

# IT Efficiency in 2025: Finding Focus in a Challenging Economy

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Presented by

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## Introduction

As we step into 2025, businesses across New Zealand are navigating a challenging economic environment.

At HB Technologies, we know that thriving in tough times isn't about doing more - it's about working smarter. By leveraging your existing IT investments and uncovering efficiencies, you can focus on what truly matters: **making meaningful changes that will move the needle for your business.**

*Duncan Wallace*

Here are some **practical ways to maximise what you already have**, including real world examples to show you just how BIG of an impact small changes can make to your bottom line.



## **1** The Power of Data: Leveraging IT for Informed Budgeting

Data is one of your most valuable assets, but it often remains underutilised. Tools like Microsoft Power BI can transform raw information into clear, actionable insights, enabling informed decision-making and better strategic planning. From monitoring performance to identifying cost-saving opportunities, tailored dashboards offer unparalleled visibility into your operations.

**EXAMPLE: We recently built a Power BI dashboard for a major Hawke's Bay manufacturing company. By highlighting inefficiencies in their supply chain and sales pipeline reporting, this helped management *drive increased sales* of more profitable products.**

## **2** Automating with AI to **Free Up Time**



Artificial intelligence (AI) isn't just for the big players - it's a powerful tool for streamlining operations in businesses of all sizes. AI can automate time-consuming back-office tasks like invoice processing, data entry, and even customer service triage, freeing up your team for more valuable work.

**EXAMPLE:** We helped a professional services firm implement an AI-driven invoice processing system. It **reduced errors by 70%** and allowed their admin team to focus on client-facing activities instead of paperwork.





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## The Art of Automation: **How Smarter Processes Save Time and Money**

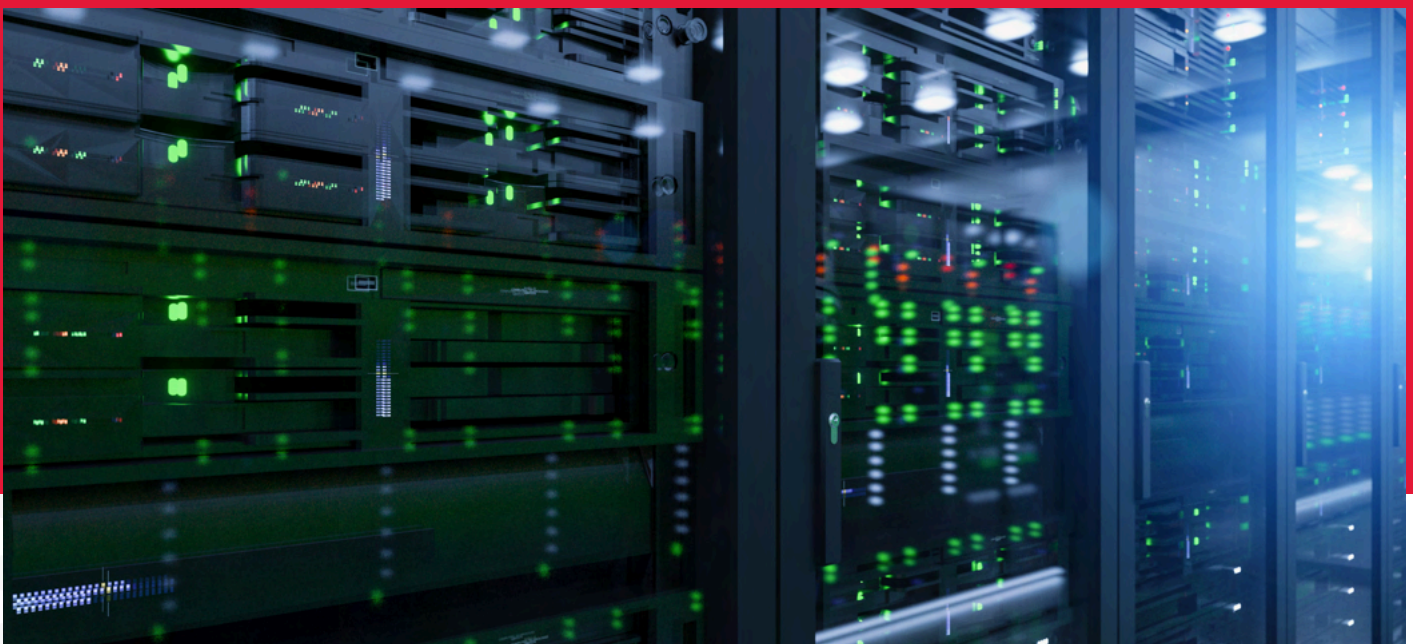
Beyond AI, simple process automation can simplify your daily workflows, reduce bottlenecks, and save time and money. Whether it's automating approval processes, synchronising systems, or standardising routine tasks, even small changes can have a big impact.

