



blu|marble

Robotic Process
Automation
EPM Use Cases

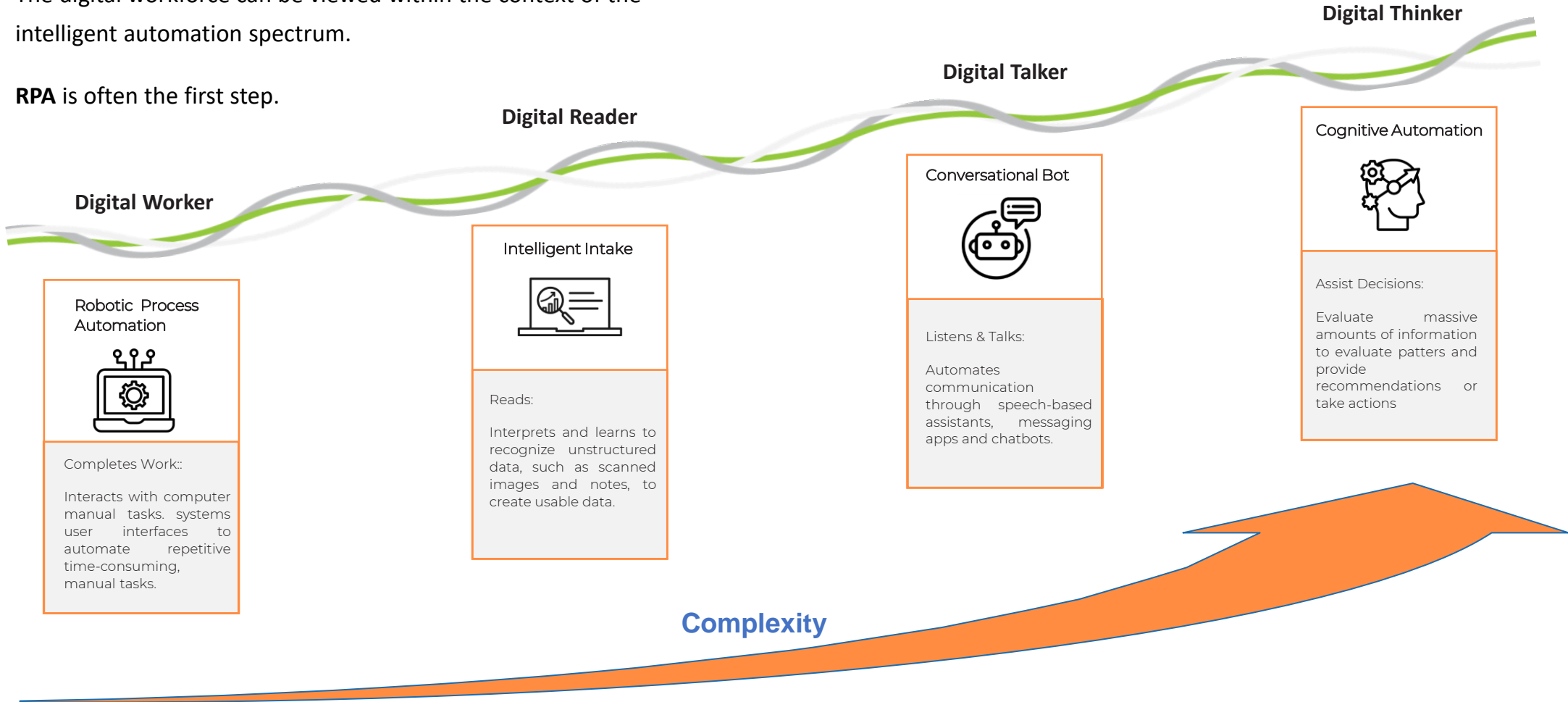
Contents

- Intelligent Automation Spectrum
- Robotic Process Automation (RPA) & Enterprise Performance Management (EPM)
 - Use Cases
- Calculating Real ROI on Intelligent Automation

Intelligent Automation Spectrum

The digital workforce can be viewed within the context of the intelligent automation spectrum.

RPA is often the first step.



RPA & EPM

Automation in Budget & Forecasting applications

Automation is not a brand-new topic. In order to automate certain activities, such as loading data, running rules, processing backups, etc., batch scripts and task schedulers are heavily used.

Most of the automation tools require a certain level of coding knowledge and may not be user-friendly from a maintenance perspective such as:

- Data Loading
- Execute calc scripts & Business Rules
- Backups processing

RPA y EPM in Budget & Forecasting applications

“The new automation”: By mimicking human behaviors, RPA becomes a robotic friend that assists us in finishing tedious and cumbersome work.

Pre-built Robotics Process Automation (RPA) modules specifically to streamline Finance & Accounting processes. RPA continues to broaden in application to areas.



EPM & RPA Use Cases

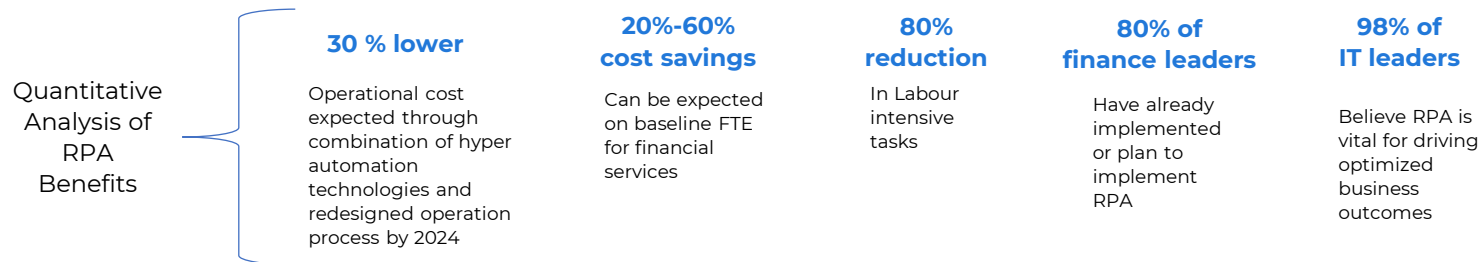
Monthly Regression Testing: Oracle releases monthly Test and Production environment patches for all EPM Cloud products. Customers have less than 2 weeks to review and validate the Test environment patch prior to the production patch update. Unless requested, Oracle automatically pushes the patch update to the production environment. The bot automates the testing and validation to ensure key functionalities of the applications are still working as intended and no unintended consequences are observed.

