

Let's Talk:
Workday Rising 2025
Insights







WELCOME

Today's Presenters



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Financials & Adaptive Lead



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Today's Agenda

- Overview
- What's new in Workday related to Al
- Roadmap and what it means to you
- How Armanino can help

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OVERVIEW

AI, Agents, & the New Era of Work

Al Takes Center Stage

Workday is redefining enterprise AI with **Workday Illuminate**, a next-gen layer that embeds intelligent agents directly into HR, finance, and planning workflows.

Key Announcements from Rising

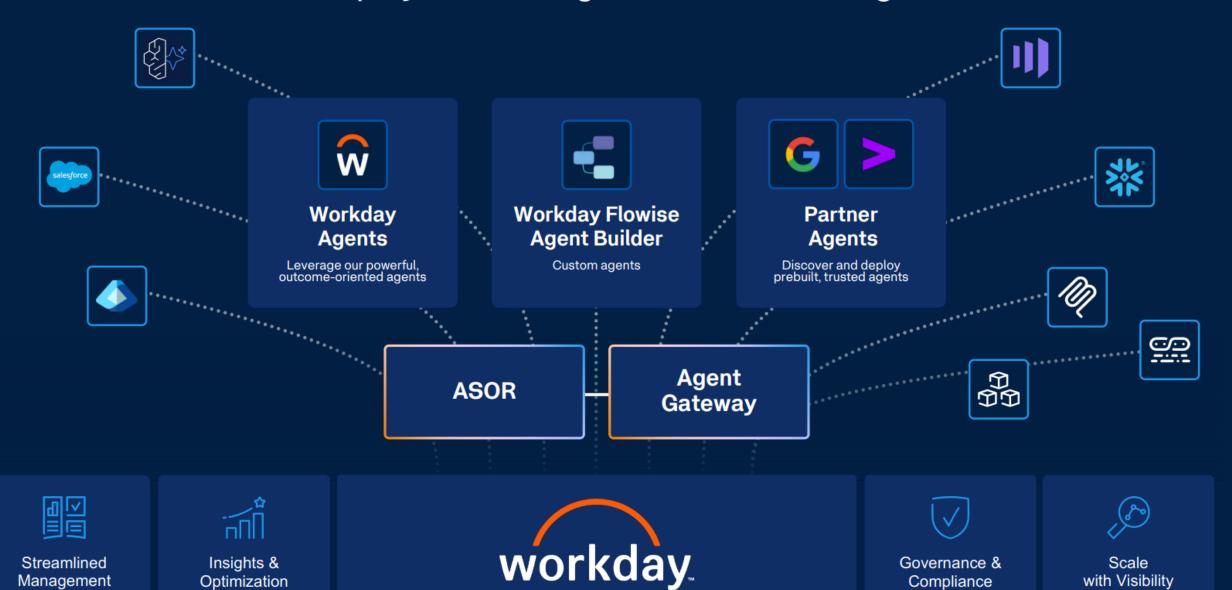
From AI Agents and the Agent System of Record to Agent Gateway and developer toolsets, Workday unveiled a robust ecosystem for operationalizing AI across the enterprise.

Human + Al Partnership

The future of work is collaborative. Workday's vision blends autonomous agents with human oversight, enabling smarter decisions, faster execution, and safer governance.

One Leading End-to-End Al Platform for People and Money

Build and Deploy Custom Agents Across the Organization





armanino How does this work?



The narrative has shifted from "AI as insight / recommendation" toward "AI as semi-autonomous worker, integrated, governed, trusted."

