

lights-Out Automation

In today's data centers, automation is more than just a nice-to-have, but it's always a numbers game—do the benefits outweigh the costs? Here are some numbers that will help you get to where you need to be with automation.

7 MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT AUTOMATION

1. Monitoring is automation. (It's only the first step.)
2. Free or built-in solutions are the best. (They are limited.)
3. Third-party solutions are too complex. (More features mean scalability.)
4. Time spent on implementation is not worth it. (It's one-time only.)
5. You could automate yourself out of a job. (Quite the opposite.)
6. Lights-out automation is set it and forget it. (Nope.)
7. Automation happens overnight. (Baby steps.)

And here's the truth ›

9 PROBLEMS WITH MANUAL OR SCRIPTED OPERATIONS

1. Maintaining them is expensive and time-consuming.
2. Operations becomes a burden on Development.
3. Gaps create a high opportunity for error.
4. There's no tracking, so visibility and accountability is poor.
5. It's easy to miss service-level agreements (SLAs).
6. We're constantly reacting to issues in crisis mode.
7. Unplanned downtime is all too frequent.
8. Users are losing reports and rerunning them is a pain.
9. Audits are always a scramble and auditors often fail us.

10 EXCUSES FOR NOT AUTOMATING

1. We're afraid of losing staff or budget allocations.
2. Our staff is resistant to change.
3. We're limited by outdated hardware.
4. Our processing is too complicated.
5. We have 24/7 business needs.
6. Our business is not demanding changes in the data center.
7. We can't spare anyone; we're too busy firefighting.
8. Our remote offices are too widespread.
9. Communication is poor between Operations and Development.
10. Our automation proposals have been rejected in the past.

And here's how to respond ›

1. Do more with less.
2. Increase productivity and efficiency.
3. Reduce interruptions and downtime.
4. Provide visibility into operations metrics.
5. Keep IT jobs in-house.
6. Scale without adding staff.
7. Avoid audit and SLA penalties.
8. Optimize use of existing technology.
9. Eliminate errors.
10. Document knowledge base.
11. Improve communication.
12. Ease reporting.

12 BENEFITS OF AUTOMATION

And here's how to get them ›



3 REASONS TO BUDGET FOR AUTOMATION

1. Every hour of downtime could be costing your business over \$300,000. ([ITIC](#))

2. Around 50% of IBM i organizations are already running their IBM i completely lights out. ([HelpSystems](#))

3. IBM i skills are in short supply. Even if we look outside of IBM i, we see reports of a global technology skills labor shortage as significant as 4.3 million workers by 2030. ([Korn Ferry](#))

5 TIPS FOR THE AUTOMATION JOURNEY

1. Find success stories.
2. Build a list of items you want to automate.
3. Enter rules that are easy to repeat.
4. Manage by exception using your own rules.
5. Stay granular with your rules.

How Automated Are You?

Schedule a guided automation assessment and allow our experts to help you identify the areas where adding automation will make the biggest impact for your business.

Request my assessment ›