This Week:
- Winning Against Tax Fraud with Data Analytics
- Project Agility According to the Infinite Game
- VMWare Project Advances at the Data Center

Winning Against Tax Fraud with Data Analytics
Marty Johnson, Chief Economist at the Department of Revenue (DOR), collaborated with several business areas and the DoIT State Data Practice to undertake an initiative to increase revenue and improve compliance with state tax laws. The need to catch erroneous or even fraudulent refunds before they were sent was recognized as an opportunity to utilize a sophisticated analytical tool and realize a significant win for the State of Illinois and our taxpayers. With the assistance of the State Data Practice, Revenue set up a Data Analytics practice within their Research Office and prevented more than $80 million over a three-year period. Just this week, DOR was awarded a 2019 NASCIO State IT Recognition Award in the Data Management, Analytics & Visualization category for this successful initiative. Watch the 60’s theme award ceremony announcement, and congratulations to all involved!

Project Agility According to the Infinite Game
Last week’s monthly Business Analysis Competency Group included a presentation from Bobby Taruc, DoIT Infrastructure Transformation PM. Bobby has sixteen years of experience in project, service and delivery management, primarily in the private sector. Using the tenets of Simon Sinek’s The Infinite Game and James Carse’s lessons in game theory, he discussed “critical success factors” to our personal lives, an Agile project management culture and organizational agility. Taruc emphasized the benefits of keeping an “infinite mindset” of looking ahead, respecting people and welcoming flexibility to enhance work-life balance, fostering employee engagement, and increasing overall customer service. Personal, project and organizational agility begin with an infinite game mindset.

VMWare Project Advances at the Data Center
Implementation of DoIT’s Hybrid Cloud build is complete! Our new Software Defined Data Center (SDDC) includes the Data Center (CCF) in Springfield and the alternate data center in Oakbrook (DCF). Technical staff from several areas have assisted in the endeavor and are learning how to administer this new resource. Migrations from the old, legacy environment will soon begin in earnest, ensuring that we provide our customers with state-of-the-art technology to optimize application efficiency and keep data secure. The new “vCloud Automation Factory” is an example of how automation is creating new virtual servers to eliminate cumbersome and time-consuming tasks. Additional enhancements will be implemented as stream-lined processes become more efficient.

DoIT FYIs & Reminders
The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) has been recognized for its College2Career Tool (C2C) and the part this tool can play as students and families consider options for higher education in Illinois. Based upon education and career goals, C2C is designed to help students find the best fit. Link to the Press Release for more details. Combine this resource with College Changes Everything Month® in Illinois for a holistic view of the college application process. FAFSA completion and college application workshops, hosted by ISAC and partners across the state, are scheduled at high schools, towns and cities across Illinois throughout the Fall. Link to more details, dates, times and locations.