Workday Differentiators: Finance in a Digital World

Deloitte addresses Workday differentiators for the eight digital finance predictions laid out in Deloitte's Finance 2025 article.

Workforce and workplace

Employees will be doing new things in new ways, in new location, some of which will make CFOs uncomfortable.

$\frac{1}{2}$

Data

The proliferation of APIs will drive data standardization, but it won't be enough. Companies will still be struggling to clean up their data messes.



Enterprise resource planning

Finance applications and microservices challenge traditional ERP.



2025

0

The finance factory

 \leq

Transactions will be touchless as automation and blockchain reach deeper into finance operations



New service-delivery models will emerge as robots and algorithms join a more diverse finance workforce—think about the integration of freelancers, gig workers, and crowds. Companies will assess the benefits of automation against onshore and offshore operations.





The role of finance

With operations largely automated, Finance will double down on business insights and service. The skills required by finance professionals will change, likely dramatically, as new combinations of technology and human workforces permeate the workplace.



Finance cycles

Finance goes real time. Periodic reporting will no longer drive operations and decisions—if it ever did.



Self-service

Self-service will become the norm. Finance will be uneasy about this.

Workday Differentiators: Finance in a Digital World



The finance factory

Workday automates accounting, including for transactions from external systems, and consolidates in real-time, helping organizations close when they want and adjust as they need. Finance can consistently coordinate their business practices, including triggering approvals, report distribution, tasks, integrations, and more as a part of a flexible business process framework. Machine learning is woven into the fabric of core processes to help further automate manual actions like customer receipt application and supplier invoice ingestion while identifying anomalies in journals and plan entries to reduce risk and support management by exception.

The role of finance

Workday accelerates the evolution of finance from transaction operator to strategic advisor by bringing together the critical financial, workforce, and operational data at scale, and supporting continuous and collaborative planning across the enterprise. Finance can help the business understand the "why" behind the "what" with fresh insights.

Finance cycles



With Workday's in-memory accounting and reporting foundation, Finance can achieve real-time consolidated financial reporting, management reporting, and ad-hoc analysis. Workday's modeling engine supports rolling forecasts with integrated scenarios so finance can identify issues in real time, investigate the cause, and reforecast dynamically—not only at period end.

Self-service



Workday drives self-service engagement with a role-aware user experience that provides context and streamlines work, while simultaneously giving finance confidence and control through a single role-based security model, always-on audit capabilities, and visibility into data lineage.

For self-service analysis, users have access to reporting and analytics tools that make the most sense for each user's needs, connected and secured by the same object data model, providing everyone with actionable insight without having to worry about the data integrity or assembly.



Operating models

Workday helps organizations apply a skills-based lens to optimize finance talent in new operating models, applying machine learning and analytics to help them understand the skills they have and the skills they need while providing the tools to support new models and career journeys, like gig work. Workday helps finance leaders equip their teams with new finance technology, identifying the areas new innovations can have the greatest impact and weaving them into core financial processes as part of regular releases. New technology is deployed with a consistent user experience, giving flexibility, and scalability in the face of change without the risk or manual effort of bolt-on tools.



Enterprise resource planning

Workday was founded with the goal of creating a new experience for finance fundamentally different from legacy ERP. Workday provides financial management, workforce and talent management, collaborative planning, and comprehensive reporting in one cloud architecture, connected by the same object data model. As needs evolve, organizations can extend Workday by developing apps in the same environment with familiar experience, source of data, and security model, unlocking new value to meet their unique needs and increasing organizational agility.

Data





Ŋ,

Workforce and workplace

The future of work is more distributed, flexible, and transparent in support of faster decision-making and execution cycles. Workday provides self-service, automated processes, makes data and analytics available to the users at critical moments, and supports high-volume scenario modelling and company-wide planning, all connected and secured in one place. Finance has more time to confidently guide new change while maintaining confidence in data security and quality.

How we can help

Core modernization: Cloud Process robotics Visualization

Exponentials:

Advanced analytics Cognitive computing In-memory computing Blockchain

Contact

Matthew Schwenderman Principal and Global Workday Finance Leader mschwenderman@deloitte.com

Learn more

Deloitte.com/workday



Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, a UK private company limited by guarantee ("DTTL"), its network of member firms, and their related entities. DTTL and each of its member firms are legally separate and independent entities. DTTL (also referred to as "Deloitte Global") does not provide services to clients. In the United States, Deloitte refers to one or more of the US member firms of DTTL, their related entities that operate using the "Deloitte" name in the United States and their respective affiliates. Certain services may not be available to attest clients under the rules and regulations of public accounting. Please see www.deloitte.com/about to learn more about our global network of member firms.

Copyright © 2021 Deloitte Development LLC. All rights reserved.