

Workforce Planning in a Digital World

Ric Kosiba

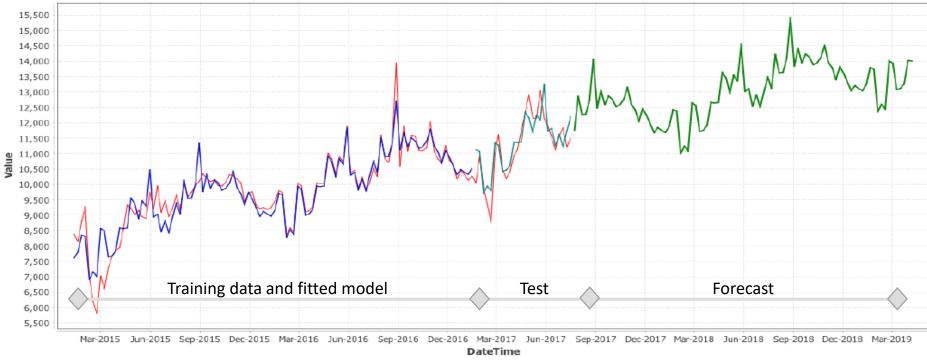


Today we'll discuss

- How do we (mechanically) put together a multi-channel plan?
 - Data gathering
 - What to forecast
 - Important metrics
 - Math techniques to analyze these more complex problems
- Should we cross utilize our different workgroups?

In the last episode...

Forecast of Calls Offered for WEEKLY data



- Forecast - Fitted - Backcast - Clean History

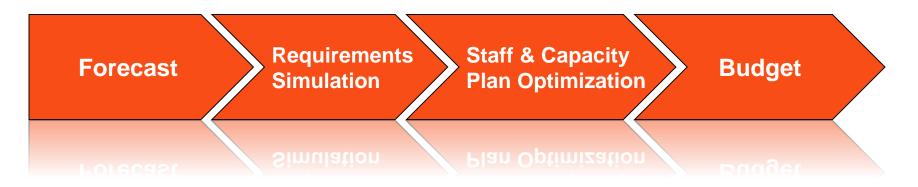
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What is Workforce Management and Planning?

- The art of getting the *right number* of people at the *right time* to achieve service goals
- In order to do this well, we must accurately:
 - 1. Predict the number of contacts (forecasting)
 - 2. Determine how many people are needed (modeling)
 - 3. Schedule and hire them efficiently (optimization)

What do (WFM and) strategic planning systems/processes do?

Strategic planning systems provide four basic functions. They help to:



Determine the center resource plan and budget that maintains the (appropriately) best service standard at the most efficient cost *over time*.

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Strategic planning is *big picture*

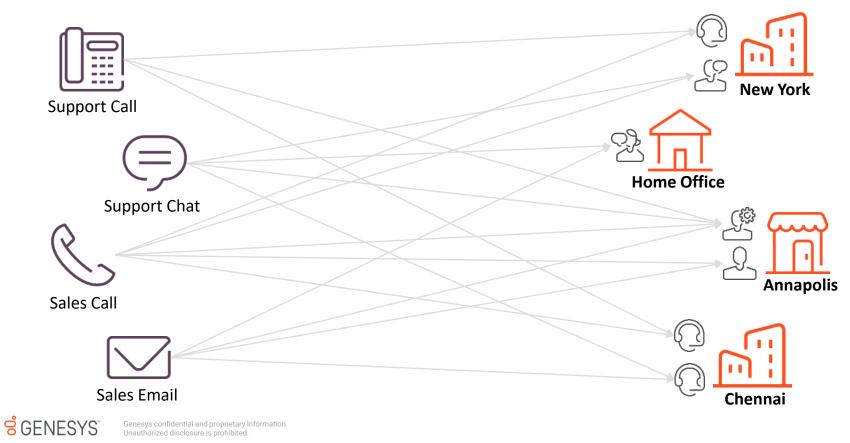


- It includes determining what types of contacts to service
- It includes matching business functions and channels to segments of customers
- It includes staffing each channel appropriately
- It includes determining what service standards are right for each of your contact types
- It includes planning where (which centers and staff types) and when (which weeks) to hire your phone agents
- It includes determining a long term hiring versus overtime policy
- It includes determining how many centers are optimal for your network
- It includes determining annual or multi-year budgets and budget priorities

Your strategic planning process is your best big-picture, decisionmaking device



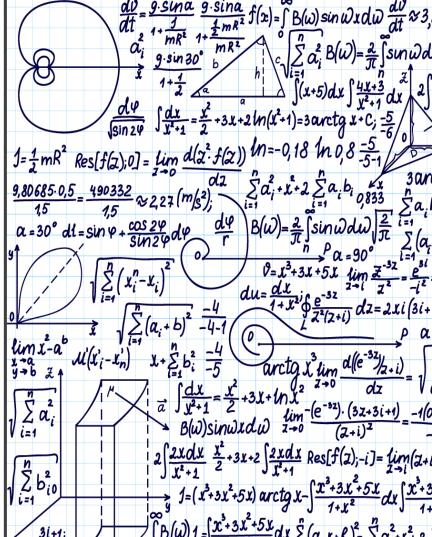
Call Centers Are Complex



Basic things we need to figure out in this more complex environment

- 1. How do we (mechanically) put together a multi-channel plan?
 - How do we gather reliable data? In the absence of data, what do we do?
 - What should we forecast?
 - What service standards should we use?
 - What math/methods do we use (both single skill and multi-channel/skill) to determine the capacity plans?
- 2. Does it really make sense to cross utilize our different workgroups?

