AI strategy shortcut: The payoff matrix

If the pressure to start deploying generative AI (GenAI) is causing you to put your full-blown AI strategy on hold, then make sure you're using an AI payoff matrix. Why? Because even though your out-of-the gate GenAI use cases may be technology driven in nature, they need to be business value-driven in opportunity. Ultimately, using a payoff matrix can make all the difference between a POC that drives little impact and costs lots of money and one that delivers near-term wins and provides a foundation for future success.

What is it and how does it work?

A payoff matrix is a structured process by which you can identify and prioritize the AI uses based on the total ROI to your business.

The input

The vertical axis assesses:

- Will the use case enable operational efficiency?
- Will it enable revenue generation?
- Will it enable customer engagement?
- Will it enable competitive advantage (the crème de la crème for ROI)?

The output

The output of the payoff matrix drives how you prioritize investments and even the tools/technologies you use to implement the highest-value use cases. And it provides a short cut to the strategy work that is essential to building sustainable and differentiated value for your business.

The horizontal axis assesses:

- Either difficulty or cost to implement
- Some use cases will be too demanding or complex to implement quickly and successfully, while others may be so expensive to execute that they cancel out the potential ROI

Sample payoff matrix



Competitive



The challenge

dominated by what typically turns out to be the lowest-value pursuits: operational efficiency. Push yourself to look harder for the bigger, better opportunities to engage customers, generate revenue and achieve competitive advantage.

Don't settle for a myopic payoff matrix — one

When you're talking about GenAI use cases in particular, it's critical that you assess not only the

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The next step

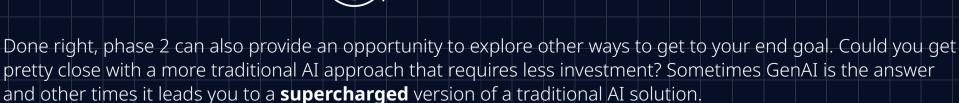
qualitative benefits, but the quantitative ones. GenAI solutions can carry some pretty steep price tags, so you want to make sure the juice is worth the squeeze. That's what phase 2 of the payoff matrix is all about — doing the calculations to determine which of your

identified use cases will deliver the greatest total ROI. It's hard, and you may need some help facilitating the conversations and explorations needed to get there.



automated GenAI, BUT you have to measure not only what it will save, but what it will cost.

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Bonus

Contact our AI Advantage team to learn more about our AI Payoff Matrix