



IT Service Management Blueprint

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Consumerize the User Experience

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Start

What's the Plan for Improving Your User's Experience?

Let's face it: Users don't want to call or email your department for IT service anymore. It's too slow, too frustrating.

What they really want is a self-service experience that is convenient and easy, just like what they get in their personal lives. Self-service isn't just a boon for your users, though. It helps your IT department be more efficient and productive while saving you money. Despite all the benefits, many companies still haven't consumerized the user experience. In fact, according to an Aberdeen Group report, **74% of IT requests still start as emails.**¹

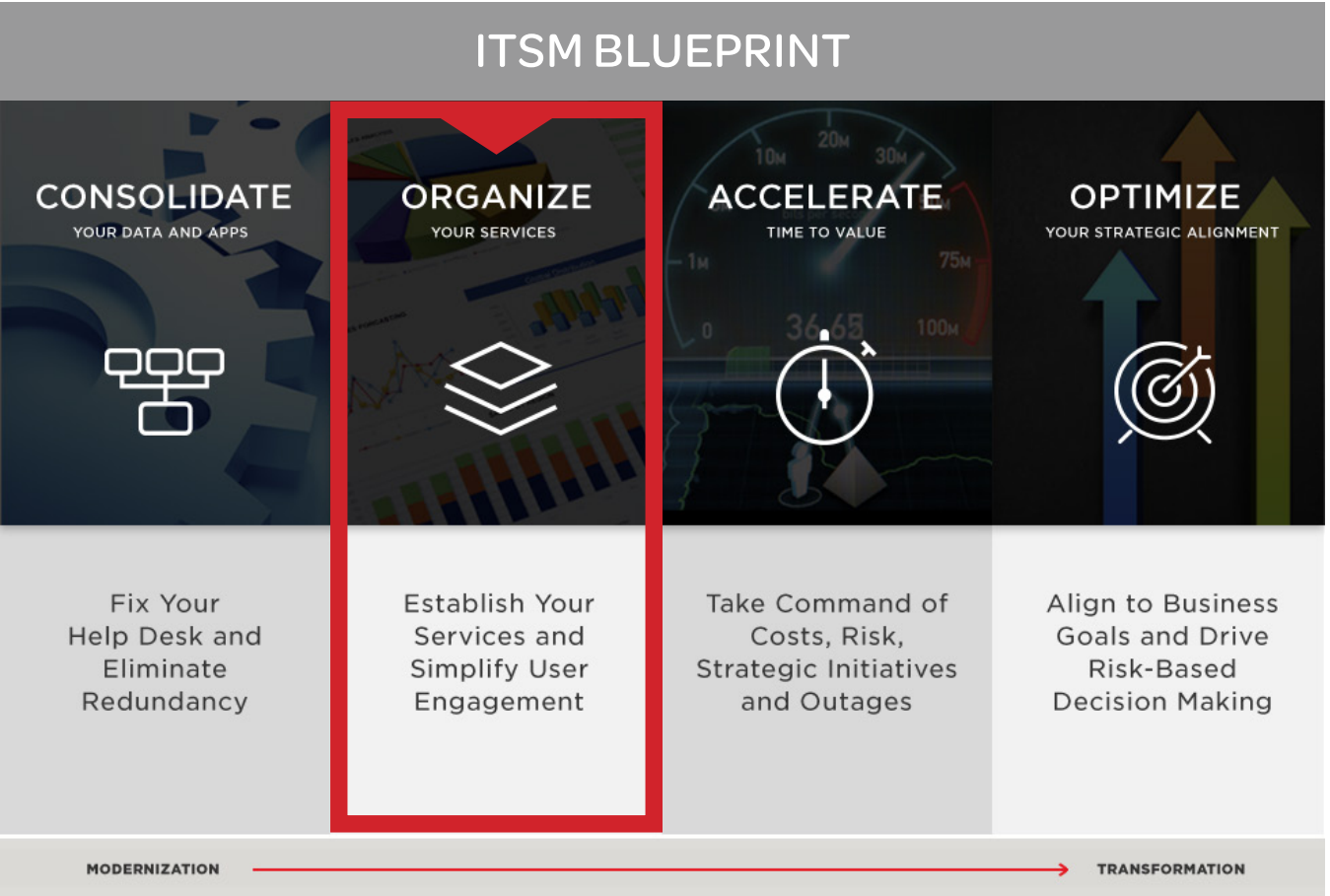
What about your company? What's the plan for improving the user experience and IT efficiency? Do any of these statements describe your current self-service capability?

- Your team has trouble keeping pace with work demand and information requests.
- Your service desk is not delivering a consumer-like experience, leading to poor user satisfaction.
- You've deployed a self-service portal, but usage is less than desired.
- Knowledge-based information and self-help are not being used effectively or at all.
- You would like your self-service portal to reflect your company brand.

