# SOFTWARE ROBOTS IN CONTACT CENTRES

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Although automation can streamline the operation of contact centres and provide better customer experience at a lower cost, it cannot completely replace the need for human labour. While most contact centre agents may consider automation to be their competition, this actually is not the case. Contact centres strive to focus on using the automation technology to eliminate manual and repetitive tasks and provide their customers with a more efficient and personal experience.

The return on investment in software robots ranges from six to twelve months. The complexity of the actual implementation is minimal compared to implementing a new system. RPA can usually be implemented within a few weeks, with a minimal burden on employees associated with developing and testing the solution.

# **ROBOTIC PROCESS AUTOMATION (RPA)**

Robotic Process Automation, or RPA for short, is a technology for creating software robots that allows you to process routine and repetitive activities automatically and without the need for human intervention. Any process that can be described and is rule-based can be automated. Any processes automated by RPA are always logged so that you can keep track of what the robot is doing.

## WHAT THE SOFTWARE ROBOT CAN DO?

- Check systems or received emails
- Search websites
- Extract data from forms and enter them into systems
- Verify data
- Copy data between various systems
- · Send emails based on predefined criteria
- Send notifications

Software robots can significantly reduce administrative and manual labour-intensive tasks in departments by 60 to 70%, relieve companies from having to finance cost activities, and create space for profitable activities. Robots are able to work 24/7, they have no problem coping with any task volume increases, and they do not suffer from dropouts of human resources: all without the need to hire and train new people.

# HOW TO START?

Would you like to start automating, but you do not know which process to start with? Selecting a process suitable for automation is one of the most important parts of the automation itself. Our specialists will be happy to help you with this.

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Software robots can be connected to any contact centre or communication channel used by the contact centre (mail, voice/IVR, or chat) and can automate processes in the following areas:

#### CUSTOMER SELF-SERVICE

Including any connected automatic service processing:

#### AGENT ASSISTANT

Assistant platform for agents to optimize the performance of their activities:

#### POST-CALL ACTIVITIES

Software robots for post-call processing

#### BACK-OFFICE PROCESSES

Easy transfer between front-office and back-office processes and tasks

## **BENEFITS**

Other than cost optimization, the biggest challenges in contact centres include staff retention, ensuring that agents have the necessary knowledge, workflow prioritization, and customer satisfaction.

Digitization and the deployment of software robot results in optimized costs, significantly improved operation parameters by up to 60 to 70% (AHT, SLA,

- Chat channel/chatbot, web, email or IVR connected to robots that automatically respond or perform a process (such as order processing or order cancellation)
- Advisory: an interactive robot conducting necessary transactions in real time during a call/chat with a customer (e.g., the calculation of an entitlement to a discount, instalments, or the actual processing of a customer's request, including new service activation and data changing)
- Automatic process initiation based on the input immediately after the end of the call or chat
- Various system updates, copying data from one system to another, and application or database synchronization
- Automatic processing of back-office tasks
- Document or request processing, code generation, invoice issuing, automatic verification of the entitlement to an instalment calendar, and payment or money refund processing

TTR, and FTR), increased employee productivity, reduced hiring and training costs, and improved business parameters (e.g., customer and employee satisfaction). Software robots process activities 24/7, and they can handle any peak-time workloads. On top of that, they ensure maximum adherence to defined processes and a significant reduction of corrective works and associated additional costs.

- Customer request processing automation through integration with a helpdesk portal or a contact centre
- Customized agent console with real time data pulled in from various company systems helping to serve the customer
- Omnichannel: an integrated agent platform for connecting various communication channels into a single platform
- Creating process "buttons" in existing applications
- Data validation and process automation in the case of non-standard processes or exemptions
- Controlled workflows: the orchestration of processes combining the work of humans and software robots

After all activities are processed by the robot, you receive a complete report with information on where the robot went and what activities it performed. It does not store any information, so sensitive data stays within your company.

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### WHAT YOU CAN USE ROBOTS FOR?

#### **GOODS ORDERING**

When ordering goods by phone or chat, and after conversation with a customer, a contact centre agent must enter the ordering system and fill in all the necessary information: the customer's personal data, the delivery and billing address, and the purchased goods. This takes time for the agent, who could otherwise already be in conversation with another customer.

