

SUPPORT[®] WORLD LIVE

Where **Smarter Service** Starts,
And **Better Business** Begins.

SUPPORT[®] WORLD LIVE

POWERED BY **HDI**[®]



Session 104

The Zero Touch Blueprint:

Designing the Service Desk of the Future

DOWNLOAD THE WHITEPAPER AND PRESENTATION

The screenshot shows the MetricNet website with a dark blue header. The navigation bar includes links for BENCHMARKING, RESOURCE LIBRARY, SHOP, ABOUT US, and CONTACT US, along with a search icon and a 'MY ACCOUNT' button. Below the navigation bar, there are two orange buttons: 'All Resources' and 'Service Desk'. The main heading is 'The Zero Touch Service Desk – Myth or Reality?'. Below the heading, there is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home » News » The Zero Touch Service Desk – Myth or Reality?'. The article text begins with 'With AI and machine learning technologies gaining traction in the IT support world, there is also a new term that is gaining traction in the lexicon of IT service and support. That term is Zero Touch. The commonly accepted definition of Zero Touch is that users can access IT support services without any intervention from a service desk agent. So, when a user has their incident or service request resolved without agent or technician intervention, that's a Zero Touch transaction.' It then states 'The best metric to track Zero Touch is Agent Assisted Tickets per User per Month. The industry average for this metric is 1.1 Agent Assisted Tickets per User per Month. We can drive this number down in several ways, including:' followed by a bullet point: '• Problem Management, whereby agent resolved incidents are reduced by eliminating the underlying problems that drive incident volume.'

The image shows the SupportWorld LIVE logo, which consists of the word 'SUPPORT' in black, 'WORLD' in teal, and 'LIVE' in a smaller teal font with a horizontal line. Below the logo is the title 'The Zero Touch Blueprint:' in orange, followed by the subtitle 'Designing the Service Desk of the Future' in black. At the bottom, there is a purple bar with the text 'POWERED BY HDI' on the left and '#SupportWorld' on the right.

[METRICNET.COM/SWL25](https://metricnet.com/swl25)

