



Service Description

12 Weeks to AI



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As data becomes increasingly valuable and advancements like Generative AI continue to disrupt industries, CGI is helping organizations become more insights-driven and outcomes-based, thereby accelerating returns on your AI investments. With over a decade of experience in AI (Artificial Intelligence), we combine our end-to-end capabilities in AI with deep domain knowledge and technology engineering to demystify and implement AI. Each day, our ML (Machine Learning) models and Advanced Analytics solutions are helping empower clients to make business decisions more accurately, swiftly, and responsibly.

In our “12 Weeks to AI” offering, we follow a four-phase approach: Envision, Explore, Build, and Mobilize. In the Envision phase, our deep pool of Data and AI experts work with your business and technical teams to understand business priorities and the data landscape, and to help identify an initial set of AI initiatives. Next, in the Explore phase, we evaluate those AI use cases using a well-defined evaluation framework and competitive scan, and pave way for the Build phase that involves building low-cost AI and ML models on your actual data to assess business value and production feasibility. In the final phase, we understand gaps, validate assumptions, and create a mobilization roadmap to scale and adopt AI across your organization.

Throughout this process, our CGI squad of Data Architects, Data Scientists, Data Engineers, and other experts work with you to follow a structured and collaborative approach that produces a clearly defined path to production. We use our frameworks and expertise to guide you to a better understanding of your current technology footprint and suggest required actions for each component of your environment for a successful AI journey.

While your organization can be at a unique data maturity level and your goals with AI could be very different from your peer organizations, our 12 weeks to AI approach is designed to be adaptable and flexible to meet your goals. Our years of AI implementation experience across several clients helps you drive consensus across your organization, procure internal buy-in and achieve success in the first go.

Demystify AI and Accelerate Adoption

Implementing and adopting AI in any organization successfully could have its fair share of challenges - some business stakeholders need to be educated on the power of AI, a strong AI strategy needs to be created, a technical team of experts made ready to implement AI solutions with best practices followed, a clear and strong path to production established and a roadmap to scale and maintain AI products across organization.

In these 12 weeks, CGI will be a strong partner by your side to help you overcome those challenges. We help you:

Strategically envision AI – We collaborate with your organization and bring in our CGI best practices in AI to co-generate use cases that make most sense and could bring the most value for our business. Scan your industry landscape to look at how other competitors have found success. We also help ideate on use cases across business areas in addition to business area specific use cases.

Prioritize and explore use-cases that make most sense – Not all AI use cases offer the best return on our investment. We work with you to evaluate each use case against a set of defined criteria. An evaluation could include looking at technical feasibility, business value generated, fulfillment of our business goals, and competitive advantage achieved.

Build low-cost models to test the value of your data– The right data in the right format can unlock insights that fuel faster decision making. However, sometimes the data isn't powerful enough. To discern whether your use

case will deliver the business value we thought it should, we rapidly prototype a Proof of Value using a low-cost AI model trained on a subset of your actual data, which helps ascertain the technical feasibility and business value.

Create a roadmap to scale and maximize your AI investment– We help you create a solid roadmap to scale AI use cases that have proven successful from the Proof of Value. The roadmap contains a clear path to production, includes best practices on data and AI, how to responsibly implement your specific use case, and helps you procure internal buy-in for a further investment into AI.

Engagement Model

Our engagement model is simple, yet highly effective and adaptable.

We start by ensuring we understand your expectations and initial goals with AI. We will agree on the rules of engagement, timelines, and governance structure, to ensure constant, effective communication and collaboration.

In a typical engagement, a CGI squad of AI experts, including Architects, Data Scientists, Data Engineers and other experts, will collaborate with key stakeholders across your product or business teams to co-generate ideas and identify optimal solutions using CGI's AI expertise and best practices. Our best practices in AI encompass principles and guidelines to ensure the responsible, effective, and ethical development and deployment of AI technologies focusing on data quality, security, privacy and compliance. Our team will hold collaborative and iterative evaluation sessions with your Technology Leads, Product Management, and Business Leadership and the use cases agreed to be most promising based on evaluation results will then undergo rapid prototyping using a portion of your data. The results from the proof-of-value will then be reviewed, a gap analysis performed, and a roadmap created to successfully scale those use cases. Depending on the scope, it will take 12 weeks for these activities and the phases and timelines can be adapted to your organization's needs and processes.

