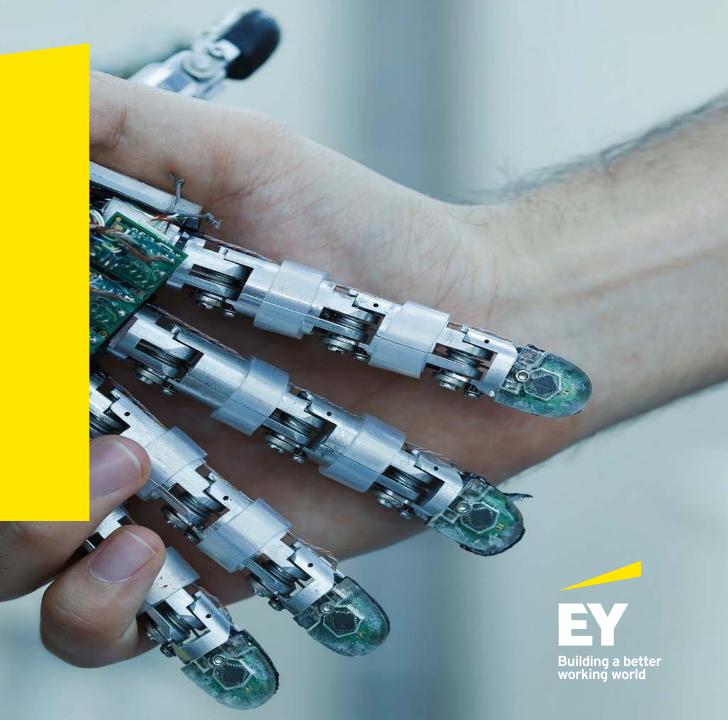


Are you ready for the new world? FEI Webinar

July 25, 2017





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# **FEI Committees**

## Committee on Corporate Treasury (CCT)

FEI's Committee on Corporate Treasury provides a forum for FEI members, namely treasurers, to formulate opinions and monitor developments and issues that impact the profession. These issues include credit ratings, access to capital, risk and many others. CCT disseminates this information as necessary to the FEI membership. The Committee drafts comment letters and educates relevant policy makers and regulators on issues impacting treasurers.

## Committee on Finance & IT (CFIT)

FEI's Committee on Finance & IT addresses the needs and interests of financial executives as strategic leaders, looking to leverage the use of technology in order to realize measurable and sustainable performance improvements while maintaining financial control. The Committee develops information technology related programs and services targeted to meet the strategic needs of FEI members. When deemed appropriate, CFIT may communicate positions to government agencies, legislators and professional and business organizations.

## Committee on Taxation (COT)

FEI's Committee on Taxation is comprised of senior corporate tax executives. COT monitors tax legislation, regulations and practices and formulates positions on public policy, accounting standards and tax administration issues wherever appropriate. The Committee meets quarterly in Washington, D.C. to receive presentations on the latest developments on issues affecting corporate tax departments from Capitol Hill, the executive branch and accounting professionals.

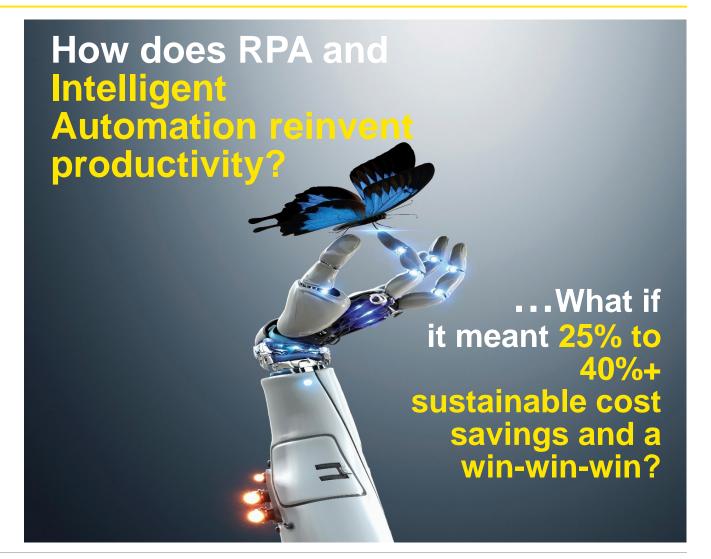
# Agenda

## 1. An overview of RPA

- Introduction to a "Bot"
- ▶ What is Robotic Process Automation ("RPA")?
- What are the benefits? Myths?

