

It's Definitely Time to Rethink the Agent Desktop Experience

Is a Complicated Desktop Hindering Your Agents?

Presented by the creators of the contact center platform purpose-built for agents.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Agents Still Struggling in Modern Contact Centers

There is no doubt that the contact center agent's job is much more demanding today compared to a few years ago. Ever-changing customer behavior, expanding digital channels and applications, more complex interactions, and increasing workloads make it more difficult for agents to deliver consistent customer care.

While agents are being asked to do more than ever, poorly designed desktops are hampering their ability to perform. Many struggle through their day-to-day tasks using unwieldy applications and cobbled-together systems that can't keep up with rising customer expectations.

Consider this: 84% of contact center leaders say their agents have between 4-10 applications open during a typical customer interaction.¹

You may have already witnessed the impact this has on your operation's performance: Long handle times, errors, and escalations increase as agents jump in and out of applications and page through multiple screens attempting to find the right answers for their customers.

Poor productivity is just the tip of the iceberg. Ultimately, when agents must spend time navigating confusing manual workflows, customer frustration spikes, and agent engagement and job satisfaction decline. The consequences can be devastating: rising agent burnout and attrition coupled with high customer churn.

1 Forrester Consulting survey of 269 U.S. contact center directors and decisionmakers on behalf of LiveVox.

Our customizable Agent Desktops allow your agents to get more done in less time. <u>LiveVox</u> helps you navigate workflows effortlessly and removes frustrations. Call us today to improve your agent engagement and customer satisfaction at <u>(844) 387-3066</u>.



5 Reasons Why Agent Desktop Optimization Is Often Overlooked

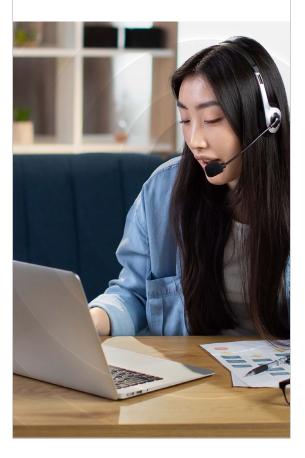
The desktop is the single, most important technology contact center agents have at their disposal. It's literally at their fingertips. Yet, only 39% of contact centers provide tailored desktops and a combination of workflows to enhance their agents' capabilities.²

So why doesn't the agent desktop get the attention it deserves when it comes to technology investment?

- Combining multiple disparate systems is difficult. Connecting systems is not only a technical difficulty, it becomes a cross-functional challenge since each system may be managed by a different functional team within the organization.
- Skilled agents are experts at finding workarounds for poorly designed desktops. But all of those workflow quick fixes only increase inconsistencies and errors and your reliance on long-tenured agents who've figured it out.
- 3. Contact centers lack insight into agent desktop activity. Disconnected applications create data silos that prevent the ability to track how agents are using desktop tools. This lack of insight restricts your efforts to improve agent performance, identify and fix customer pain points, and make informed decisions to proactively improve service delivery.
- 4. Leadership views poor productivity as people or process issues. When productivity stalls in the contact center, the knee-jerk reaction is to fix the problem by hiring more agents (a costly option) or providing more training (which doesn't solve the underlying problem).
- Companies are dedicating budget and resources to optimizing the customer experience and the digital journey, so improving the agent experience often gets short shrift.

39%

of contact centers provide tailored desktops and a combination of workflows



2 Forrester Consulting survey of 269 U.S. contact center directors and decision-makers on behalf of LiveVox

Learn how to optimize your agents' desktop experience. Book a strategy session today at (844) 387-3066.



Why the Status Quo Mindset Is No Longer an Option

While there are many reasons why the agent desktop experience may have slipped down the priority list, transformative changes in the workplace over the past few years signal that it's time to remove the frustrations and stress from the agent's job.

There is no denying the lasting impact that the **shift to working from home** has had on contact center operations. While remote work may be here to stay, many contact centers have not yet addressed the daily challenges for home-based agents who are not only navigating multiple systems and screens for customer conversations, accessing information, and collaborating, but are now also receiving remote coaching and training via the desktop.

The one-two punch of sending agents home followed by the Great Resignation has exposed the need for more intuitive workflows and agent guidance tools to **shorten training time** for new agents, get them handling transactions faster, and provide them with the knowledge and confidence to succeed. As customer interactions become increasingly complex, the necessary **skill sets for agents** are likewise evolving. Desirable traits for today's agents include emotional intelligence, empathy, strategic thinking, and decisionmaking, all of which require agents to be present in the customer conversation and not distracted by confusing system navigation. And while agents use more—and more complex—tools to carry out their work, they often lack the necessary **contextual information** to respond to the customer's issue.

Many contact centers have been struggling to manage the **explosion of customer channels** holistically. Customers have been adopting new digital channels at an incredible pace, which means agents who were previously handling one or two channels may now be handling four or more. Contact centers often respond to rapidly expanding customer demand by adding a standalone solution with bells and whistles to the mix. However, doing so translates into more manual processes and siloed data, which further slows the conversation for agents and customers.

Finally, agents utilize various **point solutions for internal collaboration**, such as Microsoft Teams, internal email platforms, SharePoint, and knowledge bases, which layer on even more processes, clicks, and steps.