OBSERVATIONS FROM OUR GLOBAL BENCHMARKING



DATABASE

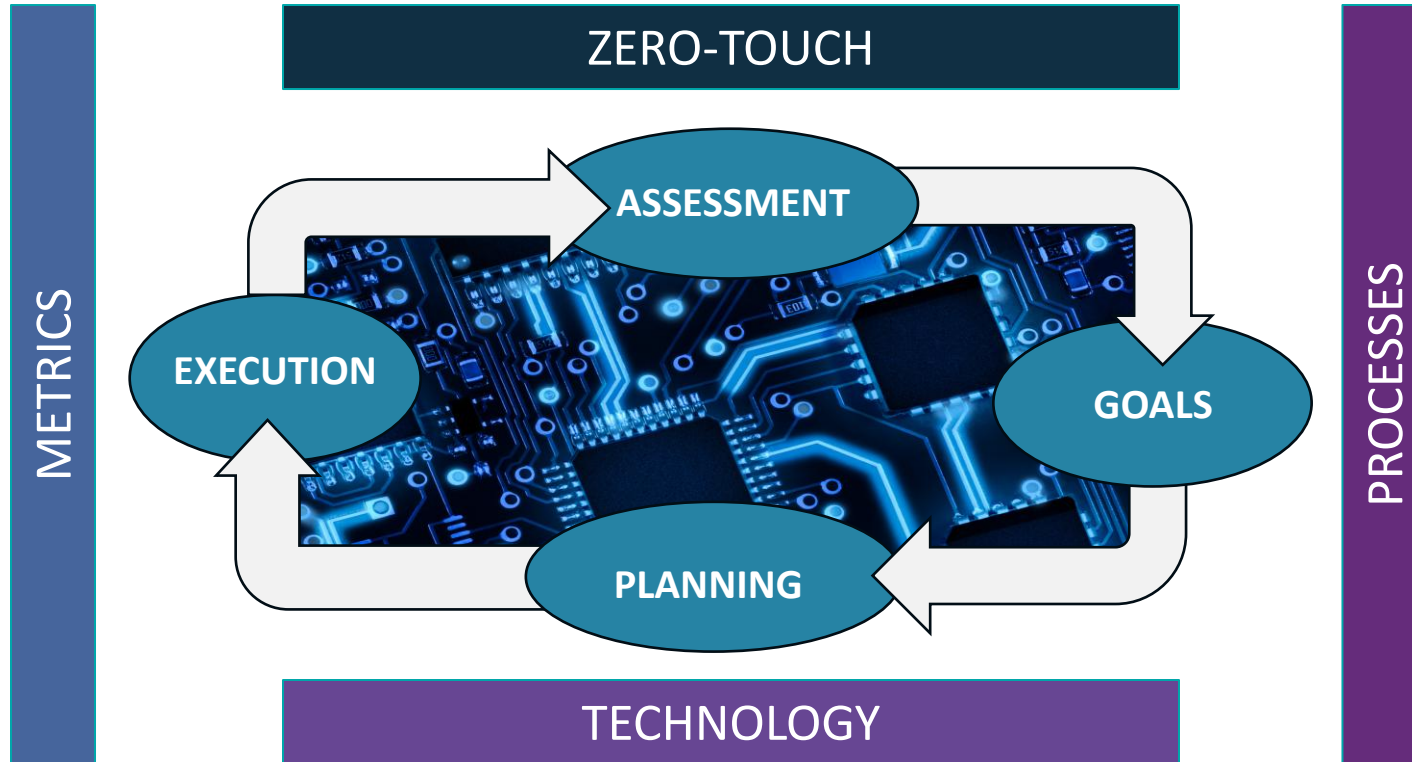
4,000+ Benchmarks

Global Benchmarking Database

70+ Key Performance Indicators

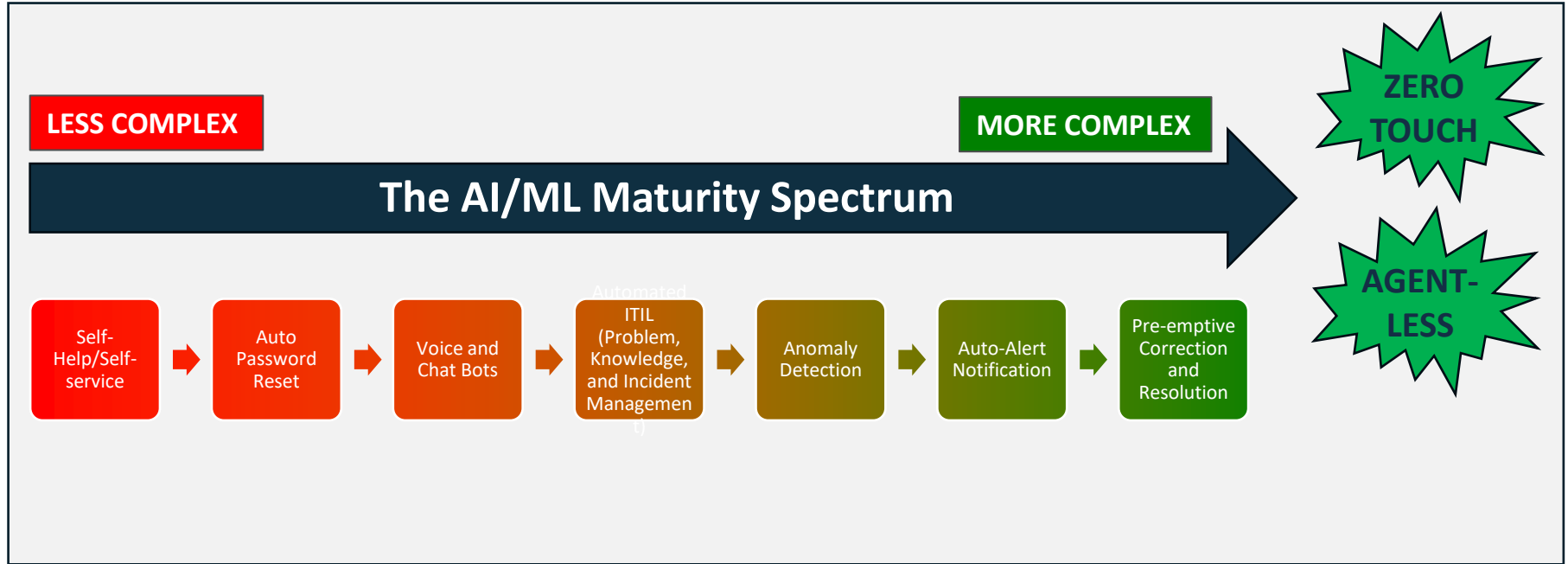
Nearly 120 Industry Best Practices

THE ZERO TOUCH BLUEPRINT



ZERO-TOUCH DEFINED

THE AI MATURITY SPECTRUM



DEFINING 'ZERO TOUCH'

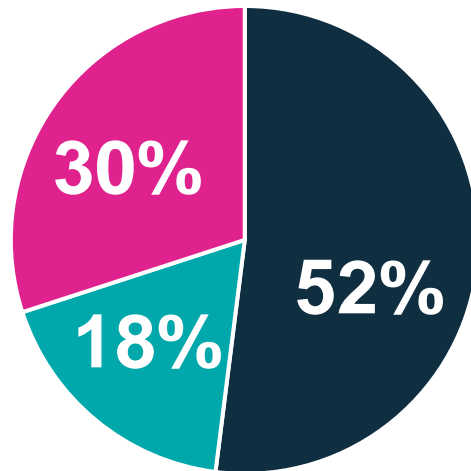
Zero Touch: Users can resolve their IT incidents and service requests **without any intervention from a service desk agent.**

When a ticket is avoided altogether, or a user has their incident or service request resolved without agent or technician intervention.

THE GOAL OF ZERO TOUCH

- Dramatically reduce costs – TCO
- Optimize the Customer Experience
- Return productive hours to your customers

AI REPLACES MANUAL LABOR IN ZERO-TOUCH



■ Agent Labor

■ Non-Agent Labor

■ Overhead

WE HAVE BEEN HERE BEFORE



THE PRECEDENT FOR TRANSFORMATION



AI TRANSFORMATION WILL REDUCE COSTS UP TO 90%



THE METRICS OF ZERO-TOUCH

LEGACY SERVICE DESK METRICS

Cost

- Cost per Ticket
- Cost per Minute of Handle Time
- First Level Resolution Rate

Quality

- Customer Satisfaction
- Net First Contact Resolution Rate
- Call Quality

Productivity

- Tickets per Analyst per Month
- Analyst Utilization
- Analysts as a % of Total Headcount

Analyst

- Annual Analyst Turnover
- Daily Analyst Absenteeism
- Schedule Adherence
- New Analyst Training Hours
- Annual Analyst Training Hours
- Analyst Tenure
- Analyst Job Satisfaction

Service Level

- Average Speed of Answer (ASA)
- Mean Time to Respond
- X% of Calls Answered in Y seconds
- Call Abandonment Rate

Ticket Handling

- Ticket Handle Time
- User Self-Service Completion Rate

ZERO TOUCH SERVICE DESK METRICS

Cost

- Total Cost of Ownership
- Cost per User per Month

Volume

- Tickets per User per Month
- Tickets Avoided
- % Agent-less Resolution

Productivity

- Productivity Returned to Users
- Return on Investment

Quality

- Customer Satisfaction
(for agent-less tickets)
- First Contact Resolution Rate
- Net Promoter Score

Service Level

- Mean Time to Resolve

ITIL Maturity

- Problem Management
- Incident Management
- Knowledge Management

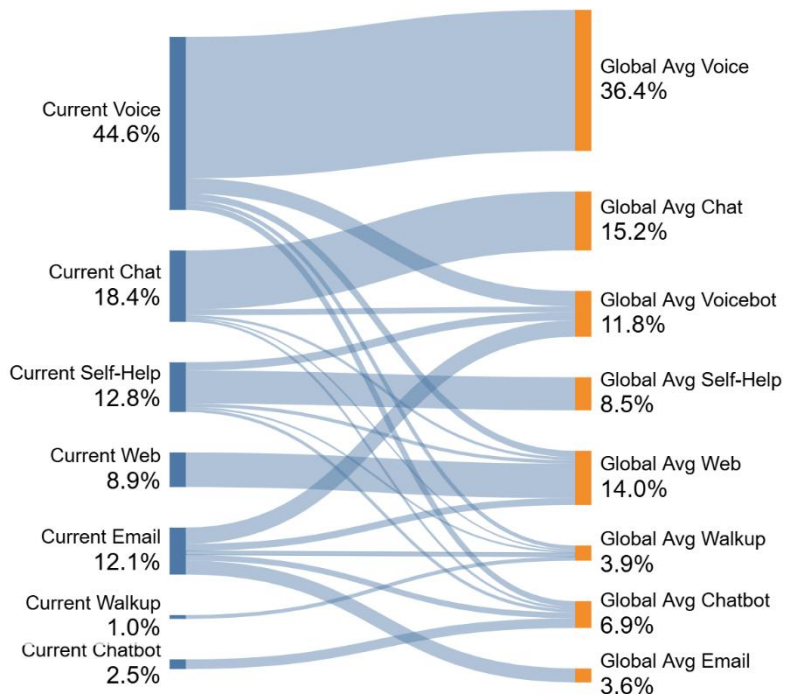
THE IMPACT OF ZERO-TOUCH

Metric Category	Metric	Impact of Zero Touch
Cost	Total Cost of Ownership	↓
	Cost per User Per Month	↓
Volume	Tickets per User per Month	↓
	Tickets Avoided	↑
	% Agent-less Resolution	↑
Productivity	Productivity Returned to Users	↑
	Return on Investment	↑

Metric Category	Metric	Impact of Zero Touch
Quality	Customer Satisfaction	↑
	First Contact Resolution Rate	↑
	Net Promoter Score	↑
Service Level	Mean Time to Resolve	↓
ITIL Maturity	Problem Management	↑
	Incident Management	↑
	Knowledge Management	↑