## 2. RPA "Value Creation"

- Most suitable processes
- Case studies
- 3. EY's internal experience & successes
- 4. Getting started
- 5. Questions





## **Panelists**







- Vasu Yedavalli is a Partner / Principal in EY's Advisory practice with 25+ years in CFO focused consulting and business solutions. Vasu has had an accomplishment-laden career of providing management and direction to several Fortune 50 and Fortune 500 companies in global finance strategy, performance improvement and technology consulting engagements. Vasu has a proven track record in developing and managing market facing innovative solutions, and driving cross-service lines integration and talent development. He is recognized for integrity, solid work ethic, and organizational skills in effectively managing priorities and multiple tasks within competitive and fast-paced settings and developing high performance teams.
- He has supported several RPA pursuits and some implementations. He is currently a leader in the Robotics Process Automation solution offering (RPA) for EY's Diversified Industrial Products sector and the North East region.
- Sharda Cherwoo is a Partner in EYs National Tax practice and has held a variety of leadership roles focusing on innovative global entrepreneurial initiatives, strategic and operational, business unit leadership and client serving roles. Sharda serves as the firm's Americas Tax leader for Intelligent Automation and Robotic Process Automation and has been at the firm for over 35 years.
- In addition to her client serving role as an Tax Account Leader on global accounts, Sharda has been hands-on and focused on leading and implementing the strategy through enabling innovative technologies such as robotic process automation. EY Robotic Process Automation was the Gold Stevie® Award Winner in the 2017 American Business Awards in the category of Innovation of the Year.
- Sharda has led many robotic process automation tax innovation workshops with clients to identify opportunities for automation, share leading practices and implementation insights based on her deep experience in RPA implementations from inception to production and post-production considerations.
- Sharda has also served as the Americas Director of Tax Operations and Compliance for EY with responsibility for the strategy, growth, and leading the operations across the U.S., Canada, and Latin Americas.
- Paul Bramwell is a Principal in EY's Global Treasury Services team based in NY which serves the full spectrum of treasury activities. Paul spent 15 years in corporate treasury as a practitioner, mostly in the UK and joined a treasury technology company in 2000. Paul moved to the US in 2003 with SunGard where he worked with a significant number of fortune 500 clients in providing technology solutions to meet their requirements.
- Over the last 6 years Paul was responsible for the P&L, strategy and future product direction of the portfolio of products that SunGard had acquired through acquisition with a particular focus on ensuring the systems could meet regulatory and functional requirements for their clients.
- Paul joined EY 18 months ago where he is responsible for the Eastern Region of the Global Treasury Services team and nationally for treasury technology and robotics.



# Introduction to robotics







# **Polling Question**

# How would you rate you and your company's understanding of robotics process automation (RPA)?

- A. This is the first time I have thought about it.
- B. We are at the early stages of exploring what it means.
- c. We understand all the hype and are working out what it means for us.
- D. We have a strategy in place and are starting to execute.
- E. We are mature users of a range of smart automation tools.
- F. Not applicable (EY professional, faculty, other)





## Introduction to a "Bot"

Click to start <u>Video</u>





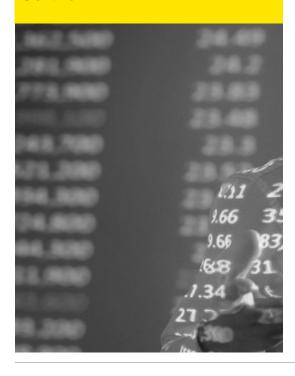
# Disrupt or be disrupted?

## Headlines capturing attention of executives everywhere

30%-40%

of existing business process services are likely to be impacted by RPA

Gartner





Cost reduction of

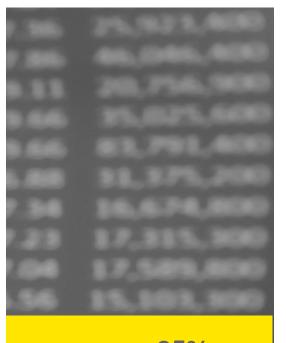
35%-65% for onshore operations and 10%-30% for offshore operations

Institute for Robotic Process
Automation

RPA is estimated to lead to 30%–35% reduction in entry-level roles and increase mid-level roles

Everest Group





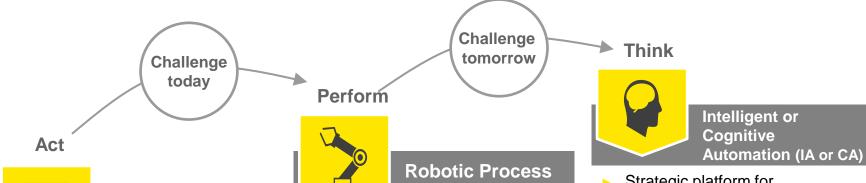
Estimated that **85%** of a typical firm's **900+** processes can be automated; **110m** to **140m** FTE capacity could be released by **2025** 

McKinsey & Company





# Robotics is a spectrum of automation



- The age of macros & workarounds
- Pre-existing basic technologies like VBA, auto hot keys, screenscrapping

**Desktop** 

**Automation (DA)** 

- platform

Several toolkits, no systematic

Structured data as basis for

repeatable actions

- Strategic platform for tactical change
- Broad application (use cases are not function specific)
- Rule-based automation of routines (able to follow instructions)
- No intelligence (binary decisions only)

- Strategic platform for strategic change
- Narrow application (use cases require thoughtful consideration)
- Non-routine tasks requiring judgment (cognitive capabilities/dynamic rules/artificial learning)
- Used rather to increase value than to reduce cost