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Gathering Data



• Automatic is ideal

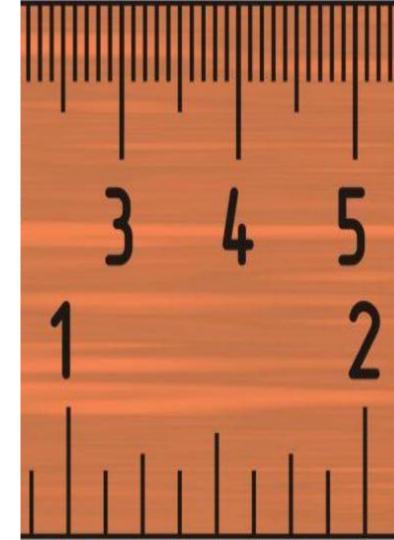
- Ideal, but not pain free (understanding your ACD handle time data even requires investigative work!)
- Systems for gathering data for chat/email/IM are available- our experience is that data gathering with these systems are hit and miss
- Case management systems have inherent data issues (elapsed time of casework is not as relevant as individual handle times)
- In the absence of automatic data- using work study data developed into a work standard is OK
 - Work standards can be "negotiated" with the operation and agreed upon
 - Work standards can be checked (with many boring studies... hire college kids)
 - Work standard approach will tend to overstaff (standards tend to move toward "worst case" since they are often negotiated after the fact)

Common metrics for all contact types

Data to gather, regardless of the contact type

- Wage rates and financials
- Each shrinkage category (sick time, FMLA, training, AWOP, ...)
- Attrition
- All components of AHT

... at the appropriate level of detail (usually by staff type and location)



Important metrics for immediate work (phone, chat)

- Inbound (phone) contacts
 - Calls offered (staffing determines calls handled)
 - Average handle time (and components)
 - Average handle time while learning ("learning curve")
- Inbound Chat/IM

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- Contacts offered
- AHT associated with the number of concurrent sessions (relationship between concurrent chats and handle times)
- Staffing Goal: ASA, Service Level, Abandon Rate, Agent Occupancy, Max Concurrency

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Important metrics for deferred work (email, back office)

• Email

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- Contacts offered
- Handle time
- Back Office Processing
 - Work items to be processed (new flows at various stages in the process- complete demand mapping)
 - Workflows and expected flow distributions
 - Handle times and their distribution at each step in the process
- Staffing Goal: ASA, Service Level, Backlog, Agent Occupancy, Throughput

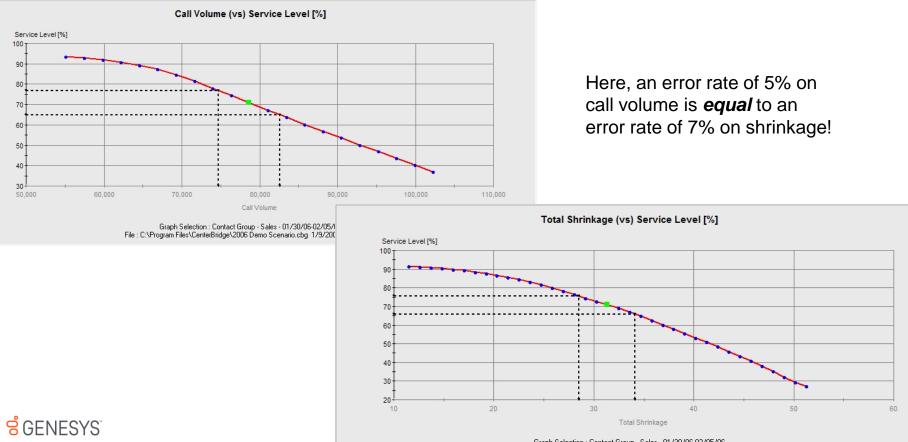


Important metrics for flexible work (outbound)

- Outbound Contact Center
 - List size
 - P(Right Party Contact, Wrong Party Contact, Left Message | Attempt) by time of day per list queue
 - P(Contact, Attempt 1, ... Attempt N) diminishing returns to calling
 - AHT RPC, AHT WPC, AHT LM
- Staffing Goal: Number of contacts, Sales/Collections, Intensity (calls per hour)



Regardless of the contact type: forecast everything!



Graph Selection : Contact Group - Sales - 01/30/06-02/05/06 File : C:\Program Files\CenterBridge\2006 Demo Scenario.cbg 1/9/2007 1:23:29 PM

Service goals... how should we pick them?