**EXAMPLE:** For an aged care provider, we created a maintenance and repair register in SharePoint that enabled them to action jobs quickly and track jobs more efficiently, ***saving them time and improving resident satisfaction.***

## **4** Honest Infrastructure **Reviews**

When was the last time you independently reviewed your IT infrastructure? Many businesses continue paying for systems that don't serve their needs. A detailed review can help identify inefficiencies, eliminate redundancies, and recommend smarter investments to keep you agile and cost-effective.

**EXAMPLE:** We recently conducted an infrastructure review for an accounting company and identified underperforming servers and have provided recommendations for both cloud and on-premises solutions. *The expected efficiency gains will result in improved productivity and returns circa \$10,000 per month.*





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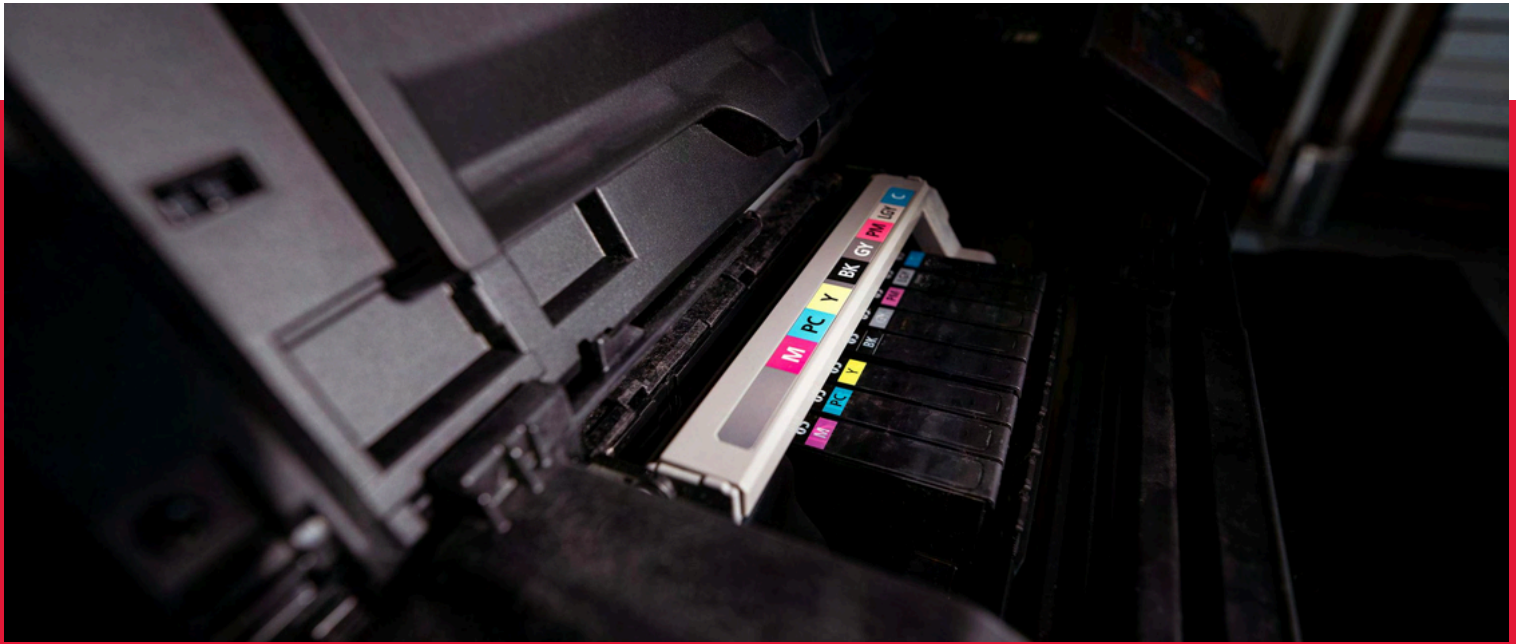
## Use it or lose it: Software Usage Audits

Unused software subscriptions can silently drain your budget. A usage audit is essential to pinpoint which tools are valuable and which ones aren't. Then, you can decide whether to use them effectively or lose them - it's that simple.

**EXAMPLE:** We worked with a manufacturing firm that had a number of underutilised software subscriptions. By consolidating and renegotiating licenses, *they saved \$8,000 annually.*

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        data = data || selector;  
        selector = undefined;  
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## **6** From Click to Print: Making Every Page Count



Printing is often an overlooked cost centre. Streamlining workflows, switching to digital documents where possible, and using secure print features can significantly reduce paper, ink, and maintenance expenses.

**EXAMPLE:** We helped a local school implement a “print on demand” system, *cutting unnecessary and/or accidental printing by 20% and saving them \$9,000 a year.*





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## Knowledge Pays Dividends: Training for Better ROI

Sometimes the best investment you can make is in your team. Training employees to fully utilise existing tools and systems can unlock untapped potential, leading to efficiencies and higher ROI without any new spend.