Value & capability

## Implementation speed & solution maturity

**Automation (RPA)** 

Unattended service based processing

Cognitive computing utilizing unstructured data to make decisions



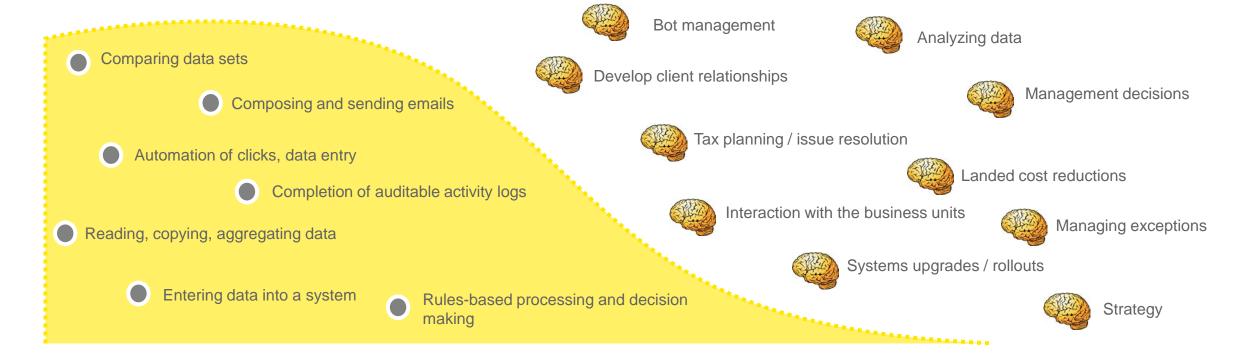
## Taking the robot out of the human

#### Robotic process automation (RPA)

A software solution that runs unattended, working like a virtual employee with legacy applications performing repetitive tasks reliably at the User Interface level

#### **Current workforce**

Taking the robot out of the human allows your employees to focus on driving growth in the top line, reducing costs and focusing on value added activities





## **Business-led transformation under IT governance**

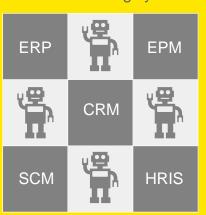
Defining your purpose will drive how RPA is implemented

## Low-risk, low-cost extension of existing technology

RPA is overlaid on existing systems and integrated with existing data minimizing disruption to IT strategy and architecture.

While most RPA applications will be part of the long-term architecture, some applications provide a costeffective, medium-term solution until core systems are expanded.

RPA often "fills the gaps" between existing systems



**Cost savings or** avoidance

Ranging from 20-60% of baseline FTE cost

# **Productivity**

Freed up human resources for higher value-added tasks.



## Right shoring

Geographical independence reducing need to offshore jobs while still delivering cost savings



### Scalability

Instant ramp up and down to match demand peaks and trouahs



#### Consistency

Identical processes and tasks, eliminating output variations



#### **Audit trail**

Fully maintained logs essential for compliance



#### **Opportunity focused**

Can focus RPA on only those areas where significant opportunity exists; does not require enterprise adoption



#### Retention

Shifts human effort toward more stimulating tasks



Typical RPA projects with multiple functional "pilots" but generally completed in 9 to 12 months with a return on investment (ROI) < 1 year



# Applying RPA to free up valuable time

### **Types of benefits**



Save in human effort



Reduce people expense by automating frequent manual repetitive tasks, improving exception handling and moving work to best location



Increase value add of talent and lower attrition

Improve knowledge worker value add by increasing focus on highest return activities (i.e., time dividend) and improve their satisfaction/retention by eliminating dull routines



Accelerate value from other initiatives

Enable quick wins and rapid value realization to expand margins or generate funding for existing or new initiatives (e.g., lean, BPR, ERP implementations, process improvement)



Reduce costly errors with quality and controls

Improve auditability (every step could be logged), consistency, and control over error-prone manual activities that elevate risk, non-compliance, financial or reputational harm



Do more faster and shorten critical path

Reduce end-to-end time to handle peak periods, meet deadlines, and smooth post-M&A integration by virtually connecting disparate systems and data sources



## **RPA** in action

## **Data movement**



Sourcing, lightly transforming and loading data for reporting, analytics, data profiling, and system testing and migration

## Digital enablement



Adding digital/mobile to application(s), such as customer preference/profile, sales or service transactions

## Virtual handling



Rapidly performing repetitive tasks otherwise done by humans to reduce cost, accelerate timing, improve reliability and reduce risk



## What are MYTHS and REALITIES of RPA?

MYTH: Robotics will fix outdated or inefficient

processes

MYTH: All processes can be improved with RPA

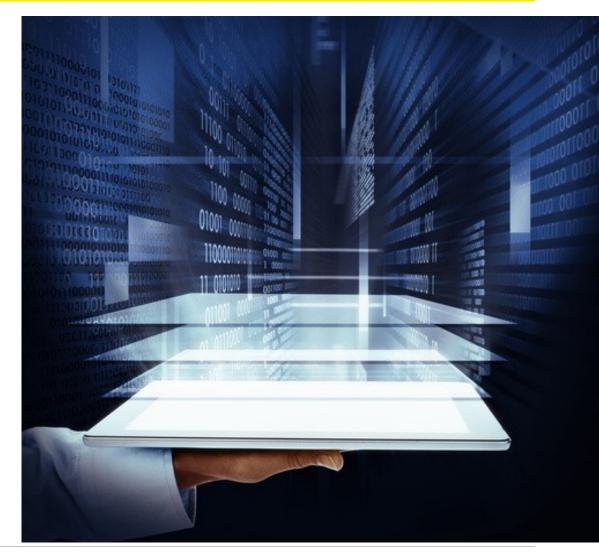
**MYTH:** Robots will replace the workforce