¹"Bring ITSM into the Modern Age with End User Self-Service Support," Aberdeen Group, November 2015.

< BACK

If any of these statements ring true, read on for guidance—including action plans, best practices, and success metrics—for creating the kind of self-service IT experience your users want and expect.



In this eBook, we focus on how to deliver a consumer-like, end-user experience. Once you've defined and organized your IT services, the task at hand is to simplify user engagement.

NEXT >

Creating the Ideal Self-Service Experience

Replace a frustrating and slow user experience with a single, efficient, consumer-like portal that enables convenient self-service for your users. For this, a cloud-based platform is your best option. The ServiceNow Enterprise Cloud is architected to adapt to the varying needs of any department—whether it's providing self-service portals, automating request workflows, or managing complex projects. ServiceNow was designed as the cloud platform companies use to get work done across the enterprise.

To empower your customers and give them the same people-friendly experience at work that they have with their consumer apps, you'll need the right platform and a comprehensive plan. Consider the following guidelines as the foundation for implementing or improving self-service IT.



Self-Service Portal

Provide a self-service portal as the single point of engagement for your users, enabling them to report issues, make requests, ask questions, and determine status.



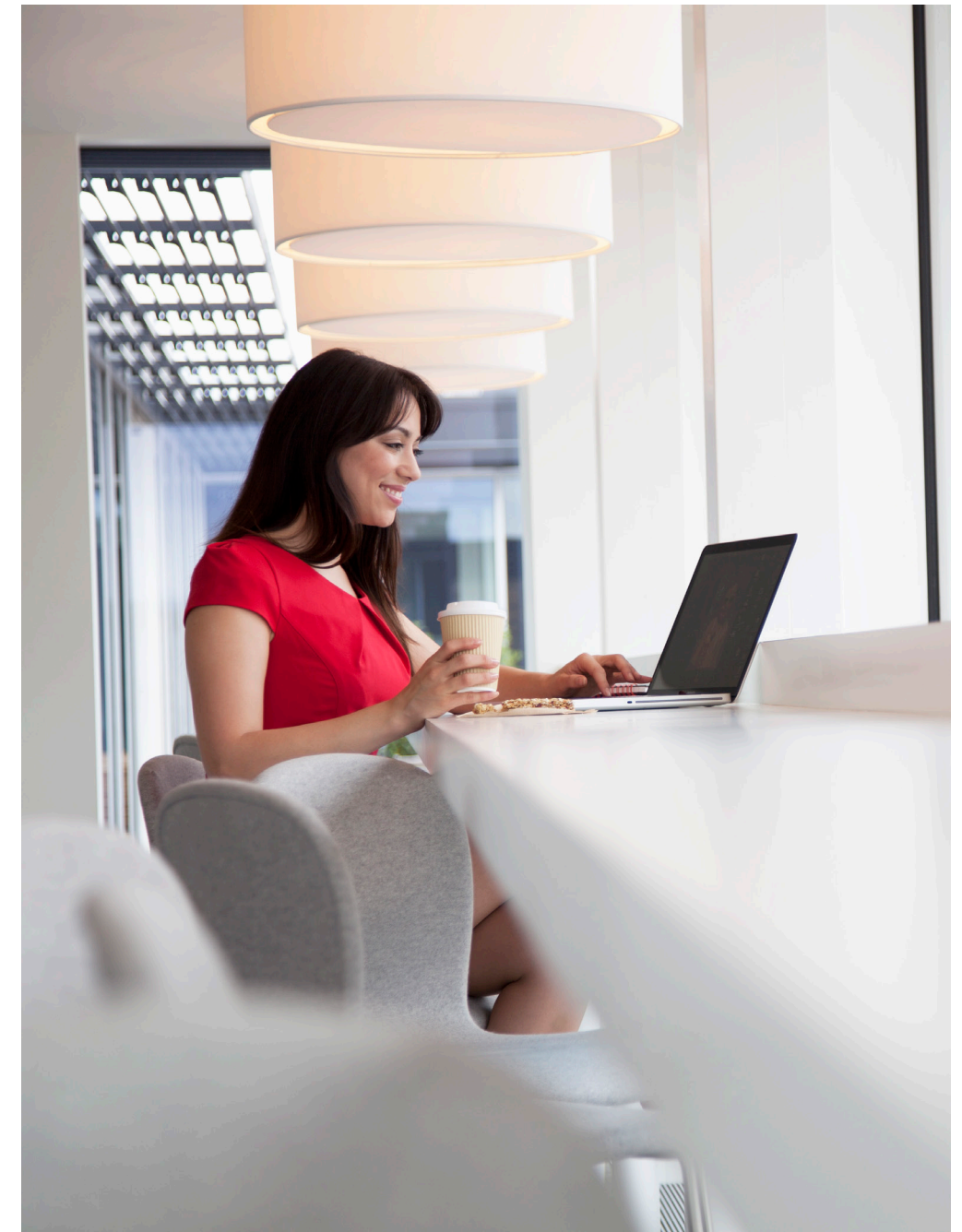
Service Catalog

Define the service catalog to accurately reflect the current details of all supported services, including: scope, costs, service level agreements (SLAs), dependencies, and other specifics. Make sure your service catalog supports the evolving needs of all other service management processes, keeping interfaces and dependencies in mind (e.g., request fulfillment processes and capacity constraints).



Knowledge Base

Automate knowledge sharing for more efficient and higher quality service while reducing the need to rediscover information. Tailor it to different personas, levels, departments, and roles so it's easier for users to contribute and learn.




< BACK

NEXT >


Get It Right with Proven Best Practices

While creating a self-service experience that lives up to your users' expectations shouldn't be rocket science, you'd be wise to take advantage of proven best practices available from the large and diverse ServiceNow user community. These can help your team accelerate and streamline deployment of your self-service portal while maximizing your short-, medium-, and long-term benefits.




Self-Service Portal

- Design the service experience from the outside in, focusing on the customer perspective first (best practice courtesy of Forrester Research²)
- Tailor the customer-facing elements of your service management portfolio—such as your service catalog and knowledge base—to align with personas and roles
- Over-communicate to your user base to help drive adoption with tools such as regular newsletters, updates with quick tips, and “how-to” information for the new portal