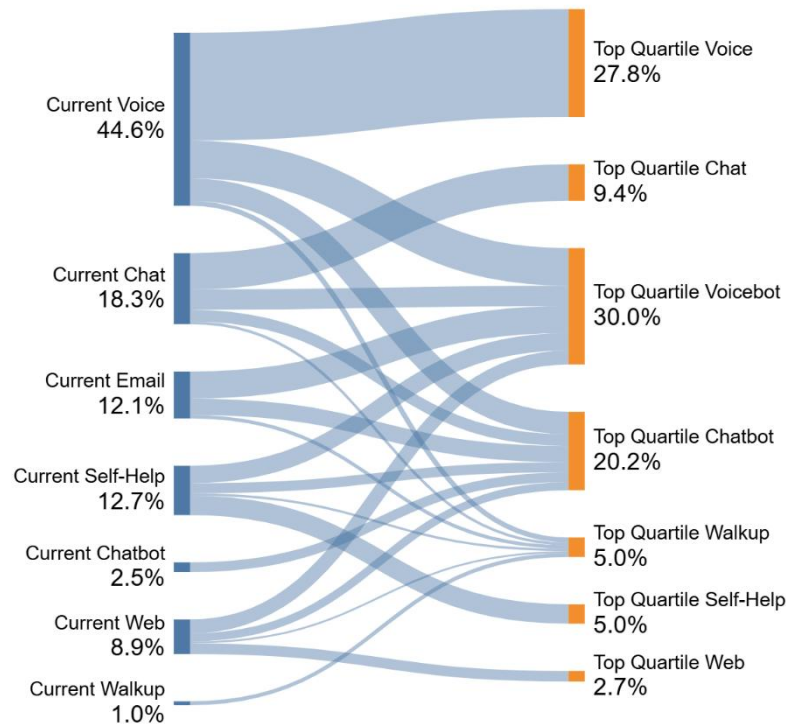
CHANNEL MIX METRICS

Migration to Global Average Channel Mix



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Migration to Top Quartile Channel Mix



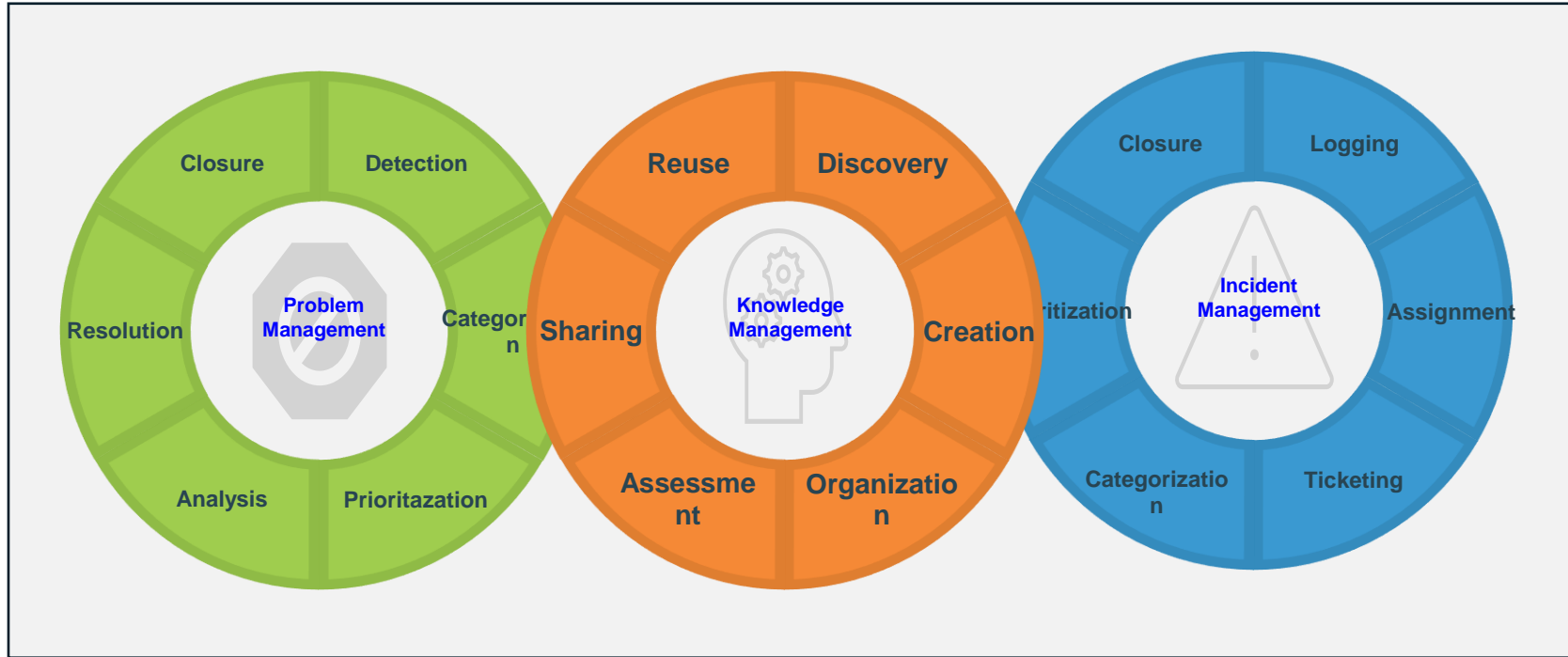
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ZERO-TOUCH PROCESSES

THE ECONOMICS OF ZERO TOUCH AND SHIFT LEFT



THE “BIG 3” ITIL PRACTICES



AI accelerates maturity by automating repetitive tasks, enabling predictive problem-solving, and enhancing knowledge accessibility for users and agents alike.

THE METRICS OF PROBLEM MANAGEMENT

KPI	EFFECT OF PROBLEM MANAGEMENT
Monthly Ticket Volume	↓
Tickets per User per Month	↓
Total Cost of Ownership	↓
Tickets Prevented	↑

THE CHALLENGE WITH ITIL

- Lack of Resources
- Labor Intensive
- Data Intensive
- Takes Forever to Mature
- Process, not Outcome Focused
- Hard to Measure
- Turnover and Lack of Continuity
- Better? Faster? Cheaper?