**REALITY:** Process costs are reduced by 25%-40%

**REALITY:** Significant increase in processing speed

**REALITY:** RPA is a technology overlay, that ties together legacy fragmented systems through automation

**REALITY:** Human workforce increases focus on results, analytics and relationships





# Where RPA initially drives value





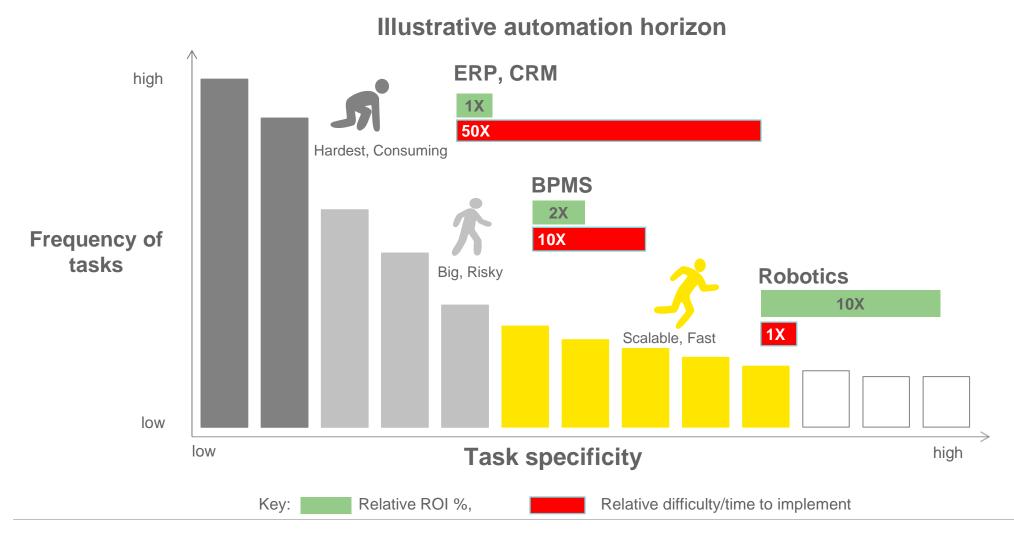
# **Polling Question**

# Where do you think the biggest potential for robotics lies in your organization? (select your top three)

- A. Sales and marketing services
- B. Supply chain and logistics
- c. Procurement
- D. Back-office and administrative services
- E. IT help desk and services
- F. Tax compliance and operations



# The value proposition: ~10X ROI coupled with ~50X less difficulty to implement





# Identifying the most suitable scope of processes for implementation is key to unlocking the full value of RPA

#### Process characteristics to consider for RPA

- High-volume repetitive transactions
- High levels of manual data capture and entry
- Interaction with multiple applications or systems
- Multiple tasks to perform a process
- Definable business rules and exceptions
- Data entry, validation and manipulation
- Data transfer between applications
- **Automated formatting**
- Copy-and-paste operations
- Login and logout of applications and emailing

Activities typically performed by RPA

The application scope is broad — penetrating, for example, finance and accounting, human resources, IT and supply chain

### 60% F&A reduction in cost Sales order to process Order to cash invoice Reconciliations<sup>l</sup> Incentive claim Record to report Vendor setup Trend tracking 80% Reduction in payroll

## Payroll processing cost

- Benefits administration
- Pay slip management
- Time and attendance management
- Recruiting process
- Education and training
- Compliance reporting

#### Supply chain/S2P

- Master data management
- Source to Pay
- Work order management.
- Demand and supply planning
- Quote, invoice and contract management
- Returns processing
- Freight management

9%-20% of the cost to companies arises from supply chain problems

## IT

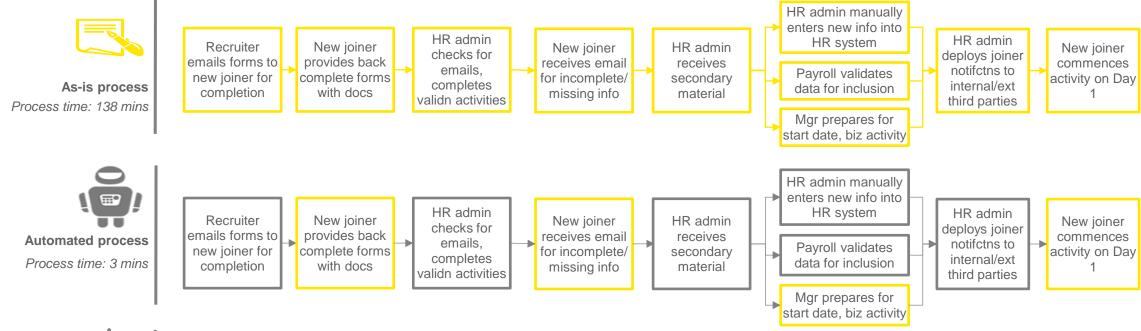
- Installation
- File transfer protocol download, upload and backup
- Server application and monitoring
- Synchronizing, deleting and emptying folders
- File and email mgmt.