Feature / area	What it is / what's new	Why it matters / how it changes Workday
Workday Illuminate	Workday is positioning "Illuminate" as their next-gen Al layer — a way to embed Al and agents into HR, finance, planning, etc.	Illuminate is intended not just for analytics or hints, but for operationalizing AI inside workflows and enabling more autonomous action.
Al Agents (Illuminate Agents / embedded agents)	They're rolling out "Illuminate agents" that can perform more complex tasks (e.g. performance review support, workforce planning, financial close).	Rather than isolated automations, these agents are meant to act within the system, with awareness of business context, automating or assisting multi-step processes.
Agent System of Record (ASOR)	Workday introduces a new "system of record" for managing AI agents: defining their identity, roles, permissions, oversight, etc.	This is a control plane for digital workers: tracking which agents exist, what they do, ensuring security and governance.
Agent Gateway / Agent Partner Network	To allow third-party agents to plug in and interoperate, Workday is launching an Agent Gateway and a partner network of agent vendors.	This opens up a broader ecosystem (Microsoft, AWS, Google, etc.) so that agents built on different platforms can coordinate with Workday.
Al Developer Toolset / Al Widgets	Workday is giving developers new tools (widgets, prompts, connections) to build/customize agents or AI-powered features that run in Workday.	This enables more extensibility: customers or partners can build domain-specific Al enhancements inside the Workday environment.





What does this mean for you

- It means you can deploy custom agents that are built in Workday
- You can deploy Agents built in Microsoft Copilot Studio or Azure Al
- You can deploy Agents built with Google Agentspace
- You can deploy Salesforce Agentsforce