Sensitivity Analysis

- "Standard" service goals are evolving for each channel and contact type
- We strongly feel that this should be rigorously analyzed for each company and each contact type
- Don't rely on consensus

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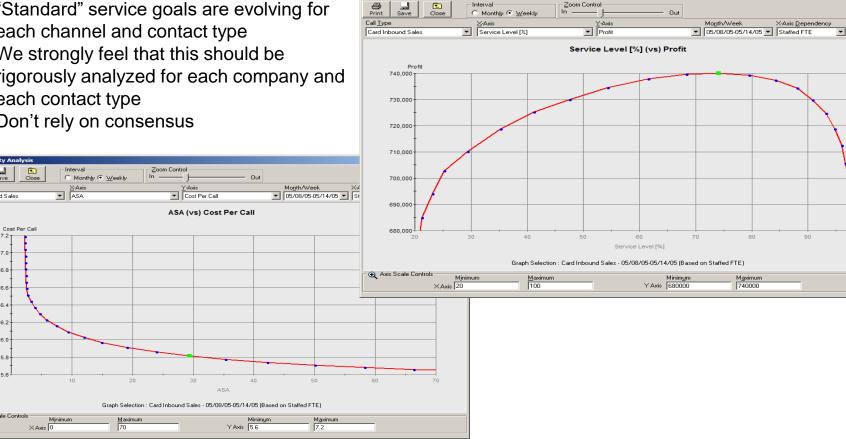
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🕀 Axis Scale Controls

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Call Type

Card Inbound Sales



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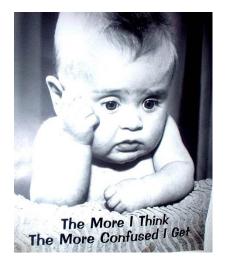
Two Types of Capacity Models are Required for Each Channel Type

- Descriptive (Simulation) Modeling
 - Serves to determine "requirements"
 - Serves to evaluate different what-if scenarios
 - Serves to determine the relationship between demand (e.g. emails offered, outbound list size, claims to be processed, handle times), staff, and performance (e.g. abandons, service level, right party contacts,
- Staff Optimization Modeling
 - Serves to determine when, where, and which staff group to hire
 - Automates the evaluation of new scenarios and enables "instant budgeting"



Notes on the new center capacity planning paradigm

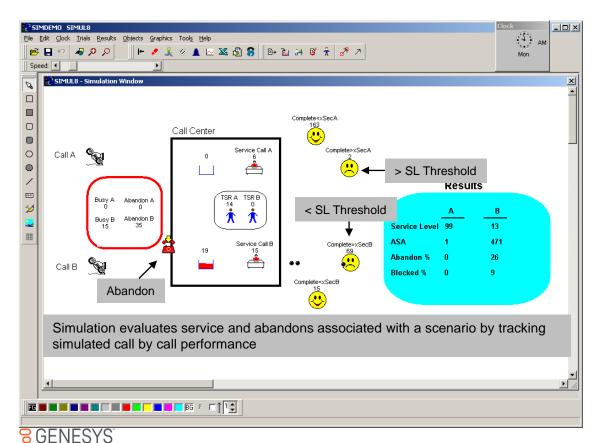
- The problem has shifted so much, the old ways of analyzing a center (while were already outdated) simply have no application
- The "new math" has not been settled! This is a new problem and the R&D has not been finished yet!
- Multi-Channel Complicates the Picture
 - As the degrees of freedom increase, so does the complexity of the planning problem
 - Our standard capacity modeling approach does not apply anymore



It is the infancy of multi-channel analytics....

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Inbound (Chat or Call) Simulation



The models determine the amount of staff required to hit service

- Erlang C is problematic for inbound calls (not accurate)
- Erlang A, in general, only works on small areas of the demand curve
- Recent research in using multiple models (several Erlang A's plus an Erlang C, for instance) and solving the ensemble model shows promise
- Custom "Erlang" models with patience drawn from ACD data is very accurate
- Discrete-event simulation models (left) are very accurate, but slow

Validated Predictions Models vs. Erlang vs. Actuals



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Common outputs metrics for all contact types

Data to determine, regardless of the contact type

- Agent occupancy (or busy-ness)
- Contacts (completed) per week, per day
- Concurrency expected
- AHT
 - For contact types with concurrency (chat) or diminishing effectiveness (outbound) this is variable
 - For centers with a lot of new hires, AHT's will increase!
- Sales expected, costs, cost per contact

... at the appropriate level of detail (usually by staff type and location)