30% of the time spent by IT is almost on low-level tasks



# HR case study: the onboarding process

## Click to start Video





Manual process

#### Benefits realized:

- ▶ Reduction in onboarding time 2.3 hours to 3 mins
- 100% accuracy on new hire data entry into the system and validation by payroll
- ▶ 50% overall reduction in manual effort, thus encouraging resources to focus value-added time on non-repetitive tasks
- Key stroke errors reduced that impacts payroll data
- Automated in POC

#### Process overview:

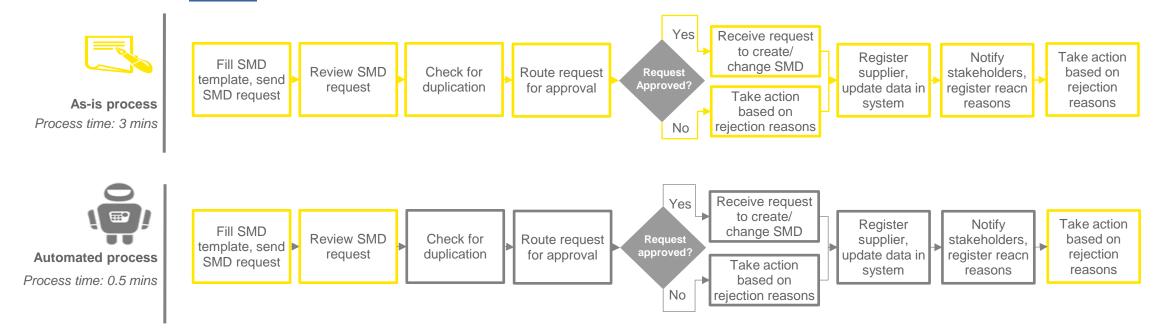
- ► The client used robotics to reduce time involved on the new hire onboarding process
- ▶ Bot would utilize new joiner form to validate info via online system
- Bot would update Oracle (PeopleSoft) and send emails to payroll for onboarding new joiner



# Procurement case study: vendor master data management

## Creation of new vendor

## Click to start Video



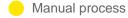


#### Benefits realized:

- Vendor managed data was automated without approval stages required
- Routes for approval were passed on to another system as part of POC
- ► This part of project also focused on standardization and design of digitally enabling request, notification and approval functionalities

#### Process overview:

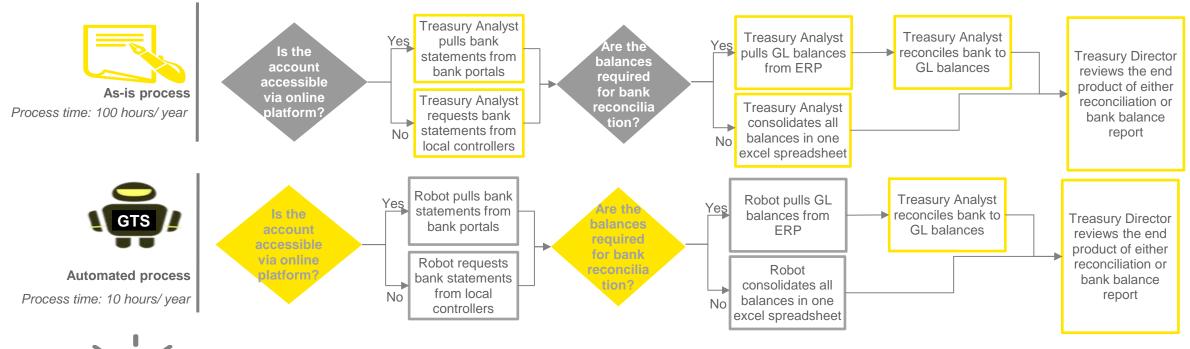
- Robotics used by the client to create a new vendor in the system
- ▶ Bot would fill the SMD template, check for duplicates and send the request for approval
- Based on approval decision, bot would register supplier in system and notify stakeholders



Automated in POC



# Treasury case study: reporting bank balances, not accessible through SWIFT or SFTP





Manual process

#### Potential benefits realized:

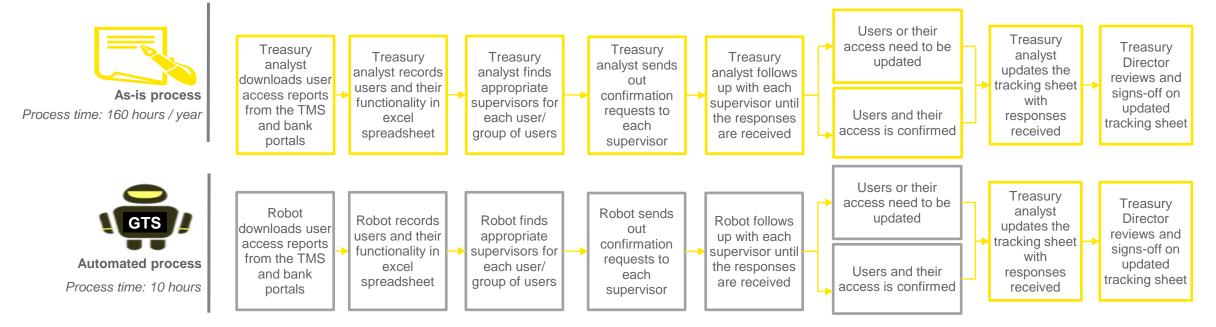
 Pulling and recording of balances which are otherwise not accessible either through SWIFT or online portals are automated, eliminating the need for manual intervention