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BP Optimize Agent

Finds and fixes process bottlenecks



Contingent Sourcing Agent

Accelerate time-to-fill open contingent roles



Contract Intelligence Agent

Know everything about your agreements



Contract Negotiation Agent

Negotiate better agreements, faster



Recruiting Agent

Boosts hiring speed, capacity,

and experience

Financial Audit Agent

Finds financial risk in real time



Revenue Contract Agent

Turn documents into a strategic asset



Frontline Agent

Optimizes frontline worker schedules



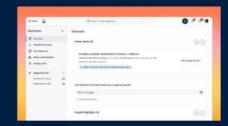
Supplier Contract Agent

Analyzes contracts for risk and savings



Payroll Agent

Automates payroll and finds errors



Self-Service Agent

Answers employee questions instantly



Planning Agent

Creates financial forecasts and plans



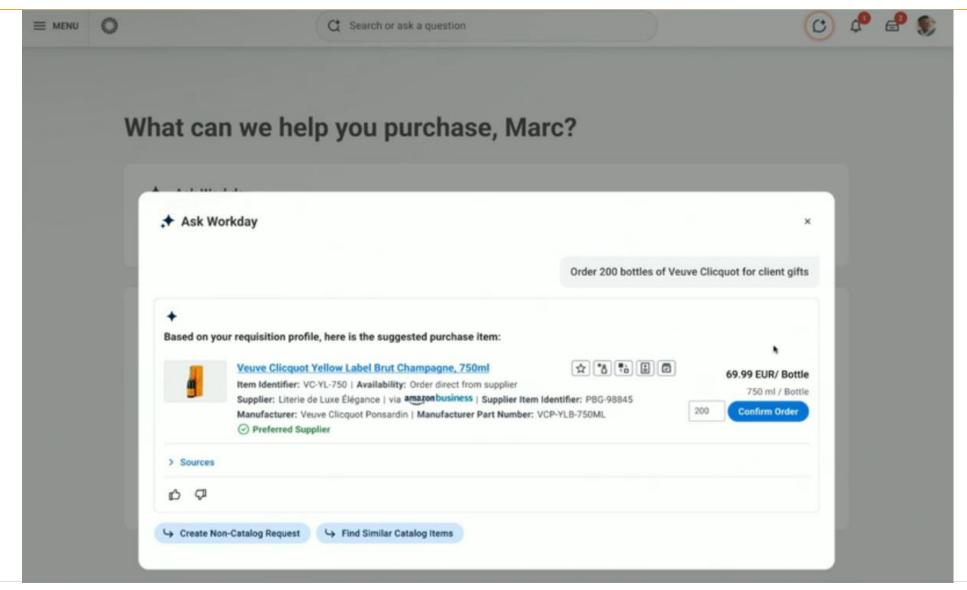
Talent Mobility Agent

Transforms employee growth and agility





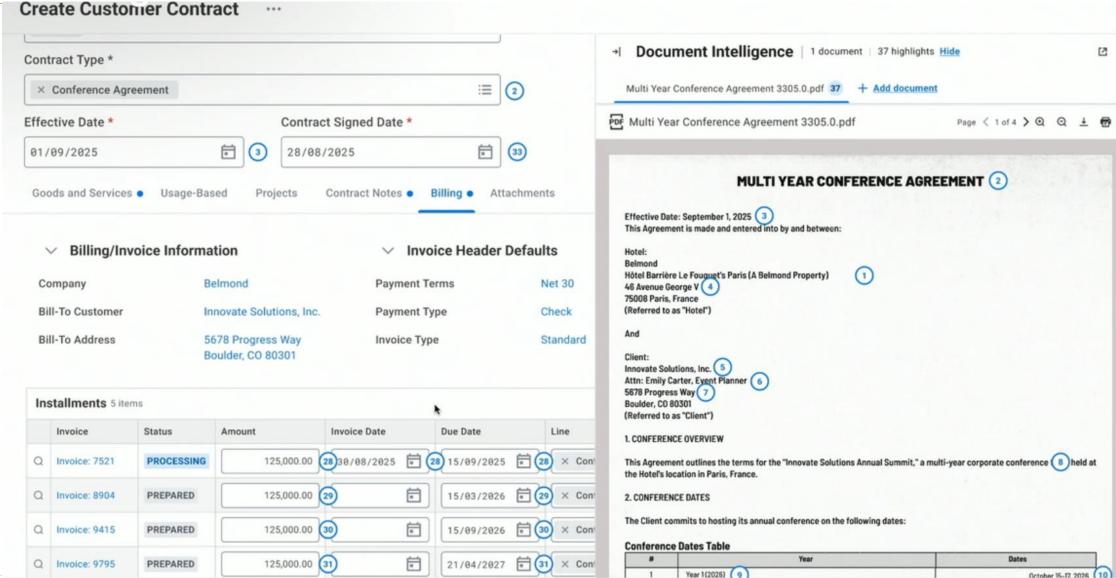




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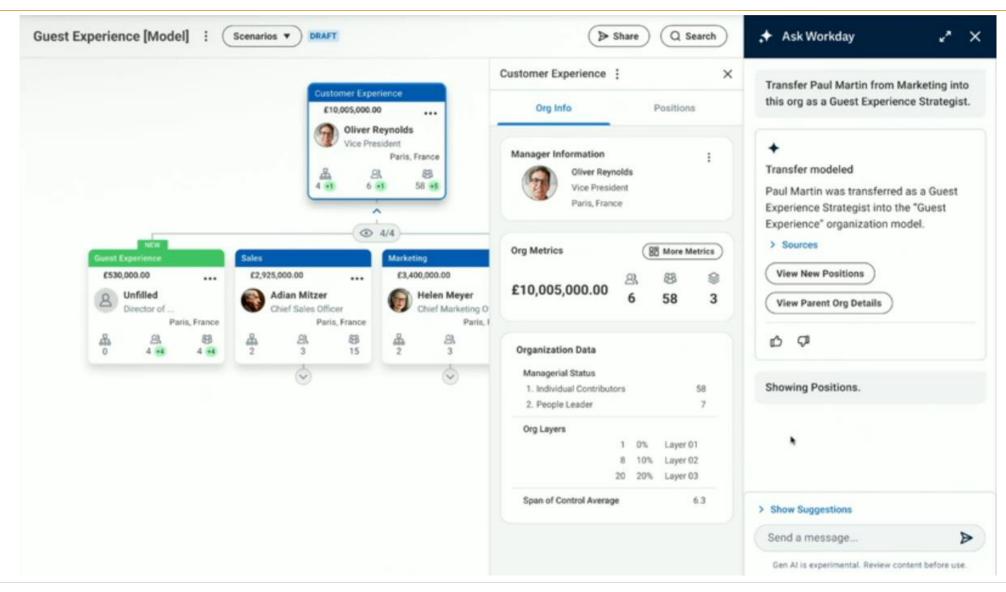




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Ask Workday in Microsoft 365 Copilot