Inbound Capacity Model

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Call Type Total: Calls Offered	82,987	67,453	69.010	75.049	93.076	79 455	90.105	71 287	85,801	71,398	73,099	60,144	55,878	71,560	66,932
Call Type Total: Base AHT [Sec]	433.00	444.00		le off	arad f	orecas	oto on	м ^{ро}	449.00	445.00		455.00	442.00	447.00	
Call Type Total: New Hire Adjusted AHT [Sec]	433.00	444.00	Ca	15 0116	ereur	oreca	sis an	u po	449.00	445.00	451.00	455.00	442.00	447.00	456.00
Call Type Total: Calls Overflowed	4,325	3,212	1 Har	ndle ti	ime fr	precas	ts	95	4,086	3,400		2,864	2,661	3,408	2,765
Call Type Total: Net Calls Offered	78,662	64,241	1 10			10000		92	81,715	67,998	69,618	57,280	53,217	68,152	64,167
Skill Calls Offered (SCO)	40,353	33,781	34,602	38,206	42,552	40,298	45,445	37,000	44,749	35,790		30,839	27,815	36,245	· ·
Skill Calls Overflowed	2,103	1,609	1,648	1,819	2,273	1,919	2,303	1,762	2,131	1,704		1,469	1,325	1,726	
Skill Calls Offered Net	38,250	32,172	32,955	36,387	40,279	38,379	43,142	35,238	42,618	34,086	35,527	29,371	26,490	34,519	
Base ATT [Sec]	375.84	376.90	376.64	376.72	373.64	372.22	372.48	378.31	379.29	378.76		381.67	383.44	383.36	383.09
New Hire Adjusted Talk Time [Sec]	375.84	376.90	376.64	376.72	373.64	372.22	372.48	378.31	379.29	378.76		381.67	383.44	383.36	
After Call Work [Sec]	21.27	21.33	21.32	21.32	21.15	21.07	21.08	21.41	21.47	21.44		21.60	21.70	21.70	
Outcall to SCH Ratio [%]	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.1	11.1	11.1	11.4	11.5	11.4	11.4	11.6	11.7	11.7	
Outcall Talk Time per Outbound Call [Sec]	225.40	226.60	226.30	226.40	222.90	221.30	221.60	228.20	229.30	228.70		232.00	234.00	233.90	233.60
Base AHT [Sec]	422.51	423.90	423.56	423.67	419.62	417.78	418.12	425.76	427.05	426.35		430.18	432.52	432.40	432.05
New Hire Adjusted AHT [Sec]	422.51	423.90	423.56	423.67	419.62	417.78	418.12	425.76	427.05	426.35	426.46	430.18	432.52	432.40	432.05
Ratio of VDN Calls Offered to Skill Calls Offered [%]	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0	0	0	-
VDN Calls Offered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	
% SCO Using Prompter [%]	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	
Avg. Length of Prompter Call [Sec]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
% of SCH Using Transfer Connect [%]	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	
% of SCO GeoTel Routed [%]	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Inbound Service Quality															
Call Type Total: Capture Rate [%]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0	100.0	
Capture Rate [%]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0	100.0	
Call Type Total: Calls Handled	74,132	62,222	62,581	68,100	73,328	70,663	78,577	65,178	74,925	64,583		55,406	51,827	64,069	60,800
Skill Calls Handled (SCH)	36,048	31,162	31,840	34,670	37,560	36,296	39,632	33,830	39,078	32,375		28,410	25,799	32,451	31,575
Ratio of VDN Calls Handled to SCH [%]	0		Convia				0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
Ratio of VDN Abandons to Skill Abandons [%]	0		Servic		, -	,	0	0	-	0	-	0	0	0	-
Call Type Total: Service Level [%]	75.8	4	band	on C)ccup	ancv	65.7	85.6	64.3	79.6		89.6	92.5	74.5	
Call Type Total: ASA [Sec]	29.44	1 1	bana	on, c	ocup	unoy	44.50	17.29	46.31	24.51	31.07	12.56	9.02	31.22	
Call Type Total: Abandon Rate [%]	5.76	0.14	0.00		0.10	0.40	8.14	4.00	8.31	5.02		3.27	2.61	5.99	
Contact Group Total: Service Level [%]	75.8	89.9	88.9	81.5	70.9	77 4	65.7	85.6	64.3	79.6	74 7	89.6	92.5	74 5	78.6
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Outbound Capacity Model

