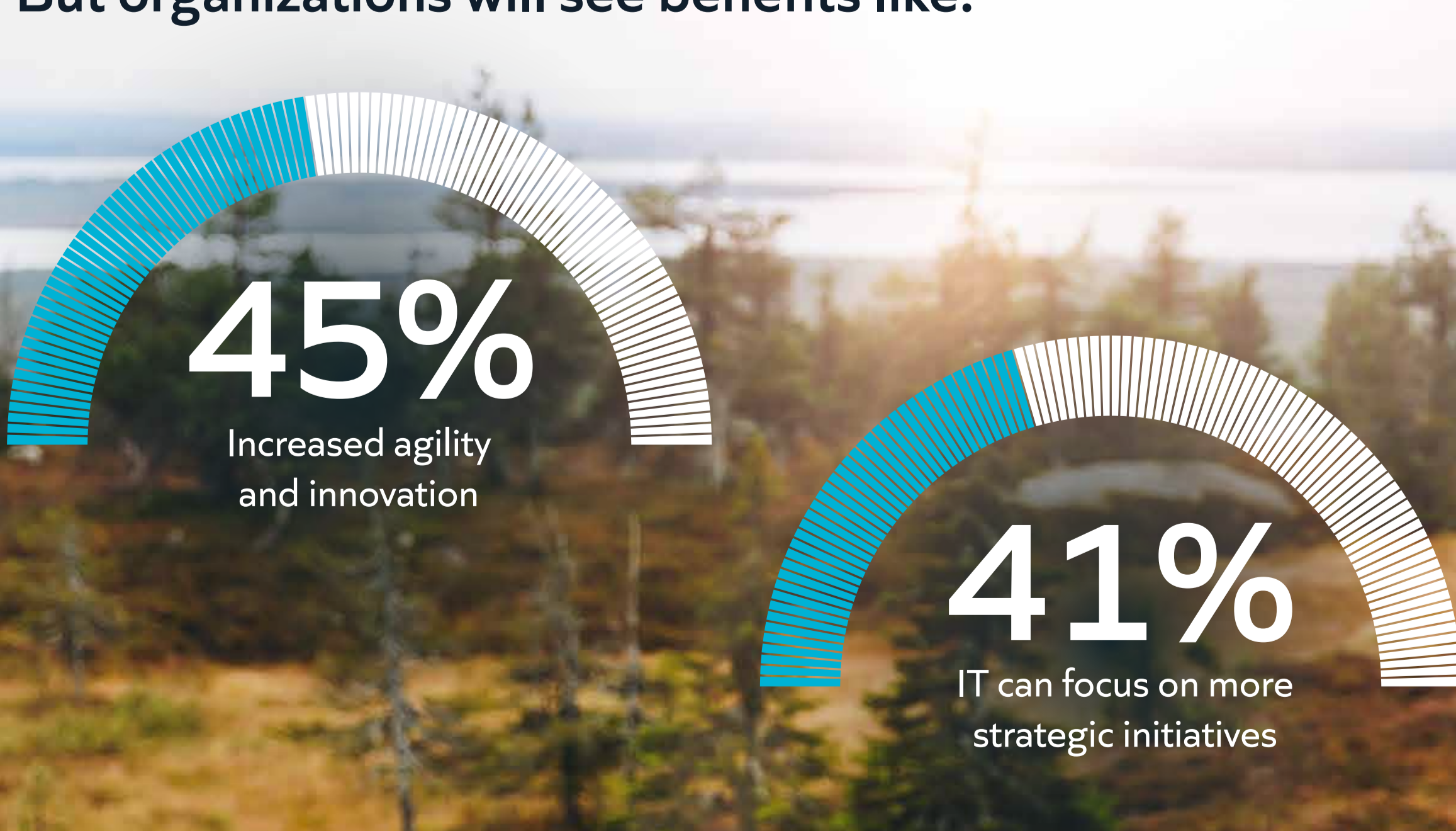
54% Finding it easier to **command boardroom attention** as the leadership better manages digital

46% Investigating new ways to find and **analyze the usage and cost** of technologies

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As business units continue to manage their own IT spend, IT leaders expect their roles to evolve

This is how:

65% Align IT with business unit requirements

59% Gain better visibility of the entire IT estate

50% Become a trusted advisor to business leaders

But organizations will see benefits like:

45% Increased agility and innovation

41% IT can focus on more strategic initiatives

What does the future hold?

It's time to address how decentralized IT will **impact your organization** – and your job.

Find out how to minimize the challenges and unlock the benefits in our exclusive whitepaper by Snow Software and IDG connect.

[What decentralized IT spending means for the CIO's role]