Take the leap and upgrade your agent desktop experience today. Talk to an expert at (844) 387-3066.



CHAPTER 3

Integration Lays the Foundation for Optimization

With so many systems to manage and complicated manual workflows, where do contact centers begin to improve agent desktops? Automation may be your first thought, but a word of caution: Automation will not fix broken, disconnected, and inconsistent processes.

It's important to lay the foundation for addressing critical efficiency gaps by unifying processes, applications, and systems—in other words, start with integration.

Say "integration," and most leaders will naturally think first about their data and how it flows from one system to another. But it's equally important to consider how the system integration relates to your agents' workflows, the points where they will interact with the data, and how they will navigate the system.

There are many different types of integration, ranging from **APIs to iframes to scripts.** Rather than focus on the technical elements, let's peek into what the goals of the integration should be:

- Make it easier to connect all the applications, data streams, systems, communication channels, third-party platforms, and web services your agents use.
- Increase your operation's flexibility and scalability ensure that frontline managers can easily make changes, add new applications, and revise workflows without requiring additional coding.
- Ability to access and embed the UI for third-party applications into the agents' desktop for a single pane of glass, for instance, web-based applications where integration might not be possible.
- Add automation that enables agents to execute various functions with fewer clicks, e.g., perform a reverse number lookup, validate an email address, etc.

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Take the first step to efficiency gains with Integrated Agent Workflows. Start with a conversation today at (844) 387-3066.



CHAPTER 4

The Modern Agent Desktop Experience: Unified, Automated, and Integrated

With the agent's experience as your starting point, you're well on your way to optimizing your desktop and workflow integration.

So what does a good agent desktop look like? At a minimum, today's agents need:

- Quick and easy access to just the right information. Agents often must access multiple systems of record that hold an overwhelming amount of information just to locate the few details they need, for instance, to authenticate a customer's identity. Giving them access to the right limited set of information removes excess clutter from the desktop and reduces handle time.
- The ability to see and understand all prior interactions. Customer conversations can occur across channels and with different agents. The ability to piece these conversations together so that agents have the complete history will ensure that customers don't have to repeat their information or issues with each new channel or agent.
- Access to key tools and platforms needed to resolve customer interactions. Remember the 4-10 applications that agents use during an interaction? Unified agent desktops consolidate all the tools and information agents need into one place and provide agents with a single contextual view of customer interactions.
- The knowledge needed to set appropriate expectations. Because customer interactions are growing more complex, agents often need direction on how to handle the requests that come up infrequently or access to protocols that may not be at their fingertips.

Optimizing the Agent and Customer Experience

Unifying data and integrating contact center applications and tools means that your agents will spend less time navigating systems, shaving significant time off interactions, and easing their workloads.

Once the fundamentals are in place, you can deliver even higher gains in performance and efficiency by optimizing the agent desktop experience. For instance:

 Automate workflows: Leverage robotic process automation (RPA) to automate the repetitive processes that agents perform—not only will it save time, but it will also help to relieve job monotony and free agents for more fulfilling work.

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- Create tailored desktop experiences: The teams within your contact center have unique needs (think sales, service, collections, billing). Configurable agent desktops provide the ability to easily create tailored experiences for every function via a drag-and-drop graphical user interface that allows any manager to build a desktop or make changes within minutes.
- **Provide AI agent assist capabilities:** Al-driven algorithms can notify agents of the next best action to take while handling a live customer interaction.

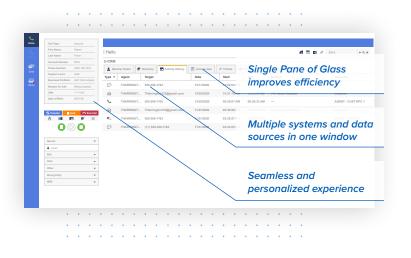
Transform your contact center's performance with unified, automated, integrated agent desktops. Schedule a demo today at **(844) 387-3066**.



CONCLUSION

Equip Your Agents with the Best Tool for the Job

LiveVox's Configurable Agent Desktops eliminate the hassle of toggling between screens when time is of the essence and present agents with the information and context they need to succeed from a single window. Our Integrated Agent Workflows are designed to enhance both the agent and customer experience for organizations by tailoring agent desktops, scripts, and customer data to specific tasks.



With LiveVox's omnichannel orchestration capabilities, the complexity of connecting multiple systems and data sources is a thing of the past. By providing agents with pertinent customer information at key moments in their journey, **both customers and employees can enjoy more seamless and personalized experiences**.

Click below to learn more about LiveVox Software for Contact Centers:

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About LiveVox

LiveVox (Nasdaq: LVOX) is a next generation contact center platform that powers more than 14 billion omnichannel interactions a year. By seamlessly unifying blended omnichannel communications, CRM, AI, and WEM capabilities, the Company's technology delivers exceptional agent and customer experiences, while helping to mitigate compliance risk. With more than 20 years of cloud experience and expertise, LiveVox's CCaaS 2.0 platform is at the forefront of cloud contact center innovation. The Company is headquartered in San Francisco, with international offices in Medellin, Colombia and Bangalore, India.

Call us today: <u>(844) 387-3066</u> Or email us direct: <u>info@livevox.com</u>