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Outbound Calls	01/02/00	01/05/00	1110/00	01/20/00	01/30/00	02/00/00	02/10/00	02/20/00	02/21/00	05/00/00	00/10/00	03/20/00	00/21/00	04/05/00	04/10/00	0411100
Call Type Total: Outbound List Size	30,075	31,500	31,875	30,075	33,750	33,233	33,825	34,418	35,010	35,603	36,195	36,788	37,380	37,973	38,565	39,15
Outbound Base ATT: Wrong Party Connects [Sec]	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	<u>15</u> .00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.0
Outbound Base ATT: Right Party Contacts [Sec]	150.00	165.00	175			(>			.00	205.00	205.00	235.00	254.00	250.00	250.00	254.00
Outbound New Hire Adjusted ATT: Wrong Party Conne	15.00	15.00	15	List s	ize, A	ATT (R	RPC.	WPC	, .00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.0
Outbound New Hire Adjusted ATT: Right Party Contact:	150.00	165.00	470			•				205.00	205.00	235.00	254.00	250.00	250.00	254.0
Outbound New Hire Adjusted Talk Time [Sec]	112.37	122.35	116		ntact,	Atten	npt 1), etc.	90	149.66	149.34	169.85	172.49	179.95	179.50	172.1
Outbound After Call Work [Sec]	5.00	30.00	30						.00	30.00	30.00	32.00	31.00	32.00	30.00	30.0
Outbound New Hire Adjusted AHT [Sec]	144.37	152.35	146.70	163.13	162.58	162.81	145.43	176.93	168.90	179.66	179.34	201.85	203.49	211.95	209.50	202.1
Call Type Total: Outbound New Hire Adj AHT [Sec]	161.75	157.50	173.00	168.75	168.75	168.75	165.00	184.50	193.80	187.50	187.50	212.00	213.30	223.25	209.50	212.3
Call Type Total: P(Connect: Attempt) [%]	65.00	65.00	60.00	65.00	65.00	65.00	55.00	65.00	55.00	65.00	65.00	65.00	55.00	65.00	65.00	55.0
Call Type Total: P(Contact: Connect on Attempt 1) [%]	70.00	70.00	62.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	65.00	70.00	65.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	65.00	70.00	70.00	65.0
Call Type Total: P(Contact: Connect on Attempt 2) [%]	75.00	75.00	65.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	70.00	75.00	70.00	75.00		75.00	70.00	75.00		
Call Type Total: P(Contact: Connect on Attempt 3+) [%]	85.00	85.00	80.00	85.00	85.00	85.00	80.00	85.00	80.00	85.00		85.00	80.00	85.00		
P(Contact: Connect) [%]	72.13	71.57	63.56	71.59	71.26		66.95	70.93	66.61	70.87	70.71	70.38	65.90	70.19		
Attempts to Contacts Ratio	2.13	2.15	2.62	2.15	2.16		2.72	2.17	2.73	2.17			2.76	2.19		
Base P(Confirm: Contact) [%]	65.00	70.00	65.00	70.00	65.00	70.00	65.00	70.00	65.00	70.00		70.00	65.00	70.00	65.00	
New Hire Adjusted P(Confirm: Contact) [%]	65.00	70.00	65.00	70.00	65.00	70.00	65.00	70.00	65.00	70.00		70.00	65.00	70.00		
Revenue per Confirm [C]	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.0
Outbound Sales Performance			24 975	30.075	22.760	22,222	22.025	24.44.9	35.010							
First Attempts	30,075	31,500	31.875	3010/5	33.750	33,733	33.825	34 418	35.010	35,603	36,195	36,788	37,380	37,973		
Second Attempts	16,391	14,382	Nun	nher c	of atte	empts,	cont	acte		,525		3,068	8,166	1,496		
Three and Greater Attempts	1,313	47.000				•				0	0 42,160	0 39,856	0 45,546	0 39,469	-	
Total Attempts Connects	31.056	29,823	Sale	es (co	nfirm	s), ab	orted	calls.	etc	- 033		25,906	45,546	25,655	25,057	25,38
Call Type Total: Contacts	22,400	23,023	20.273	`		<i>''</i>				19,867	19,377	18,234	16,507	25,655	25,057	
Call Type Total: Contact Goal	20,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000		25,000	25,000	25,000		
Call Type Total: Over/Under Contact Goal	20,000	-3,656	-4,721	-4,450	-4,103	-3,563	-4,570	-5,497	-6,075	-5,133		-6,766	-8,493	-6,993	-7,460	
Contacts	22,400	21,344	20,279	20,550	20,897	21,437	20,430	19,503	18,925	19,867	19,377	18,234	16,507	18,007	17,540	
Confirms	14,560	14,941	13,181	14,385	13,583	15,006	13,280	13,652	12,301	13,007	12,595	12,764	10,507	12,605		11,68
Aborts	93	89	96	86	88	90	92	82	85	84		78	75	77		
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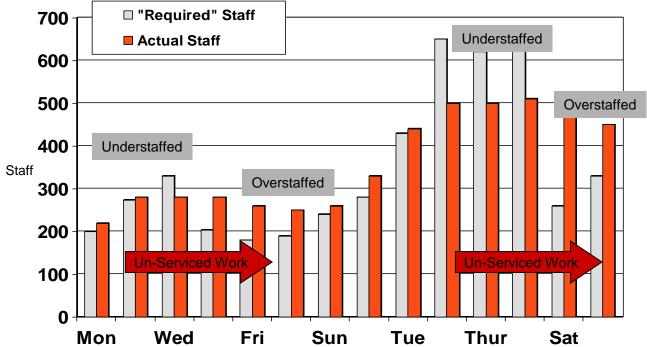
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IM/Chat Capacity Model