THE SOLUTION TO MATURING ITIL



End Points



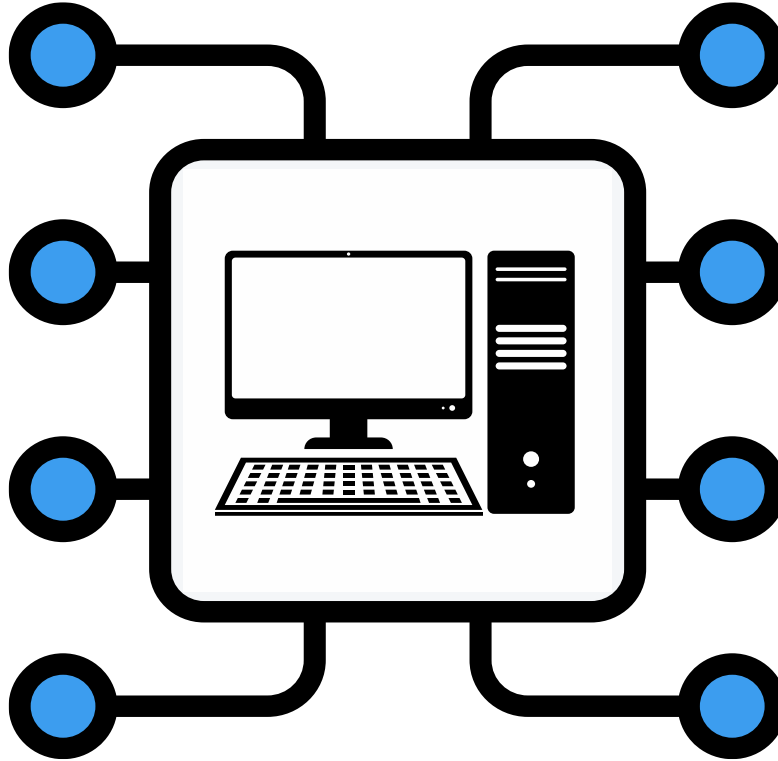
ITSM/Telephony
Systems



Knowledge Base



Remote Tool



Automation



Incident Mgmt



Problem Mgmt



Knowledge
Mgmt

OUTPUTS

INPUTS

WHO DOES THIS? NOT AN ENDORSEMENT!

Problem Management

- **Skylar Automated RCA**
(formerly Zebrium)
- **Splunk**

Knowledge Management

- **Lucidworks**
Fusion
- **Sinequa**
- **KMS Lighthouse**

Incident Management

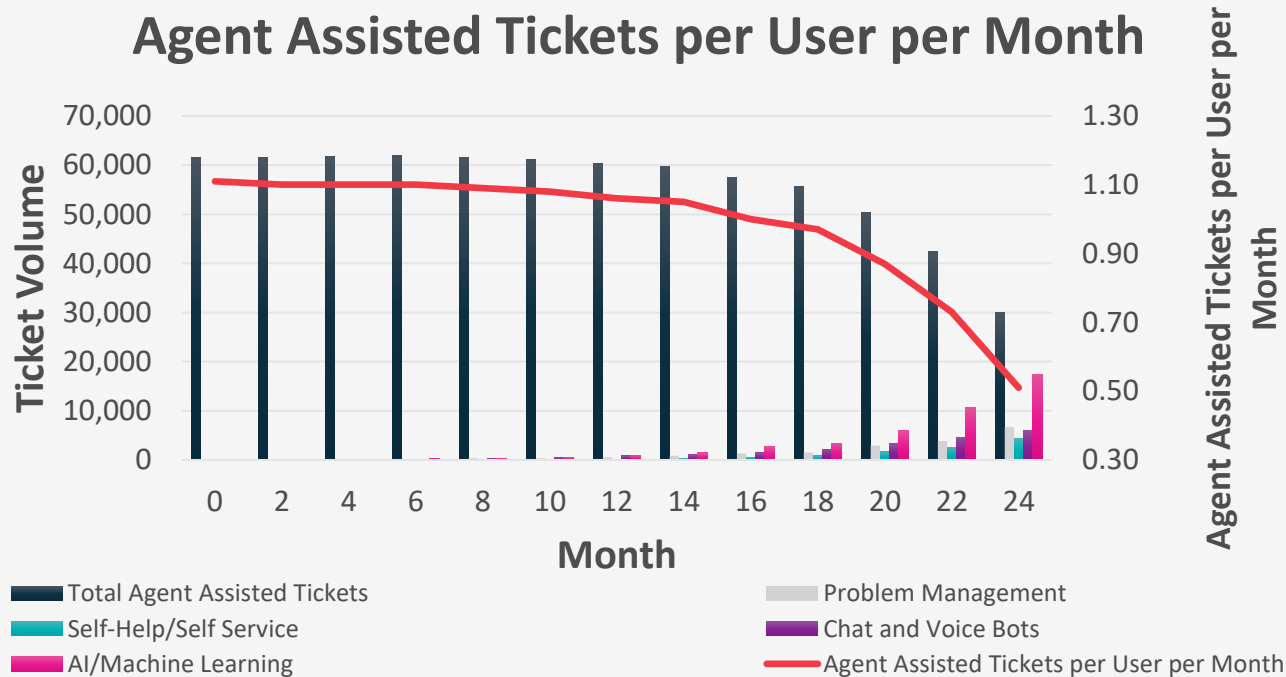
- **Moogsoft**
- **BigPanda**

THE MONETIZED VALUE OF TICKETS AVOIDED

Metric	Year 0	Year 2
Monthly Agent Assisted Ticket Volume	61,520	30,002
Number of Users	55,270	57,998
Tickets per User per Month	1.11	0.51
Productivity Returned to Users	Annual Hours Saved	835,171
	FTEs	464
	Monetized Value	\$55.7 million
Mean Time to Resolve	8.0 Hours	4.3 Hours
Customer Satisfaction	83.4%	92.7%