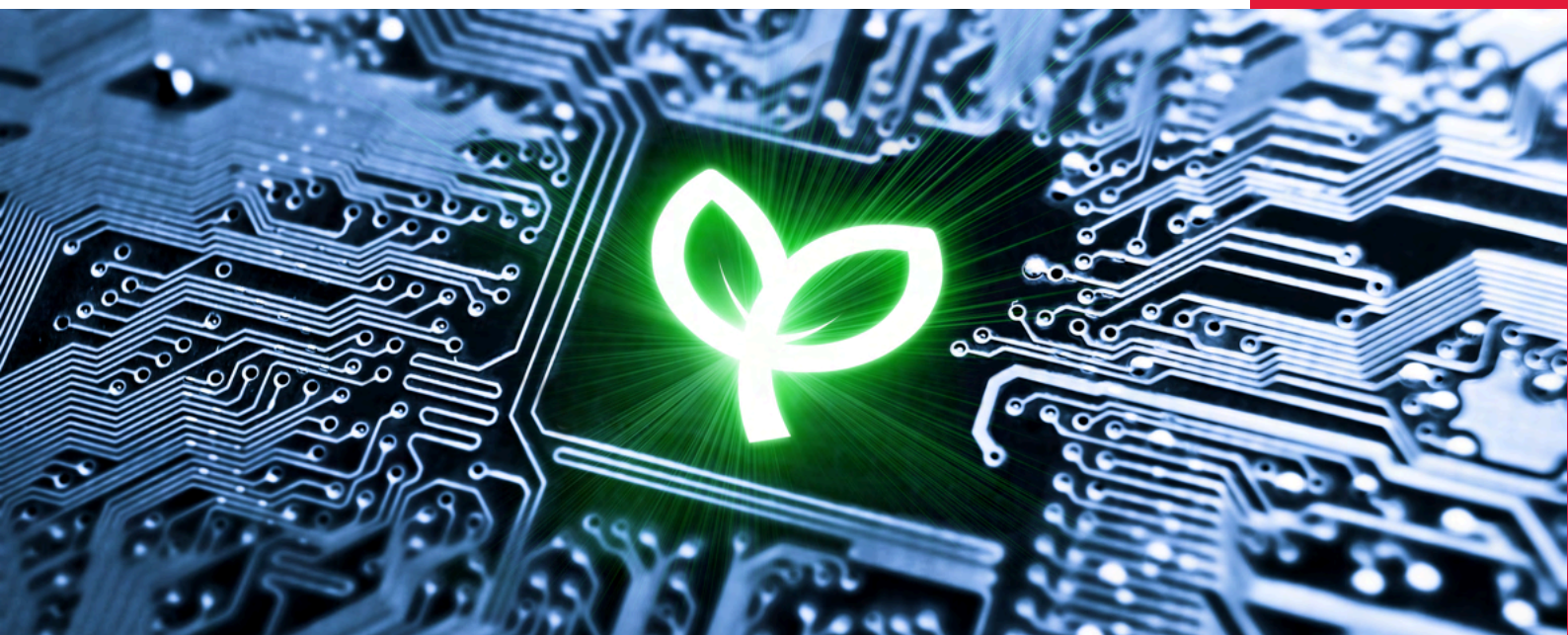
**EXAMPLE:** We trained a finance team to optimise their use of Excel and Power BI. By automating several reports that used to take hours to generate and analyse again and again, they estimate that they've **freed up an entire headcount** to focus more on useful tasks.



## **8** **Green IT: Saving Energy, Saving Money**

Energy costs are rising, and IT infrastructure can be a significant contributor. Reviewing server usage, migrating to energy-efficient hardware, and utilising cloud-based solutions can reduce energy consumption while supporting sustainability goals.

**EXAMPLE:** We recently helped a manufacturing client consolidate their server infrastructure, **cutting energy use by 25%** - a win for their wallet and the planet.





## **9** **Ditch the Unnecessary Meetings:** **Streamline Collaboration for Savings**



Collaboration tools are essential, but duplication of platforms can cause inefficiency and expense. Reviewing your setup and consolidating tools can help streamline workflows while cutting unnecessary costs. This is particularly important for hybrid workforces.

**EXAMPLE:** We worked with a primary producer to integrate Microsoft Teams with meeting room technologies, as their central collaboration hub and replacing three other apps.

***This saved them \$5,000 per year, improved team communication and saved travel costs.***



YOUR TURN:

**Ready to sanity check your  
IT investment strategy?**

**Let's tackle 2025 together!**

At **HB Technologies**, our mission is to help you get curious and discover better. By questioning your current state of play, you can make the most of your existing investments, uncover savings, and focus on what matters. IT should be a vehicle to drive your goals - even in uncertain times.

If you'd like to explore how we can help your business maximise its potential, let's have a conversation. **Together, we can tackle 2025 with clarity and confidence:** get in touch via [service@hbtech.co.nz](mailto:service@hbtech.co.nz) or 0800 423 834.



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