



Innovation that drives growth

Interview with Sophie Proust,
Chief Technology Officer, Atos

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Sophie Proust





What role does technology play in Atos's growth strategy?

Technology is a major driver of client satisfaction and our business growth as we work side by side with our clients to solve their business challenges using new technologies.

We are focused on developing market-facing solutions: designing, developing, and producing our own products, both in-house and with our ecosystem of partners and startup organizations. Our innovation and leadership in emerging technologies such as quantum computing keep us at the forefront of new trends and opportunities with a portfolio of 3,000 patents – and it is growing all the time. We never stand still.

Our Tech Trends radar maps where we see new technologies emerging that will change our clients' business. This means that we can bring the latest innovations to our go-to-market plans and keep our clients at least one step ahead with emerging technologies. As thought leaders and pioneers in our industry, we want to make sure our clients are in pole position for the future.

424 customer innovation workshops in 2020

3,000+ patents

€235m annual Research & Development spend

How do you encourage innovation across Atos?

Our culture is one that inspires creativity, ideation, agility and disruption. It is this spirit that makes Atos such a unique place to work.

Every year we showcase our innovative talent and share knowledge through events such as Innovation Week and Tech Days. This year we launched a new internal innovation program called ImpactYourFuture which aims to find solutions to specific business challenges our clients may face. Every challenge has a sponsor, who commits to taking great ideas forward into concrete solutions that will drive client benefits.

Working with promising and disruptive startups through the Atos Scaler accelerator program enhances our portfolio and go-to-market. Open, agile innovation is something we are passionate about. It is the key to the future of Atos and the future of our clients.

How closely do you work with clients on innovation?

I would say very closely. In 2020 we hosted over 400 Client Innovation Workshops working together on new solutions to their challenges. The reality is that our clients' challenges are key drivers for innovation at all levels of Atos. For example, members of our Expert Community of distinguished technologists regularly meet with clients to share their perspectives with them. That is incredibly valuable to our clients. Of course, Atos also benefits from this approach as it provides us with additional industry insights to inform the work of our innovators. It's part of what makes Atos such an important partner for our clients.