Automated in POC

- Process overview:
- Robotics used by the client to pull bank balances, which are not accessible through SWIFT connection
- Robotics used by the client to request bank balances, which are not accessible through SWIFT and do not have online portals
- Bot would record bank and GL balances in the reconciliation spreadsheet or balance reporting spreadsheet



# Treasury Case Study: user access review





Manual process

#### Potential benefits realized:

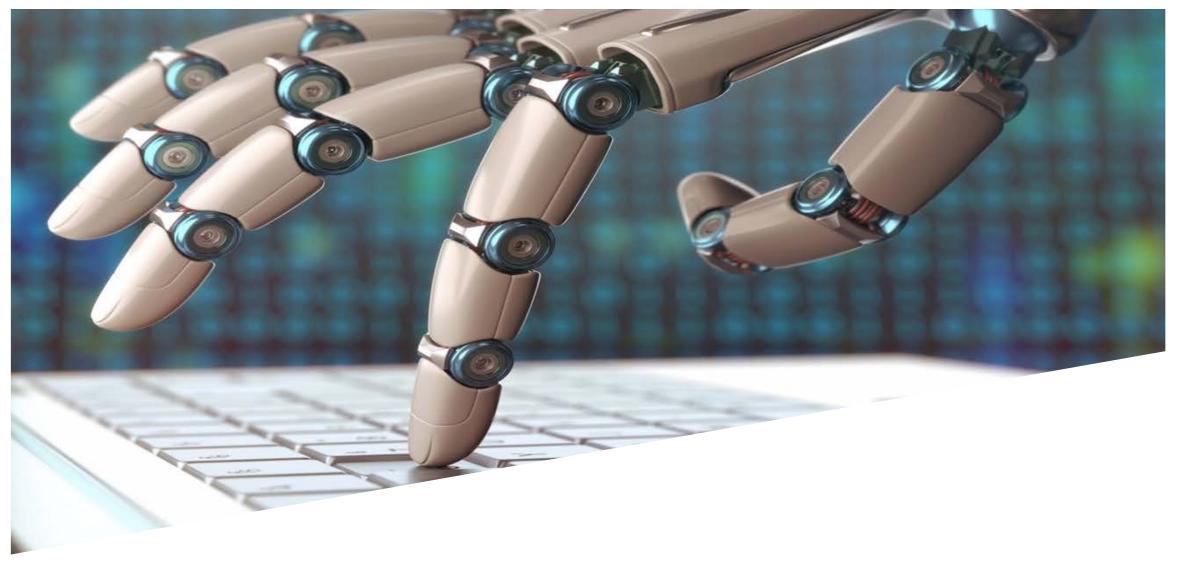
- ▶ Reduction in process time from 160 hours/ year to 80 hours
- ▶ 100% accuracy on the original user access tracking sheet and updates provided by supervisors
- 50% overall reduction in manual effort, specifically follow up emails, thus encouraging resources to focus value-added time on non-repetitive tasks
- Key stroke errors reduced that impacts user access data
- Automated in POC

#### Process overview:

- The client would use robotics to reduce time involved in the review of functionality assigned to each user of bank portals and treasury systems, which is typically required for SOX reporting
- Bot would ensure that user details were input into tracking sheet appropriately
- Bot would follow up with supervisors until confirmation of user access is received



# EY's internal experience







# EY's internal experience and success

1.3m+ hours of annual benefit within 2 years of embarking on the RPA journey

- ▶ Implemented **250+ bots in EY shared services and Tax in 2 years**; plan to be at 500+ bots by the end of 2017
- ▶ Applied RPA to more than 200 processes some very complex; 100,000 tax filings
- ► Estimated value 1,300,000 annual hours of freed-up capacity in Tax (and growing); 6 to 9 month payback
- ▶ RPA has been catalyst for process improvements and standardization **200+ internal process improvements**
- Sustained business impact driving value for our people, clients and the firm

# Functional areas examples

- Business TaxCompliance
- ► HR recruiting and payroll
- ▶ HR onboarding
- ▶ Reporting
- ► Sales and use tax
- ► Asset management
- ▶ Property tax
- ► Expat tax
- ► Global tax reporting
- ► FATCA
- ▶ WOTC
- ► Form 5500s



#### **Team**

Centralized, global enterprise COEs staffed with approximately 100+ people



#### **Foundation technology**

Blue Prism and Automation Anywhere



#### **Efficiency**

Automating processes replacing 3 to 4 the number of FTEs



#### **Sustainability and growth**

2017-2019 expanding to 30-40% of workforce capacity



# **Polling Question**

## Are you using RPA tools in your tax processes today?

- A. Yes, but only just starting
- B. Yes, extensively
- c. No
- D. Do not know
- Not applicable (EY professional, faculty, other)



## Automation "hot spots" for tax accounting Common activities where RPA helps drive value

Click here to start Video

#### Disclosures



Automating generation of footnote disclosure tables, including current and deferred tax expense, effective tax rate and components of deferred tax assets and liabilities from the tax provision software

#### Journal entry generations





Automating the preparation of journal entries between unadjusted general ledger balances and the computed provision tax balances for

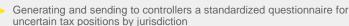
#### Reconciliations

- Identifying unreconciled items and triggering alert notifications
- Providing automated reconciliation of income tax account balances to triage exception

#### Generating reports

Automating the download of requested reports at specified times and emailing to tax provision personnel for updates and adjustments related to tax law changes, etc.