Data Validation: Data validation is an important and time-consuming process. This bot automates the below activities and provides alerts when user-defined thresholds are exceeded for further investigation and manual intervention. Data is validated: 1) between consolidation, planning, and reporting applications; and 2) base-level data between legacy system and Oracle EPM cloud applications.

On-premises to Cloud Conversion: These automations streamline the cloud migration process by converting planning calculations to business rules, testing the integrity of forms, business rules and reports, and validating data between on-premise and cloud applications, among other items.

Offline Planning: Offline planners may not have access to operational planning systems and are therefore unable to directly submit data into Oracle EPM. This bot sends templates to offline planners to input point-of-view data, collects and aggregates information in a network shared folder, and then submits data into Oracle EPM. The automation reduces the required number of licensed Oracle EPM planners and increases offline planner autonomy.

Monitor and Update Service Settings: This bot reviews and updates environment/application service settings to align with organizational standards prior to EPM Cloud Daily Maintenance.



EPM & RPA Use Cases

Improve user's experience: Use RPA bots to solve user's experience needs. Improve user's access, minimize clicking, training and integrate the Oracle EPM functionality with your existing systems.

Approval Process

Use case: Management needs to approve the proposed budget. The approver receives a notification to review and approve a draft budget. Management struggles to find the Oracle artifacts he needs to review (such as a Financial report to validate the analyst numbers). Management takes more time than expected to access and approve. Management does not have a good experience with the tool.

The solution: Approver receives an email to approve a draft budget then, it triggers an approvals bot. The bot will launch a web browser, login into the system, access to the approval menu, ask to select the BU to approve and show the numbers to be reviewed. The bot then, access to the Financial Reporting menu and open the appropriate report, selects the point of view based on the BU selecting previously. In summary, the approver would only need to trigger the bot, select a BU and then click on weather "Reject" or "Approve" budget in the whole process.

Budget Opening

Use case: The budget season has started, and the Admin needs to set it up. Admin struggles to remember the process and how to execute some of the Task List steps that define the Budget Opening process. There is no Admin backup, and the training material is outdated or not accessible.

The solution: Admin receives notification to open the Budget season then, triggers the Budget Opening Bot to execute every step in the Task List automatically:

- ✓ Updates substitution variables (user confirms selection)
- ✓ Triggers the loading process (loads metadata & loads actuals)
- ✓ Accesses to Data Management, selects the correct loading process and executes the batch

EPM & RPA Use Cases

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ERP Integration

Use case: The process to validate and reconcile the ERP with the EPM Cloud is either manual or semi-automatic and not easy to follow. Prompted to errors and time consuming.

The solution: Admin triggers a Reconciliation Bot. The Bot extracts reports from both the ERP and Oracle Cloud. Then, analyzes whether an action is required or the data matches:

- ✓ Logs into the ERP system
- ✓ Runs the ERP validation reports (query)
- ✓ Logs into Oracle EPM
- ✓ Runs the EPM validation reports (script/retrieve)
- ✓ Compares metadata from both sources and validates if metadata needs to be updated. If so, the bot triggers a metadata & data load or sets a date and time to program it.
- ✓ Compares data from both sources, validates and highlights differences
- ✓ Bot sends notification

EPM & RPA Use Cases

Planners Entering Data

Use case: Planners need to enter data and there is not enough licenses for the whole team. Admin creates templates manually for each of them, send and receive the files back by email. Admin, manually loads all the information received, triggers and consolidation calc and look at the results.

The solution: Admin triggers the offline planner Bot. The Bot creates planning offline templates, send them and load them into Oracle EPM:

- ✓ Logs into Oracle EPM
- ✓ Generates offline Planning templates based on a distribution list (Business Unit & destination email)
- ✓ Sends templates to planners
- ✓ Once the templates are ready for loading and placed in a folder, the Bot connects to Oracle EPM and loads the offline templates
- ✓ Bot triggers a Consolidation Calc
- ✓ Bot opens a Financial Report to see results

Calculating Real ROI on Intelligent Automation

The ROI of intelligent automation

ROI must be considered in the context of total return generated from automation technologies and the total cost of ownership

Benefits of intelligent automation

Organizations often fixate on direct labor savings when thinking of automation. RPA on its own will generally drive cost efficiencies through released human capacity. Even greater cost savings can be achieved as more complex human capabilities are automated and AI/cognitive are used to supercharge sales and marketing activities to increase revenue.

Qualitative benefits

Signal more profound shifts that intelligent automation enables, such as becoming a better customer-focused organization, increasing organizational agility, and having happier employees. These benefits contextualize to executives how intelligent automation will change their business and include:

- Improved customer experience
- Greater return on human capital
- Improved employee morale
- Acceleration of innovation within an organization
- Improved process quality
- Greater levels of flexibility and scalability

“ AUTOMATION IS A KEY DRIVER OF NEW LEVELS OF EFFICIENCY, PROFITABILITY, AND GROWTH