Service Catalog and Requests

- Establish clear ownership for each service and identify an overall service catalog owner
- Periodically analyze models for request fulfillment to identify opportunities for consolidation or process improvement, or to adjust service level targets
- Confirm all standard requests are supported by predefined approval and qualification processes
- Involve users in catalog design to ensure wording is clear and the portal is easy to use



Knowledge Management

- Assign a knowledge manager who is responsible for encouraging knowledge base contribution, usage, and continuous quality improvement
- Match fact patterns of new incidents automatically to the knowledge base to quickly provide resolution information
- Provide multiple methods of access to the knowledge base through search, the self-service portal, and intranet links
- Keep community and subject matter experts engaged to create and identify the best content with collaborative Q&A, scoring, and recognition capabilities including peer ratings and award badges

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FOR INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS PROFESSIONALS

Five Key Initiatives To Wow Your Workforce With Your Service Desk

Extend Your Service Desk Automation Now
by Elinor Kraivers and Eveline Oehrlich
September 16, 2015

Why Read This Report

Each interaction between your employees and your service desk affects the reputation of the entire infrastructure and operations (I&O) team. To delight (or, as we like to say, wow) members of your workforce, they must see you as effective, pleasant, and easy to work with. The service desk is the single point of contact for all business and technology service questions and an essential communication platform for all the operational processes in technology management. The service desk is also responsible for answering, escalating, and resolving enablement issues for other teams within technology management and other players in the ecosystem. This report provides I&O pros with five steps to creating a service desk that is internally and externally effective.

Key Takeaways

Members Of Your Workforce Need Your Service Desk To Help Them Stay Productive
The service desk plays a crucial role in ensuring that your workforce has the necessary tools to achieve productivity and flow. The service desk is therefore a critical link in the workforce enablement value chain to your goal of winning, serving, and retaining customers.

Radically Improve Moments Of Truth With New Workforce Enablement Building Blocks
If you want to wow your workforce, you must deliver at the moment of truth, when your workforce interacts with you. To improve these moments, design services that are pain-free, predictive, personalized, and productive.

Step Up The Automation Pace With Your Automation Solution
Reducing costs and increasing agent and customer satisfaction by leveraging automation capabilities within your service desk or IT service management solutions will go a long way toward improving your moments of truth.