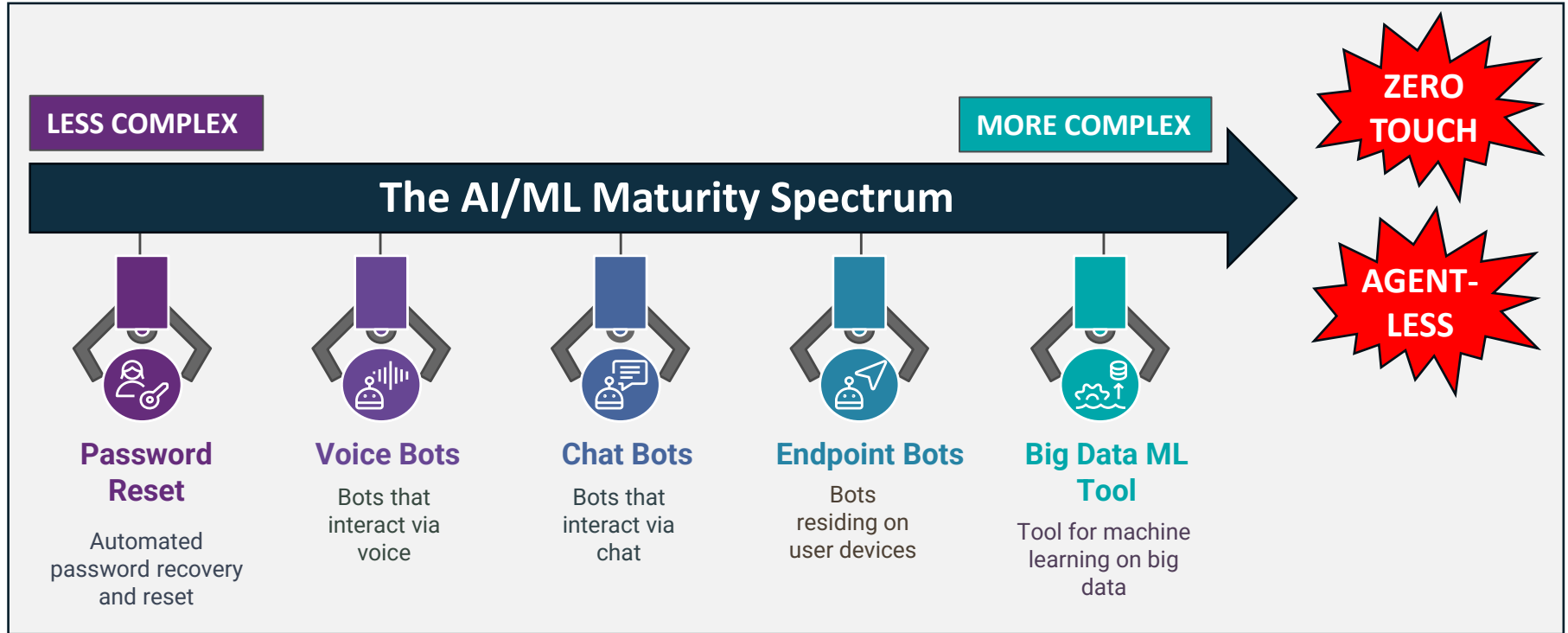
TICKET VOLUMES ARE NOT GOING DOWN

Over a 24-month period the Number of Agent Assisted Tickets per User per Month dropped from 1.11 to just 0.51.

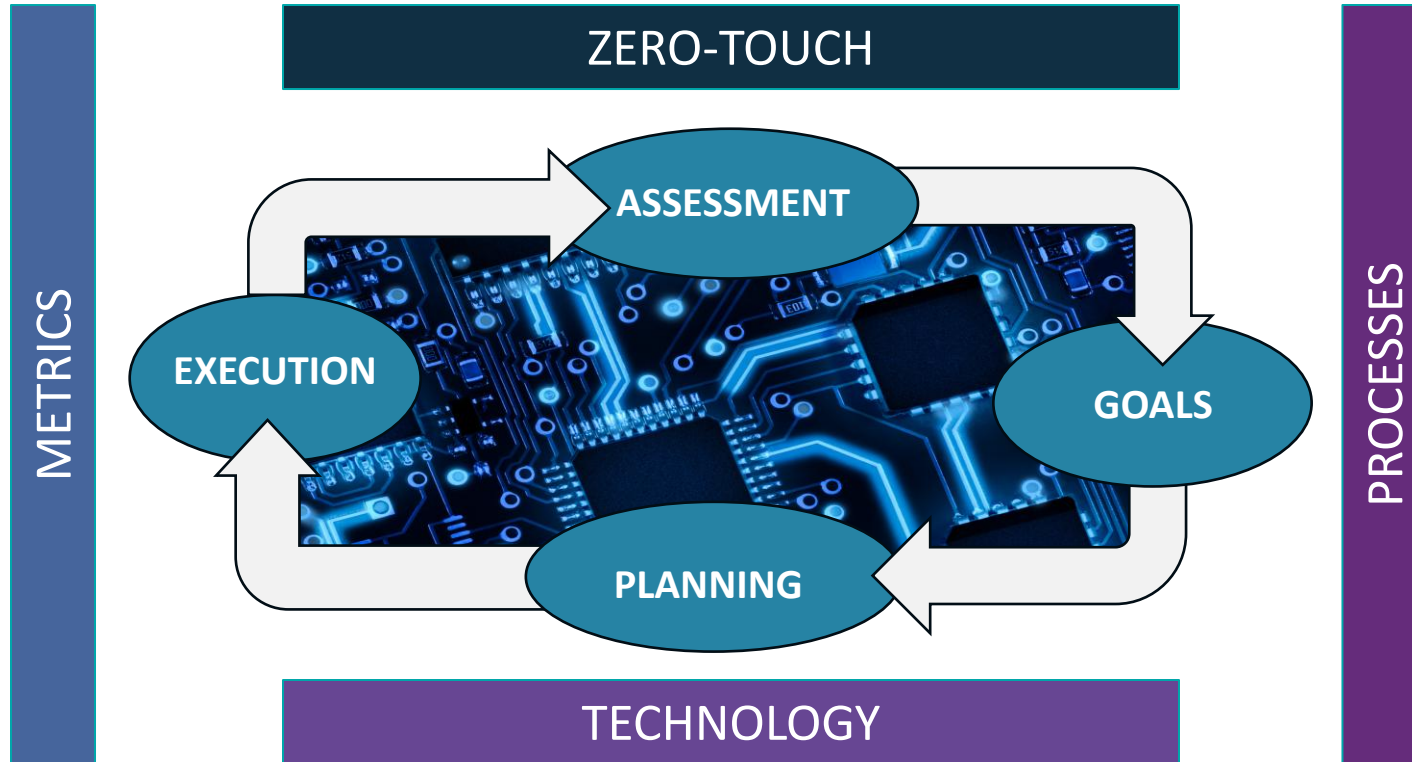


ZERO-TOUCH TECHNOLOGIES

ZERO-TOUCH TECHNOLOGIES



THE ZERO TOUCH BLUEPRINT



ZERO-TOUCH ASSESSMENT

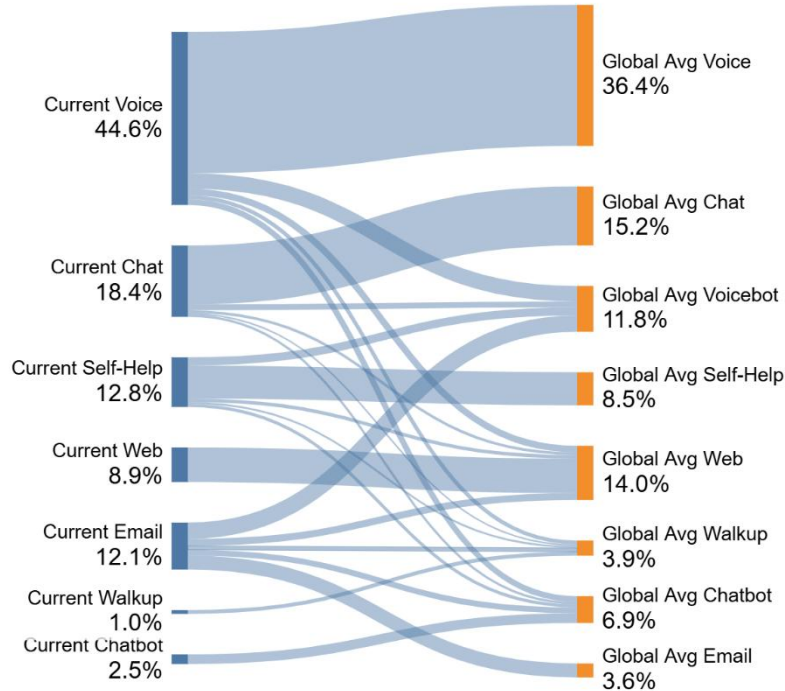
ZERO-TOUCH BENCHMARKS

Metric Category	Metric	Industry Benchmarks			
		Top Quartile	Average	Min	Max
Cost	Total Cost of Ownership	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Cost per User per Month	\$17.63	\$28.51	\$8.09	\$93.88
Volume	Tickets per User per Month	0.66	1.14	0.19	4.37
	Tickets Avoided	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	% Agent-less Resolution	47.5%	11.6%	0.0%	77.9%
Productivity	Productivity Returned to Users (hours per year)	27	17	-32	46
	Return on Investment	440%	151%	-866%	935%

