

How can an IT system initially help a company advance, but later become a requirement for that business to stay competitive?

I think a IT system can help a company advance by giving them situational awareness of what is going on in their company. In most systems it give you want to input analysis very important data. For example, it allows restaurants to analysis when they have the most customers in a time period. This type of analysis will let you adjust employee work times. During the slow times you can use the data provided to have less personnel working during that time period. During those peak time will be able to be identified so extra personnel are placed on shift during that time period.

If you have other competitive companies tracking data you can use it to help improve your company. You can use some their success strategies to make you more competitive. For example, you may see you your competition doing well but the changed some of their operating hour. This may give you an idea to adjust your hours. You may also use the data and found out that there was a promotion going on that increased sales. This may give you the motivation to find a competitive deal to get customers back from the competition. The information collect by your Information System can be used to make so many great improvements to your company if you take the time to analyze the date that is collected.

Response 2

An example of an IT system initially helping a company advance would be the on line banking or shopping that people do more now than they used to. Online banking lets people not wait in lines anymore at the banks. You can scan your checks using phones now to make deposits. Online banking also lets you transfer money anytime you want. There were only a few banks out there that did this but now more and more banks are going to the online banking. People are feeling more comfortable using online banking and banks have to do more of this to stay competitive as time goes on.

Online shopping is the way to go these days also. People don't want to go to crowded malls anymore and a lot of the stores have their businesses on line to get better business these days. Most stores that offer online shopping will give you free shipping if you spend a certain amount of money while shopping. Most major stores offer online shopping now to get more business now. Now you see almost every store out with some type of online shopping to stay competitive with the major companies.