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Customer operations transformation

Enabling business value through customer engagement

Not so long ago, customer operations was considered nothing more than a necessary cost center to address customer service needs. Executives today realize that an efficient, engaging, and customer-centric customer operations capability can become a competitive differentiator in an increasingly commoditized marketplace.

Customer operations—those functions that directly engage your customers, such as sales and service—is one of the most important and oftentimes undervalued functions in many businesses. Why? Because many executives—and customers, for that matter—have a fundamental misunderstanding of its importance in shaping an organization's overall success and reputation.

That's where we can help. By assisting companies in defining and enhancing the function's true value as a primary point of contact between the organization and its customers, we can help you leverage the true power of customer operations to help grow your company's reputation and bottom line.

Five ways to help improve customer operations

Shift the mindset. Develop a clear understanding of the role customer operations plays in the enterprise value chain, and highlight the importance that positive customer interactions have on your reputation and bottom line.

Look outside your industry. As good as your customer operations may be, chances are there's someone somewhere doing it better. While maintaining industry-specific requirements is important, look at leading practices from other industries that you can adopt and adapt to meet your needs.

Focus on value. When done correctly, customer operations provides value to your business and your customers. Once you've determined a course of action, pay close attention to your operations and your outside feedback and make any necessary adjustments to ensure you're delivering the best service in the most efficient manner possible.

Consider the customer's perspective. What's easy and efficient for your staff may be difficult and frustrating for your customers. Take the customer experience into account when designing and implementing new processes and protocols.

Technology isn't the only solution. When properly enabled, technology can do wonders to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of your customer operations. But technology on its own isn't enough. Combine the right solutions with the right business processes and operating models to make the most of your technological investments.

How Deloitte can help

We work with leaders across your business to identify and address the key issues surrounding customer operations and to help implement advanced, multichannel customer engagement capabilities within an efficient and effective organization.

We leverage specialists in all aspects of the customer operations business function (strategy, engagement channels, talent, operations, processes, data, and technology) to help develop and implement custom-designed solutions that meet your specific business requirements, improve efficiency, and personalize interactions between your staff and customers.

Specifically, our service offerings address:

• **Capability assessment.** We help identify areas for improvement in your customer

operations function, compare your current state with your desired future state and leading practices, and highlight gaps that need to be addressed to provide world-class customer service.

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- Operating model and service delivery model design. We offer assistance in designing world-class organization and service delivery capabilities that can increase efficiency, lower costs, and improve customer experience.
- Omni-channel effectiveness. We work with you to improve all aspects of your customer interactions through your current channels and to identify and implement new interaction capabilities via emerging channels.
- **Technology enablement.** We help identify, select, and implement the most

- appropriate and advanced customer engagement technologies and capabilities to effectively manage and deliver high-quality customer service and grow revenue through increased sales.
- Sourcing strategies. We help identify, implement, and transition sourcing strategies (business process and technology) to support customer operations.
- Transformation roadmap and execution. We help create an executable path to your future customer organization by balancing sound, operational fundamentals with nextgeneration capabilities to elevate the customer experience, improve employee engagement, reduce operational costs, and increase revenue.

Why Deloitte?

We understand effective and efficient customer engagement is vital to your business and we have developed the right mix of talent, experience, and capabilities to help your organization recognize—and treat—customers as the valuable assets they truly are.

Leveraging our unique and collaborative approach, we create multi-functional teams of subject matter experts in strategy, customer experience, engagement channels, human capital, operations, and technology to help you design and implement practical, efficient, and personalized customer service solutions that will:

- Reduce customer operations operating costs
- Improve your customers' experiences and satisfaction
- Increase revenue by building brand loyalty, improving customer retention, and boosting sales
- Improve employee engagement within customer operations functions
- Improve your reputation and market positioning by making customer operations a point of differentiation between you and your competitors

Learn more

To learn more about how we can help, visit https://www.deloitte.com/us/customer-operations

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The big idea

Advances in data and technology are transforming customer engagement capabilities and service delivery models. The rapid maturation of cognitive technologies such as natural language processing, speech recognition, and robotics is driving new ways of engaging customers, enabling employees, and generating business insights to dynamically shape sales and customer service. Building these capabilities into your current operations and go-forward strategies is critical to the next wave of success in world-class customer organizations.

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