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How to Turn Generative Al Implementation into Real CX Results

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Generative AI is no longer a concept on the horizon. With 77 percent of customer service (CX) leaders either already using or planning to deploy generative AI solutions to improve customer experience processes, it's clear we've reached a critical turning point. The real question has shifted from "can we adopt generative AI" to "how can we make the most from our AI investments?" The potential of AI is clear, but realizing that potential is the next challenge.

CX leaders need results they can take to the boardroom — clear metrics tied to revenue growth, cost reduction, and customer retention. Fortunately, generative AI and the AI Agents it can power, are already proving their worth for many CX teams by delivering tangible outcomes from day one, from faster issue resolution to predictive customer support that cuts costs and drives customer loyalty. While many organizations have already started their journey into AI adoption, an intentional, strategic



approach that leverages Al's capabilities across the entire customer journey is critical to maximizing the potential impact of the technology. As the capabilities of generative Al expand, so does its autonomy. Agentic Al, or Al systems that can take autonomous actions based on real-time data, is becoming a critical component of this transformation. From driving ROI to overcoming legacy systems and aligning Al efforts with key business goals, generative Al is poised to transform the customer experience from the ground up.

Thinking Past Point Solutions

As organizations race to adopt AI, many fall into the trap of cobbling together point solutions — individual AI tools designed to tackle specific problems in isolation. While these solutions can deliver short-term benefits, they often lead to fragmented experiences, inconsistent data handling, and operational inefficiencies. A chatbot might improve response times, but without integration with backend systems, it can't provide meaningful resolutions. An AI-driven analytics tool might surface insights, but if it doesn't connect to action-taking workflows, those insights remain just that — data without execution.

Instead of treating AI as a collection of separate add-ons, businesses need to take a platform approach. A unified AI-powered CX platform enables seamless data flow, intelligent automation, and a more holistic view of the customer journey. By consolidating AI capabilities into a single, interoperable framework, organizations can ensure that AI-driven interactions are consistent, intelligent, and capable of driving meaningful business outcomes.

For example, rather than deploying separate AI tools for omnichannel interactions, technical troubleshooting, and appointment scheduling for a technician visit, a platform-based approach integrates end-to-end customer resolution under a single AI framework. This ensures that organizations can scale AI more effectively, as updates and improvements can be applied across the entire system rather than requiring piecemeal upgrades.

Al is most powerful when it's connected, adaptive, and continuously learning from every interaction. A well-integrated Al platform does more than solve isolated problems — it transforms customer experience end-to-end, turning Al from a collection of tools into a true business accelerator.

Driving Immediate ROI

Envision customer service evolving from a time-consuming, fragmented process into a seamless, near-instantaneous experience. Generative AI is key to moving from potential to reality. Traditional support models used to involve lengthy investigations, multiple handoffs, and in some cases, mountains of paperwork. Now, AI-powered systems analyze complex problems in seconds, deliver immediate resolution, and generate concise wrap-up notes with minimal human intervention.

This change isn't just about better customer service — it's reshaping how businesses operate and manage costs, even in field service. Take, for example, a field technician dispatched to repair a malfunctioning HVAC system at a commercial building. Traditionally, they might need to consult manuals, call support for guidance, or wait for parts after diagnosing the issue onsite. This outdated approach often leads to delays, repeat visits, and higher operational costs.

With generative AI, the process looks entirely different. Before the technician even arrives, AI analyzes historical repair data, equipment specifications, and error codes from IoT-connected devices to predict the root cause of the failure. Not only does it offer insights, but it can autonomously generate step-by-step repair instructions and order the necessary parts, all without human intervention. The system can even schedule logistics to ensure that the parts arrive on time, streamlining the entire process.

Once on-site, the technician is guided by an Al Agent assistant, which autonomously provides troubleshooting resources, visual aids, and instructions tailored to the real-time situation. If the technician needs additional assistance, Al-powered tools can initiate communication with human support agents, but it also ensures that issues are dealt with independently, wherever possible. By

integrating generative and agentic AI into field operations, organizations can shift from reactive to predictive strategies, ensuring issues are addressed before they escalate into larger disruptions. Processes that once took hours are now resolved in minutes, drastically reducing operational costs while improving customer satisfaction. Organizations are unlocking value quickly, from faster issue resolution to streamlined logistics, all while enabling support teams to focus on higher-value tasks. This transformation delivers tangible benefits: faster service resolution, reduced costs, and a more reliable experience for customers.