Pricing Model

We work with our clients to understand their initial goals, expectations, dependencies, and scope to be delivered. Based on those discussions, we estimate the size of the team and skills required for the engagement from the CGI side. You may want to simply engage an AI Architect to share best practices for solving a very small problem at hand, or you may prefer to work with a squad of highly talented CGI members to strategize and implement multiple AI initiatives for a business area or the entire organization.

A typical engagement is a fixed price engagement in which your organization works with a CGI squad constituting professionals curated from the below skillsets:

- Project Lead
- Data Architect(s) and Cloud Architect(s)
- Data Scientist(s) and Data Engineer(s)
- Business and Data Analyst(s)
- Governance and Privacy professionals, as required

The team size, skills and experience are chosen in a way that establishes an optimal and adaptable model to meet your unique business needs.

12 Weeks to AI: Envision, Explore, Build, and Mobilize

The engagement provides you best practices to responsibly utilize the power of AI thereby enhancing business agility, improving data maturity, bringing in cost efficiencies and opening new business avenues. CGI's approach to AI is conducted in four phases, each with its own set of deliverables and best practices:

1. Envision
2. Explore
3. Build
4. Mobilize

1. Envision

The AI journey starts with our CGI team of experts collaborating with key stakeholders from your strategic leadership team, and product or business teams. We help you co-generate ideas and identify optimal AI use cases. An important goal is to get leadership alignment on priorities and areas of focus for AI.

This phase includes:

- Conducting strategic alignment workshops that help explore and understand your initial ambitions for AI
- Interviewing business leads and technical teams in your company to understand your current state
- Provoke idea generation by:
 - Scanning the competitive landscape
 - Understanding if your organization has made AI investments, such as a tool of choice,
 - Looking for common use cases across product lines and also specific use cases for each product line
- Collaboratively shaping an AI-enabled future state along with identifying key gaps
- Conduct initial Responsible Use of AI assessment and Risk/Compliance assessment
- Creating a list of AI use cases by each focus area and tying them back to business priorities

Key outcomes:

- Current state assessment
- Leadership approval, key stakeholders' feedback and establishing KPIs for success.
- Future State alignment on initial focus areas for AI pursuit considering competitive landscape, prior AI investments or any other dependencies.
- Responsible Use of AI and Risk/Compliance report.
- Set of initial AI use cases that need to be evaluated in next phase.

2. Explore

In this phase, we evaluate the list of AI use cases against a list of evaluation criteria. The goal of this step is to identify high potential use cases that the organization should pursue.

This phase includes:

- Evaluating and Scoring each AI use case against a list of evaluation parameters
- Holding collaborative and iterative evaluation sessions with Client Technology Leads, Product or Business Owners and Business Leadership
- Evaluating against both business and technical lenses including:
 - Needs fulfillment - how well does the use case fulfil our business needs?

- Strategic alignment – how well is the use case aligned with organizational or departmental strategy?
- Technical Feasibility – does the right data exist, can we successfully leverage that data, do we understand data lineage and does the right technical environment exist?
- Competitive Edge – does this use case give us a competitive edge over our peers?
- Existing investment alignment – does this use case complement our existing investments in AI or are we reinventing the wheel completely and asking for new investment?

Key outcomes:

- List of optimal AI use cases to pursue in Build phase.

3. Build

In the Build phase, our Data Scientists rapidly prototype the shortlisted use cases by building a low-cost AI model on a subset of actual company data. This step helps us validate and estimate the business value of the data and the production feasibility of the AI models.

This phase includes:

- Working with technical teams at your organization to gather access to a subset of company data and compute infrastructure.
- Quickly preparing an infrastructure and environment for the AI model to run on
- Building low-cost AI models to test feasibility.
- Identifying any correlations in data, gaps or dependencies we need to watch for when scaling use cases

Key outcomes:

- A completed Proof of Value (low-cost AI models) on the shortlisted AI use cases
- Technical feasibility of the top use cases.
- Projected Business value when the use cases scale.

4. Mobilize

By the time we reach this stage, we have already assessed use-case feasibility and estimated the business value for the organization. The idea of this stage is to create a solid mobilization plan to scale those use cases proven successful in the previous stages. A good mobilization plan helps remove bottlenecks, fills gaps, and sets the organization up for success.

This phase includes:

- Creating a roadmap to scale the top AI use cases by leveraging CGI's expertise and best practices.
- Gaining alignment on the roadmap by coordinating with leadership team, business owners and technical owners

Key outcomes:

- Roadmap and mobilization plan
- Clear path to production and how to scale your best use cases.
- Best practices around scaling AI and MLOps
- Tools and infrastructure required for use-case success.
- Clear business value proposition and to accelerate stakeholder buy-in for further investment.