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Contact Type Total: IM Offered	15,000	15,0 (Chat se	ssion	s offere	d fore	caste	and	15,557	15,628	15,699	15,771
Contact Type Total: IM Base AHT [Sec]		303					00313	ana	332.13	336.38	340.69	345.05
Contact Type Total: IM New Hire Adjusted AHT [Sec]	300.00	303	nandle	time fo	orecast	S			332.13	336.38	340.69	345.05
IM Offered	15,000	15,0							15,557	15,628	15,699	15,771
IM New Hire Adjusted AHT [Sec]	300.00	303.84	307.73	311.67	315.66	319.70	323.79	327.93	332.13	336.38	340.69	345.05
IM Base AHT [Sec]	300.00	303.84	307.73	311.67	315.66	319.70	323.79	327.93	332.13	336.38	340.69	345.05
IM New Hire Adjusted ACT [Sec]	300.00	303.84	307.73	311.67	315.66	319.70	323.79	327.93	332.13	336.38	340.69	345.05
IM Base ACT [Sec]	300.00	303.84	307.73	311.67	315.66	319.70	323.79	327.93	332.13	336.38	340.69	345.05
IM After Chat Work [Sec]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Instant Messaging Service Quality				A C A	01							
Contact Type Total: IM Handled	14,707	14 O	ervice:	ASA,	SL,	1,904	14,941	14,968	14,979	14,989	15,027	15,059
IM Handled	14,707	14 A	handor	0.00	upancy	1,904	14,941	14,968	14,979	14,989	15,027	15,059
IM Service Level	08.0		banaoi	, 000	apanoy	83.2	82.2	80.7	79.1	77.6	76.4	75.1
IM ASA [Sec]	39.57	41.96	44.89	46.31	51.93	57.57	63.50	69.94	74.27	84.20	90.23	93.59
IM Abandon Rate [%]	1.95	2.05	2.27	2.44	2.67	2.88	3.08	3.35	3.71	4.09	4.28	4.51
Contact Type Total: IM Service Level [%]	88.0	87.4	86.3	85.5	84.2	83.2	82.2	80.7	79.1	77.6	76.4	75.1
Contact Type Total: IM ASA [Sec]	39.57	41.96	44.89	46.31	51.93	57.57	63.50	69.94	74.27	84.20	90.23	93.59
Contact Type Total: IM Abandon Rate [%]	1.95	2.05	2.27	2.44	2.67					4.09	4.28	4.51
Contact Group Total: IM Service Level (%)	88.0	87.4	86.3	85.5	84.2	Com	nlicat	ina thi	s mode	77.6	76.4	75.1
Contact Group Total: IM ASA (Sec)	39.57	41.96	44.89	46.31	51.93		•	-		4.211	90.23	93.59
Contact Group Total: IM Abandon Rate (%)	1.95	2.05	2.27	2.44	2.67	is m	odelin	g cond	current	4.09	4.28	4.51
Contact Group Total: IM AHT (Sec)	300.00	303.84	307.73	311.67	315.66	ahot	sessi	ono		6.38	340.69	345.05
						unal	56251	0115				
Per Contact Financials												
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Pasdu									4.14	1/2000	2.00	04

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Lets discuss email and processing (work that can be deferred)



Email Capacity Model

HBay Bridge Decision Technologies® - CenterBridge™ - IM	EmailDemo.	cbg											8
<u>File E</u> dit <u>I</u> nput <u>O</u> ptimize <u>R</u> esults <u>H</u> elp													
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Collapse/Expand	02/03/08	02/10/08	02/17/08 0	2/24/08	03/02/08 0	03/09/08	03/16/08	03/23/08	03/30/08	04/06/08	04/13/08	04/20/08	14
Ernail Contact													
Contact Type Total: Email Offered	5,000	5,031	E					5,219	5,251	5,283	5,316	5,348	
Contact Type Total: Email Base AHT [Sec]	330.00	332.80	Email	s otter	ed for	ecast a	and	350.10	353.06	356.05	359.08	362.12	
Contact Type Total: Email New Hire Adjusted AHT [Sec]	330.00	- 332.60	Handl	e time	foreca	asts		350.10		356.05	359.08	362.12	
Email Offered	5,000	5,031	i iana	o unio	101000	2010		5,219	5,251	5,283	5,316	5,348	
Email New Hire Adjusted AHT [Sec]	330.00	332.80	335.63	338.47	341.34	344.23	347.15	350.10		356.05	359.08	362.12	
Email Base AHT [Sec]	330.00	332.80	335.63	338.47	341.34	344.23	347.15	350.10	353.06	356.05	359.08	362.12	ш
 Email Service Quality 	_												
Contact Type Total: Email Handled	5,00	Condi	ce: Nun	hor o	f Emoi	la han	مامطاه	and the		5,283	5,316	5,348	
Contact Type Total: Email Handled < 4 Hrs	2,32	Servic	e. nun	o real	i Emai	is nan		255 ma	ana	2,272	2,176	2,129	
Contact Type Total: Email Handled < 8 Hrs	51	specif	fic thres	shold						243	353	410	
Contact Type Total: Email Handled < 12 Hrs		•								301	279	281	
Contact Type Total: Email Handled < 16 Hrs	325	338	376	439	443	410	400	407	524	652	645	604	
Contact Type Total: Email Handled < 20 Hrs	176	185	175	166	193	268	299	371	425	436	444	476	
Contact Type Total: Email Handled < 24 Hrs	599	604	611	616	609	603	576	512		443	449	446	
Contact Type Total: Email Handled < 36 Hrs	554		Packlag		635	666	732	807	874	935	969	1,002	
Contact Type Total: Email Handled < 48 Hrs	0	\neg	Backlog		0	0	0	0		0	0	0	-8
Contact Type Total: Email Handled > 48 Hrs	0		0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	-8
Contact Type Total: Email Beginning Backlog < 4 Hrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-8
Contact Type Total: Email Beginning Backlog < 8 Hrs	0	0	0	0	_	0	0		0		Î	0	-8
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Contact Type Total: Email Beginning Backlog < 20 Hrs	0	0	0	0	IST	acking	y serv	rce - e	each ir	ndividu	ai	0	
Contact Type Total: Email Beginning Backlog < 24 Hrs	0	0	0	0	em	ail is t	racked	d for se	ervice	time		0	
Contact Type Total: Email Beginning Backlog < 36 Hrs	0	0	0	0	•							0	
Contact Type Total: Email Beginning Backlog < 48 Hrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	-8
Contact Type Total: Email Beginning Backlog > 48 Hrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-8
Contact Type Total: Email Service Level [%]	88.93	88.52	88.30	88.06	87.61	87.08	85.89	84.53		82.30	81.76	81.27	
Contact Type Total: Same Day Service Level [%]	57.41	55.75	54.11	53.22	51.75	50.34	48.37	47.85		47.56	48.75	48.70	
Email Handled	5,000	5,031	5,062	5,093	5,124	5,155	5,187	5,219	5,251	5,283	5,316	5,348	4
													- 1 - C