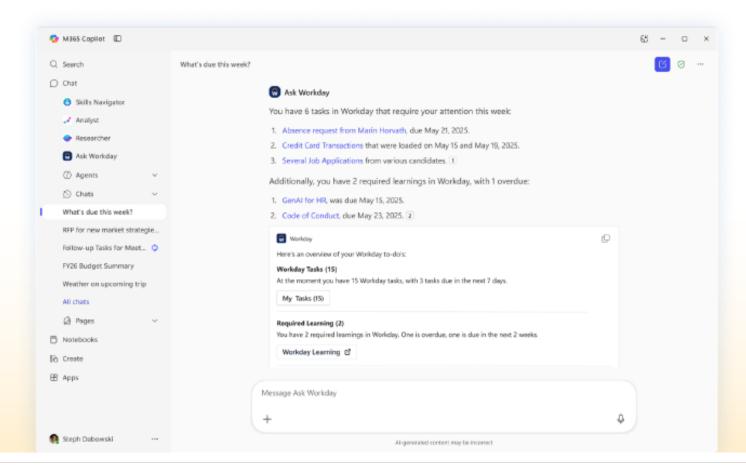


Find Workday Information Faster

Combine Insights from Workday and Microsoft 365

Stay on Top of Your Workday Tasks

New Functionality Coming Soon!





armanino Microsoft partnership: what it enables





- When developers build Al agents using Microsoft's Azure Al Foundry or Copilot Studio, those agents can be registered in Workday's Agent System of Record (ASOR).
- Agents built this way will receive a Microsoft Entra Agent ID (i.e. an identity in Microsoft's identity platform). That gives them verifiable
- The integration allows handoffs / interoperation between Microsoft Copilot agents and Workday agents. For example, an employee could ask a Microsoft Copilot (in Office 365) to update their career goals or submit a peer review; that request could be "handed off" into the Workday agent context to complete the actual HR workflowidentity, access control, and traceability.
- Workday will provide **analytics / dashboards** around agent usage: who's using which agents, what value they bring (time saved, outcomes), etc.
- This aligns with Workday's "open ecosystem" approach: agents built on Microsoft's stack or others can still be managed under Workday's governance and business context.





WHAT THIS MEANS FOR WORKDAY CUSTOMERS

Implications & Benefits



Stronger "agentic Al" future | Workday is betting that the next wave is not just "Al insights," but Al agents that take action. Over time, many routine HR, finance, planning tasks could be delegated (with oversight).



Reduced friction / faster time to value | The tighter integration, developer tools, and partner agent ecosystem shorten the time from "idea" to "working agent in my org."



Better governance & trust | One of the major barriers to deploying AI broadly in enterprises is control, auditability, rolebased access, etc. Workday's new architecture makes it more plausible to do so in a controlled, safe way.



Blending human + Al work | The vision is for humans and agents to co-work seamlessly: agents assist or automate, humans supervise, correct, refine.



Vendor lock / platform stakes increase | As Workday becomes the system of record for agents, its role (and influence) in the AI stack deepens. That gives Workday more leverage in the enterprise AI ecosystem.





WHAT THIS MEANS FOR WORKDAY CUSTOMERS

Risks, Challenges & Things to Watch



Accuracy, bias, compliance | Autonomous agents bring risks: wrong actions, biased decisions, regulatory issues. Workday (and customers) will need strong validation, oversight, and "fail-safe" controls.



Adoption & trust | Users may resist handing over tasks to Al agents until they trust them. The handoff logic, user experience, error handling, and transparency will be crucial.



Integration complexity / data quality | Agents depend on reliable, clean data. If the data inputs (HR, finance, external systems) are inconsistent, corrupted, stale, the AI outputs/actions might suffer.