Metric Category	Metric	Industry Benchmarks			
		Top Quartile	Average	Min	Max
Quality	Customer Satisfaction	93.4%	83.1%	43.2%	98.6%
	First Contact Resolution Rate	88.1%	78.5%	33.1%	94.4%
	Net Promoter Score	0.68	44.6%	-73.6%	82.3%
Service Level	Mean Time to Resolve (minutes)	51.2	93.4	18.6	517.4
ITIL Maturity	Problem Management	2.8	1.5	1	3.8
	Incident Management	3.9	2.2	1	4.6
	Knowledge Management	4.3	2.9	1	4.9

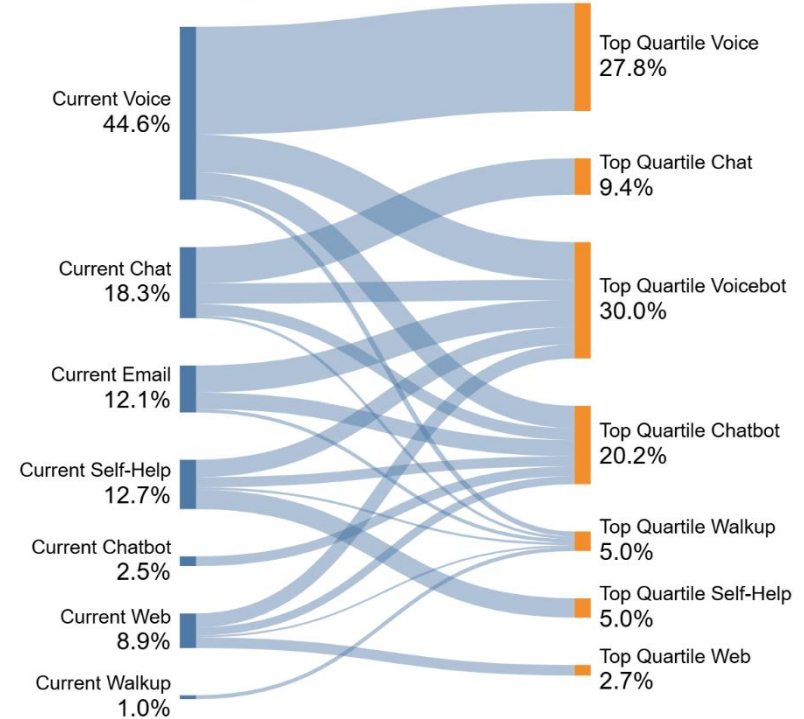
OPTIMIZING CHANNEL MIX

Migration to Global Average Channel Mix



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Migration to Top Quartile Channel Mix



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ZERO-TOUCH GOALS

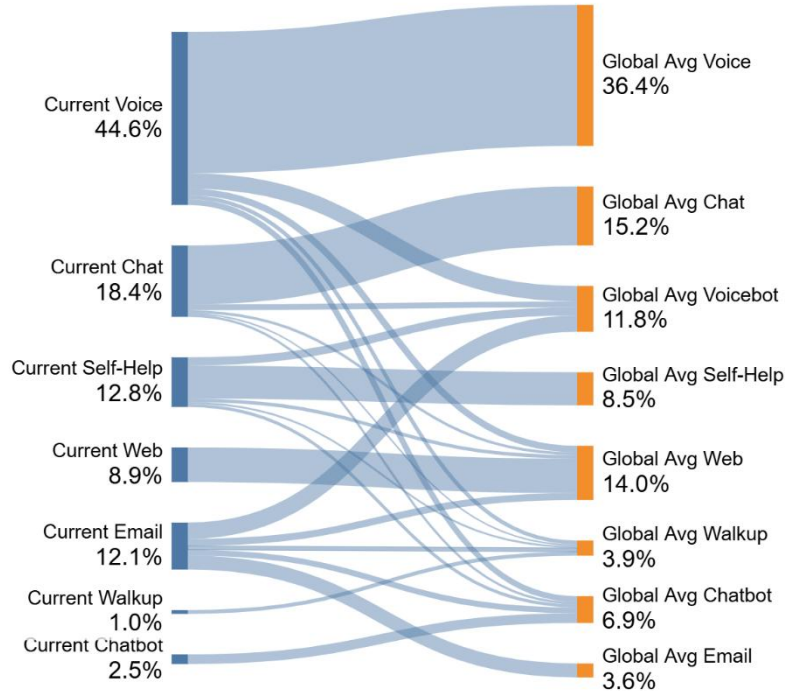
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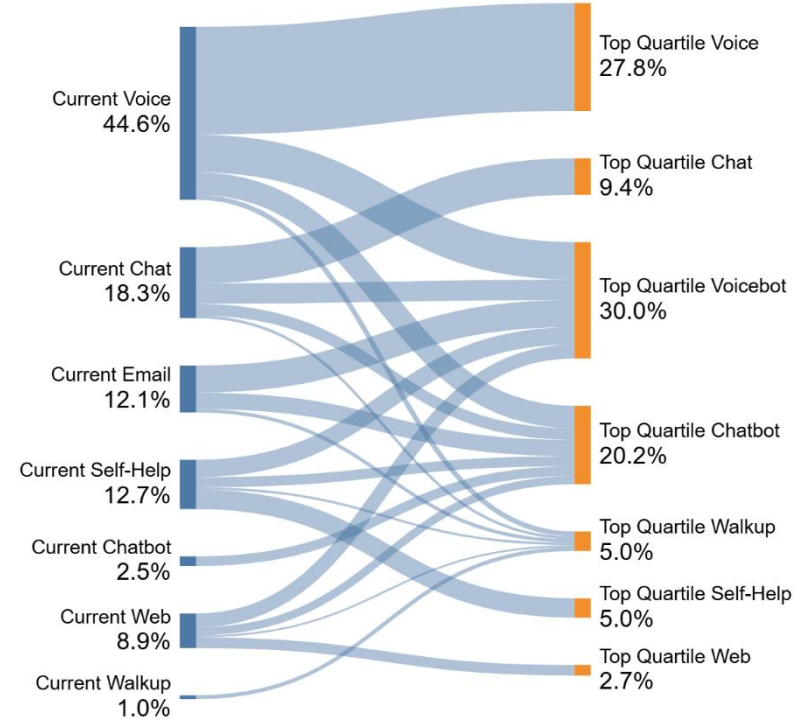
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CASE STUDY: ZERO-TOUCH PERFORMANCE

Zero-Touch Performance Metric	YEAR				
	0	1	2	3	4
Tickets per User per Month (Problem Management)	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.5
AI Containment Rate (Voice and Chat Bots)	2.5%	15.0%	30.0%	45.0%	55.0%
Tickets per Month	45,073	36,878	30,732	24,585	20,488
Agent-Assisted Tickets per User per Month	43,946	31,346	21,512	13,522	9,219
Direct Labor Savings vs. Year 0	0.0%	28.7%	51.0%	69.2%	79.0%