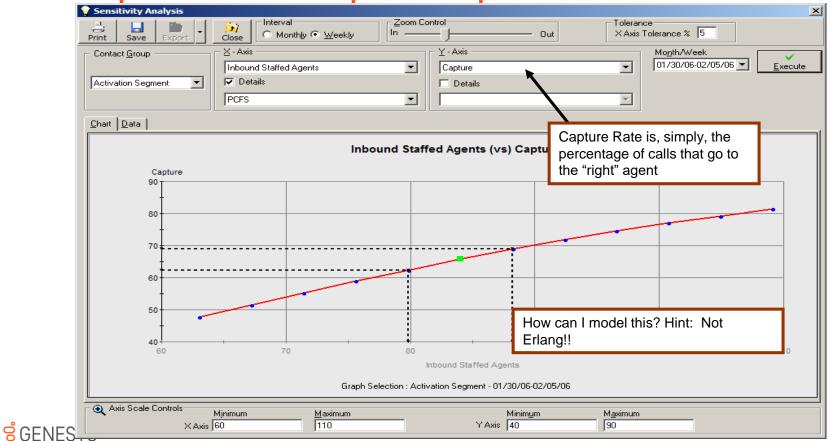
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Email Capacity Model (cont.)

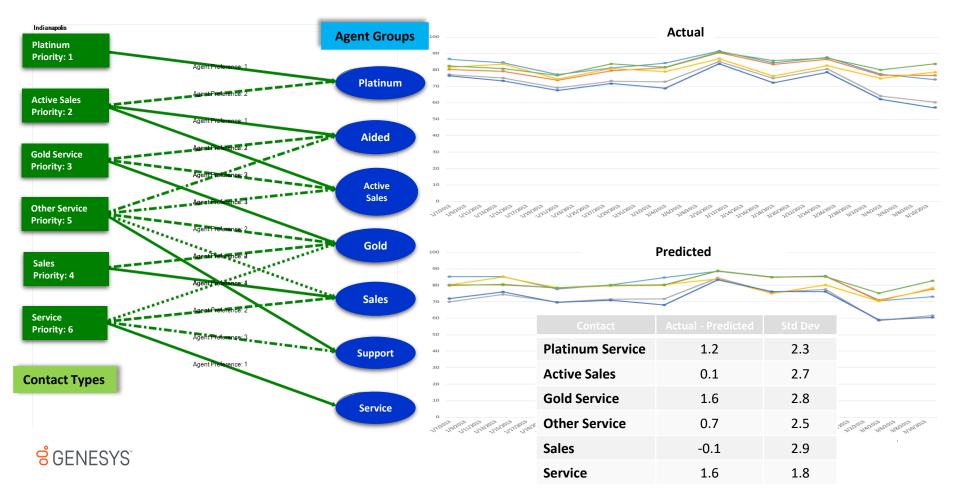
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Collapse/Expand												04/20/08 (
Email Handled	5,000	5,031	5,062	5,093	5,124	5,155	5,187	5,219	5,251	5,283	5,316	5,348
Email Handled < 4 Hrs	2,323	2,332		2,349	2,350	2,352	2,349	2,353	2,349		2,176	2,129
Email Handled < 8 Hrs	511	276		107	118	130	140	136	154		353	410
Email Handled < 12 Hrs	512	719		809	776	727	690	632	458		279	281
Email Handled < 16 Hrs	325	338		439	443	410	400	407	524	652	645	604
Email Handled < 20 Hrs	176	185		166	193	268	299	371	425		444	476
Email Handled < 24 Hrs	599	604		616	609	603	576	512	467	443	449	446
Email Handled < 36 Hrs	554	577	592	608	635	666	732	807	874		969	1,002
Email Handled < 48 Hrs	0	0		0		0	0	0	0			0
Email Handled > 48 Hrs	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	-	-	0
Email Beginning Backlog < 4 Hrs	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	-	-	0
Email Beginning Backlog < 8 Hrs	0	0		0		0	0	0	0			0
Email Beginning Backlog < 12 Hrs	0	0		0		0	0	0	0			0
Email Beginning Backlog < 16 Hrs	0	0		0		0	0	0	0		-	0
Email Beginning Backlog < 20 Hrs	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0			0
Email Beginning Backlog < 24 Hrs	0	0		Wora	ll serv	ico ar	hd		0	-	-	0
Email Beginning Backlog < 36 Hrs	0	0					iu		0		-	0
Email Beginning Backlog < 48 Hrs	0		6	verac	ge bad	cklog			0		0	0
Email Beginning Backlog > 48 Hrs	0			-	-	-			0			0
Email Service Level [%]	88.93	88.52		88.06	87.61	87.08	85.89	84.53	83.35		81.76	81.27
Email Same Day Service Level [%]	57.41	55.75		53.22	51.75	50.34	48.37	47.85	47.44	47.56	48.75	48.70
Email Average Daily Backlog < 4 Hrs	57	57	58	58		59	59	60	60		61	61
Email Average Daily Backlog < 8 Hrs	91	92		93	93	94	95	95	96	96	97	98
Email Average Daily Backlog < 12 Hrs	59	64		74	79	81	82	83	84	85	85	86
Email Average Daily Backlog < 16 Hrs	7	7		7		9	13	15	15			15
Email Average Daily Backlog < 20 Hrs	7	7		7		7	7	9	13		18	18
Email Average Daily Backlog < 24 Hrs	9	10		12		12	12	12	13		16	20
Email Average Daily Backlog < 36 Hrs	0	0		0		2	3	4	5		7	8
Email Average Daily Backlog < 48 Hrs	0	0		0		0	0	0	0			0
Email Average Daily Backlog > 48 Hrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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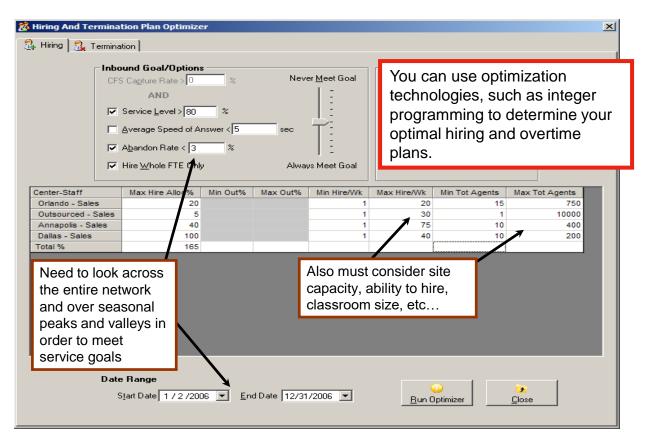
The Important Concept of Capture Rate