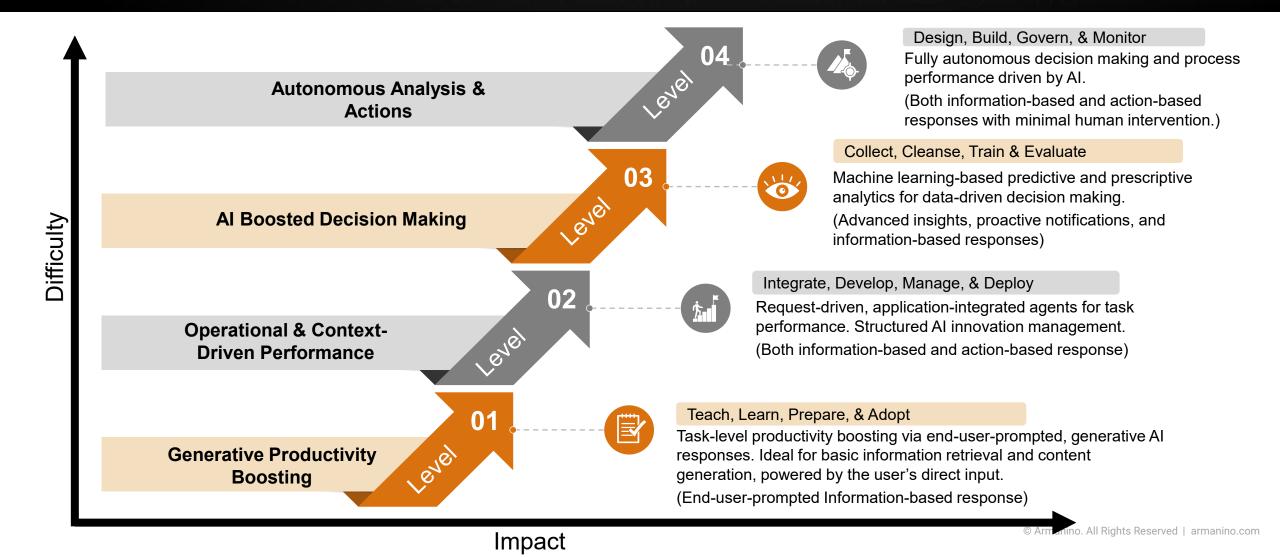


Interoperability challenges across platforms | Even with gateways and identities, making agents built on different stacks coordinate well (without conflicts or gaps) is nontrivial.



Cost / licensing / governance overhead | Running many agents, monitoring them, ensuring auditability and security — there's infrastructure and ongoing governance cost.

AI happens in *4 stages*: from productivity boosts to autonomous operations







Agent Implementation & Integration Services

Workday Agent Gateway Setup

Define roles, permissions, governance, and oversight using the Agent System of Record (ASOR).

Microsoft Entra Agent ID Setup

Ensure agents are identity-managed, logged, and access-controlled within the Microsoft tenant.

Copilot Handoff Integration

Connect Copilot
workflows (like HR
query or contract
drafting) into
Workday flows via
secure API calls or
orchestrations.

Custom Agent Development

Build or fine-tune domain-specific agents for HR, payroll, compliance, or finance that leverage client data and Workday's APIs.



Data Cloud and Integration Optimization

- Workday's Illuminate agents rely heavily on clean, unified data, Armanino can help you:
- Build pipelines from external finance, HR, and operations systems into the Workday Data Cloud (ensuring zero-copy, clean schema).
- Create Microsoft Fabric or Azure Synapse integrations for analytics and agent training loops.
- Use Armanino's analytics/automation team to establish feedback mechanisms for agent monitoring and retraining.







AI Governance & Risk Mitigation



- Clients will need confidence that their agents are safe, compliant, and auditable. Armanino can help you:
- Implement agent governance frameworks (covering transparency, bias testing, access control, explainability, audit logs).
- Build a cross-platform "Al Command Center" that monitors agent actions, exceptions, and compliance across Workday and Microsoft ecosystems.
- Design Human-in-the-Loop review processes, ensuring high-risk actions (like comp changes or financial approvals) require human validation.
- Establish ethical Al guardrails aligned with SOC 2, GDPR, or industry standards.





Change Management & Training



Many HR/finance users will be nervous about "Al agents doing their work," Armanino can:

- Provide training on how to collaborate with agents (prompting, reviewing, correcting outputs).
- Deliver change management programs around trust, accountability, and performance measurement.
- Create "Al Agent Stewardship" certification for HR/finance leaders within clients to reinforce safe usage and oversight.











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