PLANNING AND EXECUTION

SAMPLE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

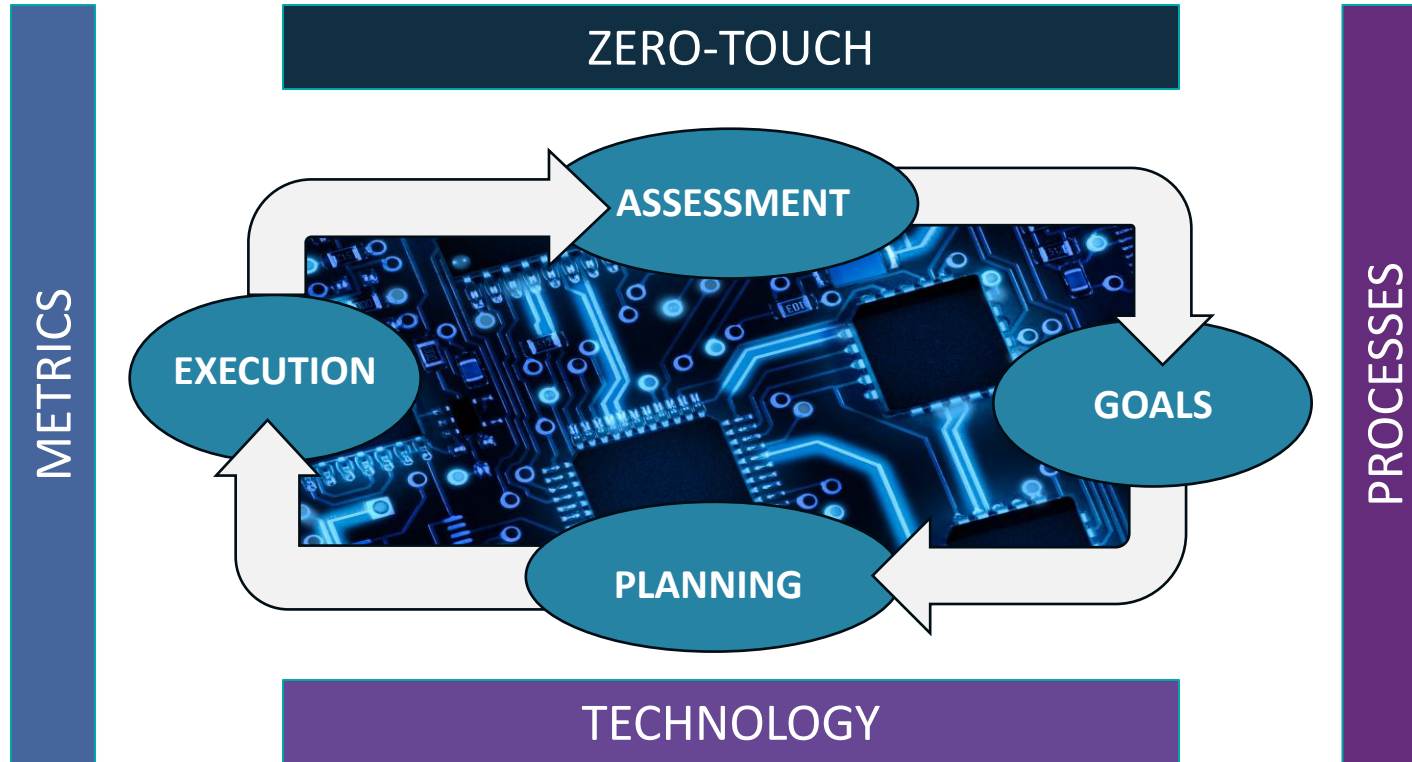
Phase	Task	Description	Zero-Touch Concept	Responsible Team	Timeline	Success Criteria
Planning	Define Scope	Identify services/users for zero-touch support (e.g., password resets, software installs).	Self-Service Enablement: Focus on high-volume, automatable issues.	IT Strategy Team	Week 1	Scope document targets top 5 user issues.
Planning	Select Tools	Choose AI-driven tools (e.g., chatbots, ITSM platforms with automation).	AI and Machine Learning: Use intelligent automation for ticket resolution.	Network Engineering	Week 2	Tools support AI-driven deflection.
Design	Develop Self-Service Portal	Create intuitive portal for user-driven resolutions.	Self-Service Portal: Core to zero-touch, enabling user autonomy.	DevOps	Weeks 3-4	Portal prototype achieves 80% user satisfaction in tests.
Design	Configure AI Workflows	Set up AI to handle ticket triage and resolution (e.g., auto-resolve common issues).	Ticket Deflection: AI resolves issues before agent involvement.	IT Operations	Weeks 3-4	AI resolves 50% of pilot tickets automatically.
Implementation	Deploy Pilot	Test zero-touch for a small user group (e.g., single department).	Incremental Adoption: Start small to refine automation.	IT Operations	Weeks 5-6	90% of pilot tickets resolved without agent intervention.
Implementation	Monitor Automation	Use analytics to track deflection rates and user satisfaction.	Performance Metrics: Measure success via deflection and user feedback.	Monitoring Team	Weeks 5-7	Real-time dashboard shows >70% deflection rate.
Validation	Test User Experience	Validate portal usability and AI accuracy via user feedback.	User-Centric Design: Ensure seamless self-service experience.	QA Team	Week 7	85% user satisfaction score in surveys.
Scale	Full Rollout	Expand zero-touch to all users/services.	Scalability: Broad application of proven automation.	IT Operations	Weeks 8-10	95% of targeted issues resolved via zero-touch.
Maintenance	Optimize AI Models	Refine AI based on new ticket patterns and user needs.	Continuous Improvement: AI learns from ongoing data.	DevOps	Ongoing	AI deflection rate improves by 5% quarterly.
Maintenance	Review Metrics	Analyze deflection rates, cost savings, and user satisfaction.	Benchmarking: Compare performance against industry standards.	IT Strategy Team	Monthly	Metrics align with MetricNet's benchmarks (e.g., cost per ticket reduced).

IMPLEMENTATION SUCCESS FACTORS

- Clear goals and objectives
- Accountability
 - Who does what? When do they do it?
- Resources
 - Time and money
- Executive Sponsorship
- Business Case Justification