Multi-Skill validations using integer programming models



Determining hiring, overtime, and capacity plans



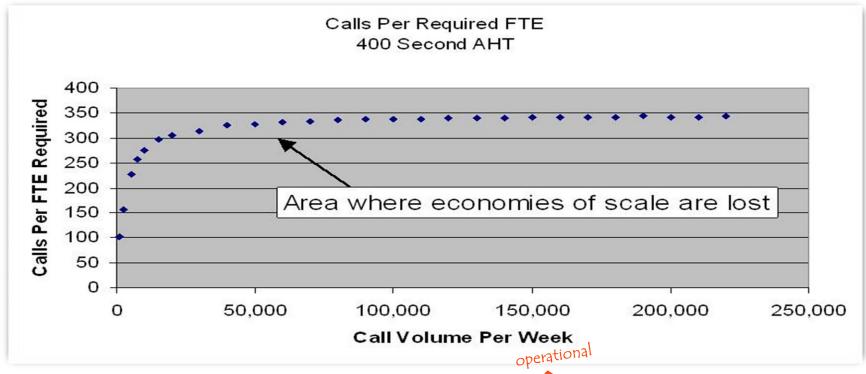


Blended Multi-Channel

- First, we are not seeing as many real applications of true blended multi-channel agents (many of our customers are still segmenting agents by channels)
- Blending your various channels may not have the benefits we might expect
 - Agents good at calls may not be great at email and vice versa
 - The number of permutations are so great that- even though the possibility of improvement is there- the possibility of finding a better solution is much worse
 - You may run out of your economies of scale much faster than you think (and think of the operational headaches you'll add)



To combine or not to combine... an example



Once I get over ~75,000 calls, I am out of conomies of scale!

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Final Thoughts

- *Your strategic plan is critical:* Tactical service failures can often be laid at the feet of strategic planning failures. Strategic mistakes are expensive mistakes. Recovery from a strategic mistake is painfully slow.
- Planning and forecasting is about decision-making.
- *Erlang is Dead! Long Live Simulation :* Mathematical modeling techniques like integer programming and simulation may look difficult, but our multi-channel plans require more sophisticated analyses
- Interesting times for contact center pioneers: The industry has not come to a consensus on service standards or metrics or methods – this is good time to be a center analyst! Let's have fun!



What is Decisions?

 Decisions is a long-term contact center strategic planning and what-if analysis system.



- Perform risk and sensitivity analysis of your contact center
- Evaluate center what-ifs: investments, consolidation, and growth opportunities
- Decisions complements traditional workforce management software by focusing on strategic decision making and long-term planning



Questions? Email me! LinkedIn?

Ric Kosiba, Vice President, Genesys Workforce Systems ric.kosiba@genesys.com 410-224-9883