#### Computing interest and penalties on uncertain tax positions



- Automating the computation of interest and penalty by position and by year on quarterly and annual basis on the imported interest rate
- Automatically generating an alert to reviewer for statute of limitation expiration based on the statute of limitations information importation
- Automating calculation of current year changes in unrecognized tax benefit

#### Prior year data rollforward



Automating rollforward of prior year's tax provision to establish beginning balances for current year provision, not limited to deferred balances, net operating losses, tax credits, payable balances; confirming beginning balances agree to prior period ending

#### Provision to return analysis



Automating link and import tax return to tax provision software as well as generating return-to-provision reports for validation

#### **Extract financial information from** accounting system





Extracting current book trail balances, such as pretax book income, accruals, fixed assets, M&E or other tax- sensitive accounts and income tax payment information

#### Formatting and workpaper creation



- Formatting, cutting, pasting to prepare for entry into the tax provision computation system
- Manipulating trial balance data before importing into tax tool
- Providing rollover balances

#### Data validation and rollforward 📋 🐉 🥎



- Automating the process of validating information by referring to tax provision checklist of items to verify that the checklist is completed
- Self-assuring data such as validating the pretax book income in tax provision is equal to that shown in the ERP accounting system
- Reviewing fixed assets, intangibles or quarterly payable rollforward and comparing with the information in general ledger

#### Input of data into tax provision system 🗐 🐉 💮



- Automating tax provision data, entry by "pushing" tax-specific data from general ledger or a workpaper into tax provision application for federal, state and international
- ▶ Importing entire trial balance from ERP into tax provision system
- Performing tasks that require clicking through the provision system
- Automating the workflow processes associated with tax provision processing



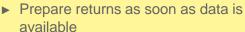
## Case study: Creating a "book" Form 1120 tax return

Click to start Video

### The challenge /4

- ► Changes in financial information create the need to rerun the tax return multiple times
- ► Compressed timelines leave little time for in-depth real time review and analysis

## Why automation



- Increase time allocated to review
- Accelerate learning of tax talent

## What we did

Used Automation Anywhere RPA tool to automate the upload of the trial balance, the preparation of the review workbooks, download of invoices and the preparation of the "book" basis Form 1120

#### Outcome 1111



- ▶ Process is completed with minimal human intervention
- Accelerated timeline to review
- ► Eliminate duplicate steps and "throwaway" output
- ▶ Identify technical issues earlier in the process
- ► Engage right resources at the right time

**BOT logs into OIT** and imports the trial balance





BOT does a system compute and prepares the book return

BOT consolidates and prints the book return



BOT sends an email to the preparer

Tax professional reviews the book return and identifies areas for additional analysis





Robot





# Case study: Sales and use tax

Click to start Video

## The challenge /

- ► A significant amount of time is required each month to review tax determinations
- ► Leaving little time for review resulting in a ~40% error rate.

## Why automation



- ▶ Mitigate compliance risk
- ► Reduce costs (i.e. decrease resources for manual processes
- Increase time allocated to review
- ► Eliminate reverse audit fees
- Accelerate learning agility of tax talent

## What we did

Anywhere to Used Automation automate the download of the data. preparation of the review workbooks, download of invoices and preparation of exemption certificates

## Outcome 1



- Significant time savings
- ► A greater # of invoices are downloaded a comprehensive review, improving
- ► Automation of the exemption certificates and emails results in additional refunds from vendors

Setup folders, workflow and download SAP data





Prepare review workbook, including identification of erroneous tax codes

Download invoices

Review invoices and pull additional ad hoc documentation



Populate exemption certificates and prepare vendor emails

نظان

Review emails and documentation and send emails

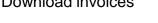




Robot



Human -





# Key insights and lessons learned from our journey

Configured complex processes, Leveraging available tools in developed standardized rulebooks, addition to RPA consistently across accelerators - machine learning being needs greater focus and dots connected implemented next Scaled RPA training strategy to be IT Enablement process needs to accelerated - Delivery success mature further – Software application depends on building deep RPA update coordination etc., maintenance implementation skills processes continues to be fine tuned Driving standardization as we Targeting RPA at a highly complex solution for automation is providing process with many variations is a common mistake - That effort could added value - Continuous process have been better spent automating excellence goals to be set to sustain and



multiple other processes

grow benefits

## A few critical success factors – what to watch out for?

## Stakeholder incentive & engagement

Communicate value to all Stakeholders

Effective change management, communication

Engage the business leader to be owners to drive initative

#### **Process prioritisation**

Select the right processes for automation

**Develop testing and deployment framework** 

Secure buy-in from current process owners

## **Robust and Agile operating model**

Build a flexible governance and testing process to support automation processes

Avoid "Analysis Paralysis" for automation of low value tasks

Promote clear view of robot capabilities

Maintain and control knowledge including (methods, best practices and training)