Overcoming Legacy Fatigue

Despite these advancements, many organizations face resistance in adopting AI due to legacy systems that feel outdated, rigid, and brittle. Aging infrastructure and siloed data create barriers to digital transformation. However, generative AI offers a pragmatic and strategic approach that minimizes risk and maximizes potential.

One of the most effective strategies for successful AI adoption is phased, incremental modernization. Think of it as upgrading critical systems strategically rather than overhauling everything at once. For many organizations, the decision to introduce AI capabilities across their infrastructure must happen gradually. By deploying generative AI and agentic AI in targeted layers, organizations can integrate these new systems seamlessly with their existing infrastructure, allowing for continuous improvements without introducing significant disruption.

For example, a business with an established finance or logistics system could introduce AI-powered chatbots for low-level inquiries or automate repetitive data entry processes. This would allow the company to retain its existing systems for more complex tasks while introducing AI as a valuable tool to improve certain aspects of its operations. This approach leverages existing technological investments, minimizes disruption, and allows companies to innovate without taking unnecessary risks.

One of the more complicated hurdles in this modernization journey is data integration. Legacy systems often operate in silos, meaning valuable data is trapped in formats that are hard to access or analyze. But copying data across systems is not recommended, so you need an integration strategy that can leverage the data from where it is while applying it in real time to the specific AI context. Organizations need a strong underlying data integration platform that connects these systems, providing a unified source of reliable information. With advanced natural language processing, AI can extract meaningful insights from unstructured data, transforming previously inaccessible information into actionable intelligence.

Machine learning models can be tuned to understand an organization's unique context, creating adaptive interfaces that grow more sophisticated over time. This means the AI doesn't just replace existing processes — it learns and improves them continuously. Over time, AI Agents become better at understanding the business's unique needs, continuously enhancing their ability to deliver more accurate predictions and insights. This offers significant long-term value as businesses can leverage the AI's adaptive learning to continuously improve customer experiences.

Linking Success to Business Outcomes

For CX leaders, the critical question remains: How does this technological innovation translate to measurable business results? Generative AI's true power lies in its ability to drive clear and tangible financial outcomes. However, many organizations still struggle with measuring success beyond broad metrics like efficiency gains or faster service delivery. To truly extract value from AI, businesses must © Pipeline Publishing, L.L.C. AII Rights Reserved.

link AI implementations directly to critical business metrics like revenue growth, cost reductions, improved customer retention, and enhanced cross-selling capabilities.

Al should not be treated as a technological experiment or a "nice-to-have" solution. Instead, it must be integrated into the business strategy as a core, transformative asset with financial implications. Some of the most successful companies have already started to use Al not just as a tool to optimize operations but as a means to expand their market reach and create new revenue streams.

For example, Belfast-based service provider Kainos showcases the transformative power of generative AI in improving CX. By implementing AI across their service operations, they've created an intelligent knowledge base for customer self-service and equipped their support team with AI-powered case summarization and automated ticket handling. The results speak for themselves: customer satisfaction soared from 80 percent to 90 percent. Case resolution times dropped by 71 percent, and escalations decreased from three per week to just one per quarter. Most notably, the AI implementation has enabled Kainos to extend enterprise-grade support to smaller clients who previously couldn't access this level of service, demonstrating how AI can both improve service quality and expand market reach.

The Path Forward

Generative AI has already moved beyond theory into action, proving its ability to transform customer experience and deliver measurable value. However, the real key to success lies in how organizations approach its implementation.

For CX leaders, the mandate is clear: treat generative AI as a transformative business strategy. Start with focused, high-impact use cases that can demonstrate immediate results. Build incrementally, ensuring that AI initiatives evolve as the technology matures and new opportunities emerge. Measure relentlessly to track progress, validate success, and identify areas for further improvement.

The companies that succeed will not just survive the AI revolution — they will lead it, driving the future of customer experience with intelligent, adaptive, and human-centric solutions that benefit both their customers and business.