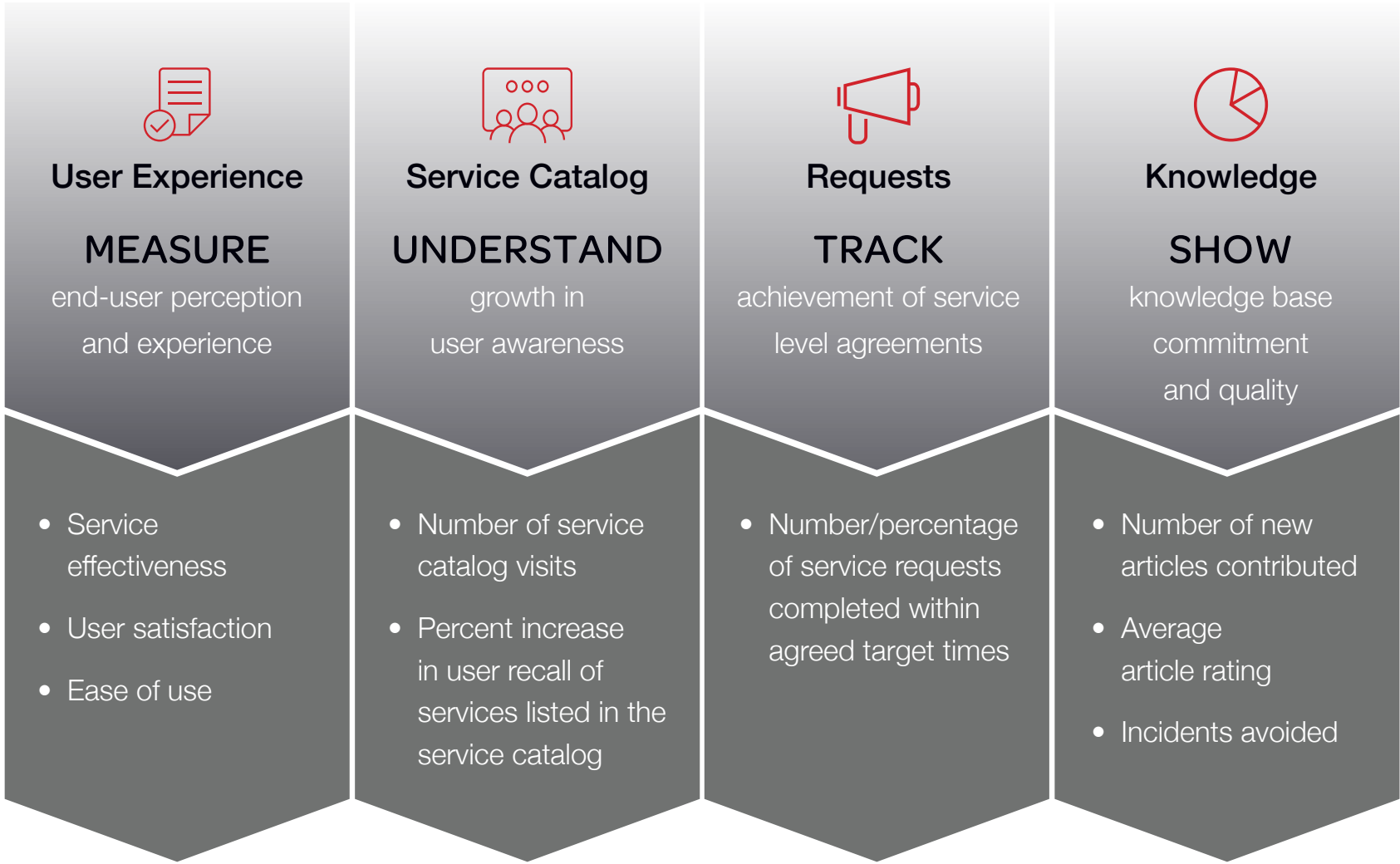
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Check out these tips from Forrester Research on “Wowing Your Workforce”

²“Webinar: Forrester Getting it Done! How IT Can Accelerate Employee Productivity Across the Business,” Eveline Oehrlich, September 2015.

Track It and Manage It

With the right ITSM platform, you can measure and track key performance indicators (KPIs) that document the success of your initiative to simplify and improve user engagement. In addition to tracking success metrics, you can use the insight gained to further improve your self-service portal. Here are some KPIs to consider:



< BACK

NEXT >

Real-World Self-Service Success with ServiceNow

Standard Life

Standard Life uses ServiceNow to provide employee self-service portals, helping to accelerate IT service delivery and eliminate manual intervention. The financial services company can now deliver requested software to users in minutes, compared to more than 10 hours previously.

“ [The new self-service portal] is astonishingly close to the same experience they would get with a consumerized online shopping site.

”

Philip Murray

Process Manager, Standard Life



< BACK

NEXT >

Take the Next Step

When you deliver a consumer-like, efficient, and convenient self-service experience, everybody wins—your users, the IT team, and your company. That's because you gain:

- Greater efficiency and productivity for both users and IT
- A lower cost of service using automation to replace manual efforts
- Increased user satisfaction as they help themselves instead of waiting for IT to respond

What's next? After you've conquered simplifying the user experience, it's time to start accelerating your time to business value by taking command of IT costs, risks, strategic initiatives, and service quality.

Continue Your Journey to [IT Transformation](#)

< BACK

NEXT >

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< BACK