Manage and scale workforce through training and proper resource allocation

## **Business & IT accountability**

**Business led development and deployment** 

Clearly define business and IT roles across RPA

**Establish governance protocol** 

#### **Benefits realization**

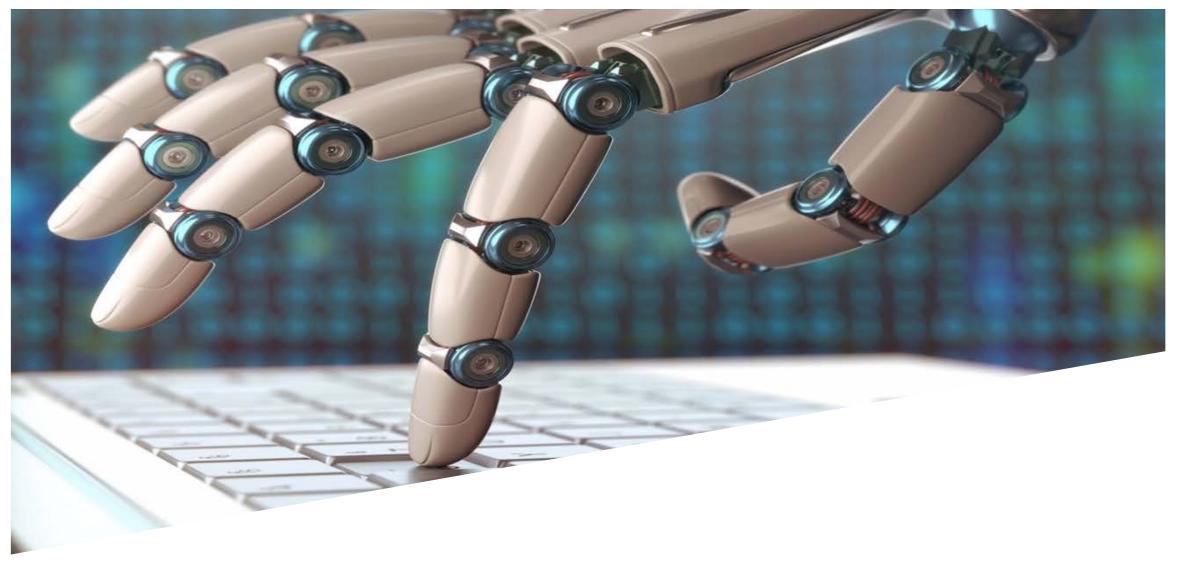
Benefits tracking for cost-reduction and investment allocation

Trace reinvestment of savings realized from RPA processes

Reassess licenses required for 3rd party technology vendors

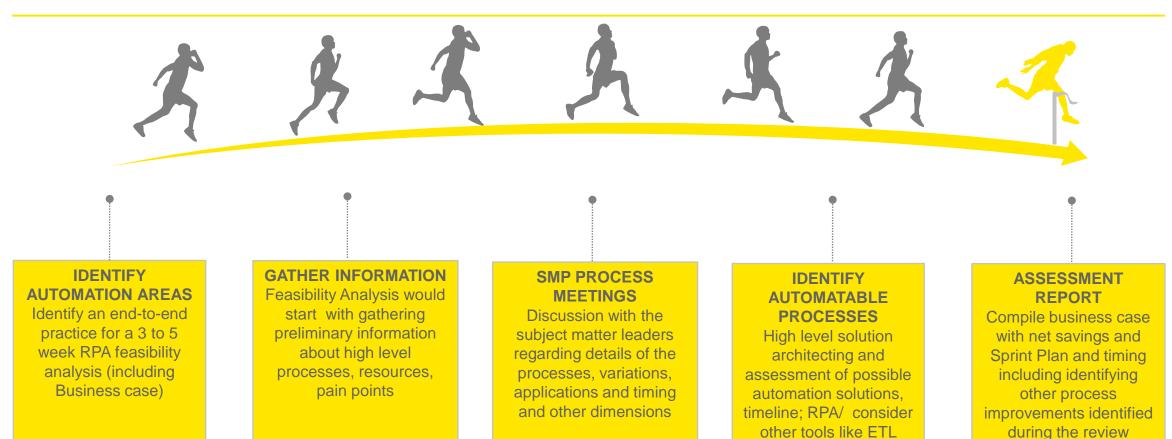


# **Getting started**





# How to get started Typical next steps for a feasibility assessment





# **Polling Question**

Which of the following areas would you be most interested in for future webcasts and/or distribution of materials? (select all that apply)

- A. Further insight into the RPA/smart automation landscape
- B. More case studies and use cases
- c. Insight into how to deliver smart automation
- D. Deeper insight into a specific functional area,
- E. if so please specify which area: USE THE Q&A BOX
- i.e.: Marketing & sales / Tax compliance and operations
- G. I'm all set, thank you!



# Q&A





# Thank you



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