ZERO-TOUCH BLUEPRINT

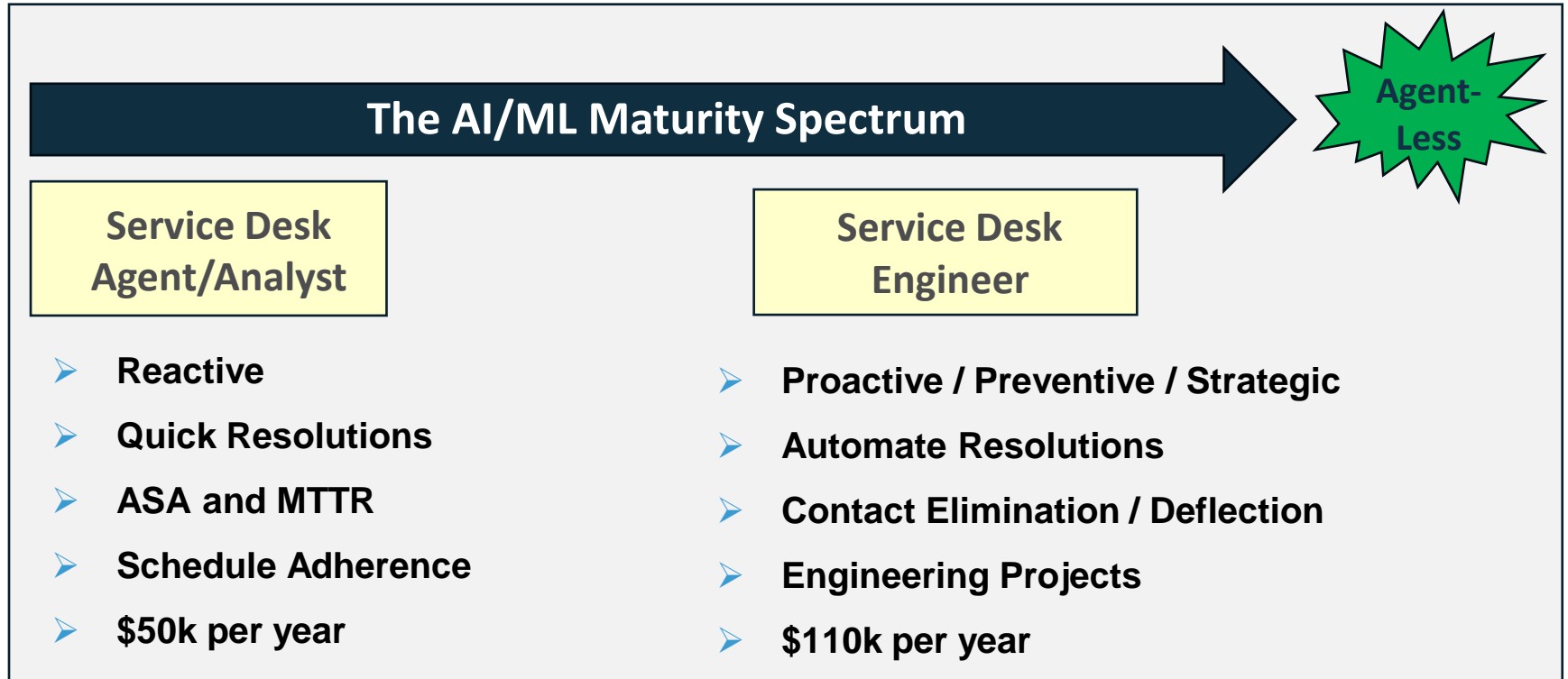
THE ZERO TOUCH BLUEPRINT



PAST IS PROLOGUE



UPSKILLING FROM AGENT TO ENGINEER



QUESTIONS?

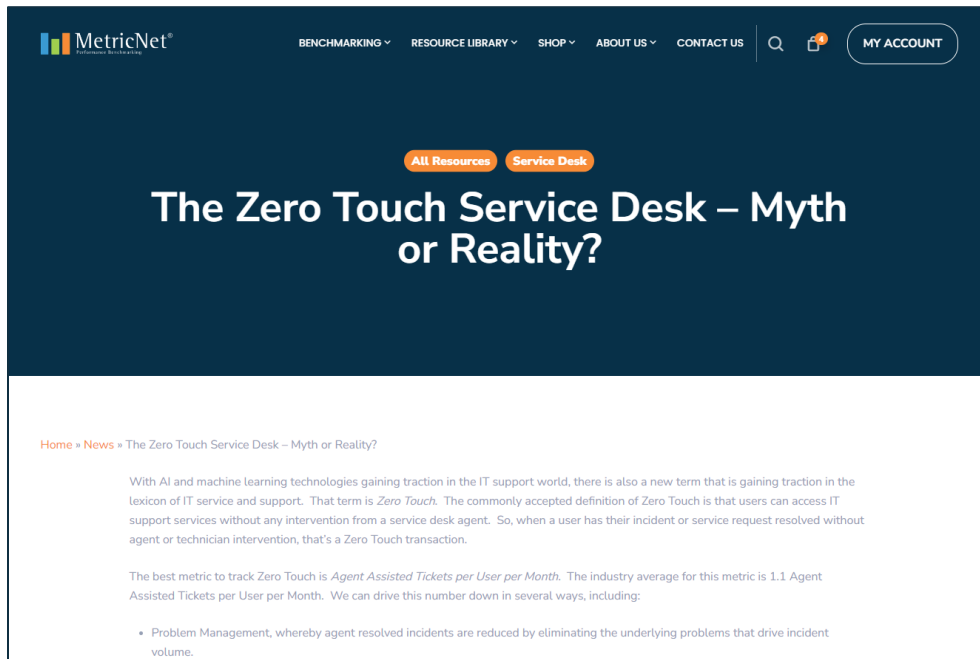
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MetricNet
BENCHMARKING • RESOURCE LIBRARY • SHOP • ABOUT US • CONTACT US

[All Resources](#) [Service Desk](#)

The Zero Touch Service Desk – Myth or Reality?

Home » News » The Zero Touch Service Desk – Myth or Reality?

With AI and machine learning technologies gaining traction in the IT support world, there is also a new term that is gaining traction in the lexicon of IT service and support. That term is *Zero Touch*. The commonly accepted definition of Zero Touch is that users can access IT support services without any intervention from a service desk agent. So, when a user has their incident or service request resolved without agent or technician intervention, that's a Zero Touch transaction.

The best metric to track Zero Touch is *Agent Assisted Tickets per User per Month*. The industry average for this metric is 1.1 Agent Assisted Tickets per User per Month. We can drive this number down in several ways, including:

- Problem Management, whereby agent resolved incidents are reduced by eliminating the underlying problems that drive incident volume.



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#SupportWorld

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QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!



Session 104

The Zero Touch Blueprint:

Designing the Service Desk of the Future

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METRICNET SERVICES

MetricNet offers a variety of benchmarking products and consulting services including, but not limited to, those listed below.

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Access current industry performance data.



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Compare your performance with peers.



BENCHMARKING



Benchmarking Data Files

Customize benchmarks and performance indicators.



One Year Path

Roadmap for continuous improvement journey.

CONSULTING

AI/ML Automation

Leverage intelligent automation for efficiency!



Metrics Maturation

Evolve KPIs to drive better performance!



Optimization Initiatives

Streamline operations and reduce costs!



MSP Procurement

Get the most from your outsourcing vendors!



Competitive Intelligence

Gain insights to outpace competitors!

COMPETITIVE DIFFERENTIATORS

MetricNet offers a portfolio of competitive differentiators including those listed below.

CREDIBILITY AND EXPERIENCE

MetricNet has conducted benchmarks and assessments for more than half of the Global 2000.

BENCHMARKING DATABASE

MetricNet has the largest database of process and performance indicators in the industry.

OBJECTIVITY

MetricNet's clients receive objective recommendations that are free from any vendor bias.



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Managing Partner and CEO



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TEAM

ANGELA IRIZARRY

President and COO

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Executive Project Director



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