#### What the robot does

At the end of the agent's conversation with the customer, the robot takes over the recorded data and enters the ordering system. There it verifies the availability of the product, creates an order, sends information about receiving the order to the customer, and sends a request to the warehouse to send the goods. By allowing agents to service other customers in the meantime, the number of calls they can handle is automatically increased.

#### THE AVAILABILITY OF GOODS IN STOCK OR AT STORES

Contact centre agents are often requested to check the availability of certain products in stock or at stores. For these requests, agents must access the ordering system or the company's website, find the product, and check its availability, which can all be time-consuming. In the process, the agent must click through various systems and search for goods.

#### What the robot does

During communication with the client, the agent types the name of the product that the customer is interested in. Immediately after this information is entered, the robot enters the system and searches for the product. Within a few seconds, the agent is shown its availability in the warehouse as well as at individual stores.



#### **PROCESSING A REQUEST FOR A CONFIRMATION**

When receiving a request for a confirmation, the agent must obtain all the necessary information from the client, including their personal data such as their name, surname, date of birth and address, the date the certificate should be issued on, the certificate's purpose, and so on. The contact centre agent then creates a ticket for the back office, which then issues the certificate.

#### What the robot does

At the end of the conversation with the client, the robot takes the data obtained by the agent and enters the system to obtain any additional information needed to issue the certificate. After obtaining all the necessary information, the robot can issue the certificate and send it to the client by email. If the certificate is to be delivered by post, the robot will put it into the printing queue. Therefore, the agent does not have to create a request for the back office and the back-office staff do not have to issue the certificate manually.

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#### ORDER CANCELLATION

In most cases, cancelling an order does not bring any profit to the company. Many companies offer cancellation services also by chat or phone. The customer simply writes through chat or calls a hot line, gives their data, and asks for a cancellation. The contact centre operator must then create a ticket for the back office, where they must search for the order, cancel it, return the payment, stop the delivery at the logistics department, and inform

#### EXISTING CUSTOMER VERIFICATION

In many calls, it is necessary to verify if the caller is already an existing client. In such cases, a contact centre agent must enter the information system and manually search for the client, which may take up to half a minute. Instead, the agent could be engaged in other activities with a higher added value.

#### What the robot does

After starting the call and obtaining basic information from the caller, the robot enters the internal system and finds out whether or not the caller is an existing customer within a few seconds. By involving the robot, the time for customer verification is significantly reduced and the agent can fully focus on the client's requests. the client about the next steps and the status of the order cancellation.

#### What the robot does

When a contact centre agent records all the necessary data, the robot reads the order number, enters all the necessary systems (such as the relevant SAP, contact centre, and third party applications), cancels the order, informs the logistics department and the transport company, sends a request for a refund, cancels the order to dispatch the goods from the warehouse, and sends the information to the customer that the order has been cancelled along with information on any next steps. Thus, the agent does not have to click through different systems and create tickets for the back office, and they can spend time doing more beneficial activities instead. The robot will take care of the entire process.

### WHAT DOES THE RPA IMPLEMENTATION LOOK LIKE?

The first thing that is needed is a meeting where we can talk to your IT department and the people who have been performing the processes you wish to automate. Together we will set up and define the necessary access rights.

**Meetings** are usually about two to three hours long, and they do not have to be in person: conference calls via Skype, Teams, Webex, Zoom, and so on are enough.

Based on these meetings, we will document the process and **propose how** it should be automated.

We automate processes in the existing systems that you normally use. We do not create any new systems or modify existing ones.

The automation itself does not take long. We are able to deliver a complete and implemented robot for your systems within **three to four weeks** from the first meeting.

#### SOITRON, s.r.o., member of SOITRON Group

Soitron is a Central European integrator operating in the IT market since 1991. The company's philosophy is to constantly move forward, and that is why it is a leader in implementing unique technologies and innovative solutions. It offers its clients products and services in the field of robotization and process automation, artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), IT infrastructure, communication and cloud solutions, IT security, IT services and outsourcing, IT advisory and applications, and IT department digitalization. Its product portfolio includes smart police car solutions – Mosy and cyber security services – Void Security Operations Center. Soitron, s.r.o. is a part of the Soitron Group and employs more than 800 international experts. The group brings together professional teams in Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Romania, Turkey, Bulgaria, Poland, and the UK.

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