f y G+ in ✉ ➕ **3**

3 ways restaurants can use automation to drive business value

May 26, 2015

By Jim Manias, vice president, Advanced Systems Concepts Inc.

From Subway to Whataburger, restaurants are seeing the benefits of IT automation on their operational, datacenter and business processes. Technology streamlines restaurant IT processes, as it does for every other industry. But you may not know just how much of an impact it has until you take a serious look at automation. Whether your business processes are handled through physical systems, virtual systems in the cloud or some mix of the two, intelligent automation can help you get the most out of your established restaurant IT environment in terms of productivity, efficiency and cost savings.

Exactly how is IT automation helping restaurants? Here are three key ways:

Provisioning virtual/cloud resources — As more and more retail and restaurants turn to virtual and cloud resources, the need for efficient resource usage is more important than ever. Automation can optimize your IT department's use of cloud and virtual resources, allocating additional resources when more computing power is needed and automatically spinning down resources during idle times. As a result, restaurants can eliminate IT resource waste from idle machines as well as improve IT spending on virtual/cloud resources.

Onboarding and offboarding employees — Let's face it: Restaurants are a revolving door for employment. As a result, IT and Human Resources are often tasked with constantly adding and removing users from the system. Restaurants can minimize the time it takes to manually add new employees to their human resources and accounting systems by creating an automated process that kicks in as soon as an employee is hired. Similarly, when an employee leaves, an automated process can be kicked off to remove the account and other permissions. As a result, you can avoid time-consuming and error-prone manual processes that require heavy management and maintenance.

Streamlined reporting — IT manages all of the data pathways in and out of the business, facilitating the delivery of data to end users in a fast and reliable manner. In order to do this effectively, IT needs insight into workload performance statistics, including job successes and failures. Automation's built-in reporting tool provides this insight and allows users to create custom reports in a matter of minutes. For example, using automation, your IT department can streamline and consolidate reporting processes by setting up parameters for reports instead of custom scripting each time. This way, reports only need to be run once rather than the same report being run hundreds of times.

Workload automation for restaurant business processes can make the difference between cumbersome, time-consuming manual management and a fast, reliable IT environment that drives real business value. As automation plays a bigger role in IT and business processes, retail and restaurant managers will have more time for what is truly important to your business: successful management of employees and operations and exemplary service to your hard-won customers.

Jim Manias is vice president at Advanced Systems Concepts Inc. and is responsible for the overall market strategy and planning for a range of products including ActiveBatch Workload Automation and Job Scheduling. Jim has been with Advanced Systems Concepts since 1991 and has held multiple senior management positions in the enterprise software and hardware market. Jim can be reached at JManias@advsyscon.com.

Topics: Operations Management, Systems / Technology

Sponsored Links:

Restaurant Suppliers

Own a Franchise | Display Technology | Digital Menu Boards

Related Content

Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls diving into franchising

Franchise Focus: Family owned coffee business brewing franchise deals

3 steps to cutting 1 huge expense

Where in the restaurant world will Pokemon GO, go?

Latest Content

Why training is first step in enhancing customer experience

Fighting pesticides, pathogens, other brand-crushing problems

More please! Hungry American business people increase spending on food

Early bird gets the worm: Top 5 reasons to meet us in Call for Fast Cas Exec Summit

---

0 Comments   Fast Casual   1 Login ▾

♥ Recommend   ⤴ Share   Sort by Best ▾
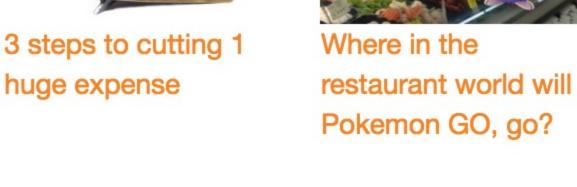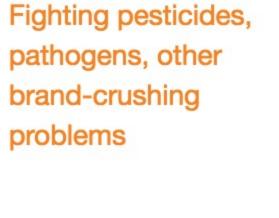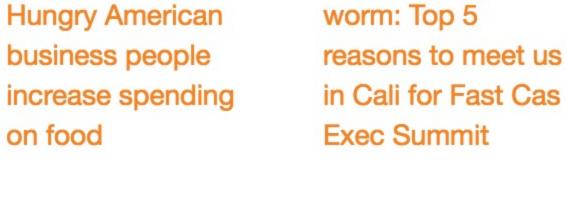
👤 Start the discussion…

Be the first to comment.

✉ Subscribe   ⊕ Add Disqus to your site   🔒 Privacy   DISQUS

WHITE PAPERS

2016 Fast Casual Top 100

[WEBINAR] Food transparency and simplified ingredient lists: Trends and tips for understanding the "clean" eating movement

The Disconnect Between Brands & Consumers in Mobile-Enabled Loyalty Programs

How Big Data is Revolutionizing the Restaurant Industry

The Ultimate Guide to Restaurant Marketing

See More »

TRENDING

Huge journalistic error puts Chick-fil-A in the hot seat
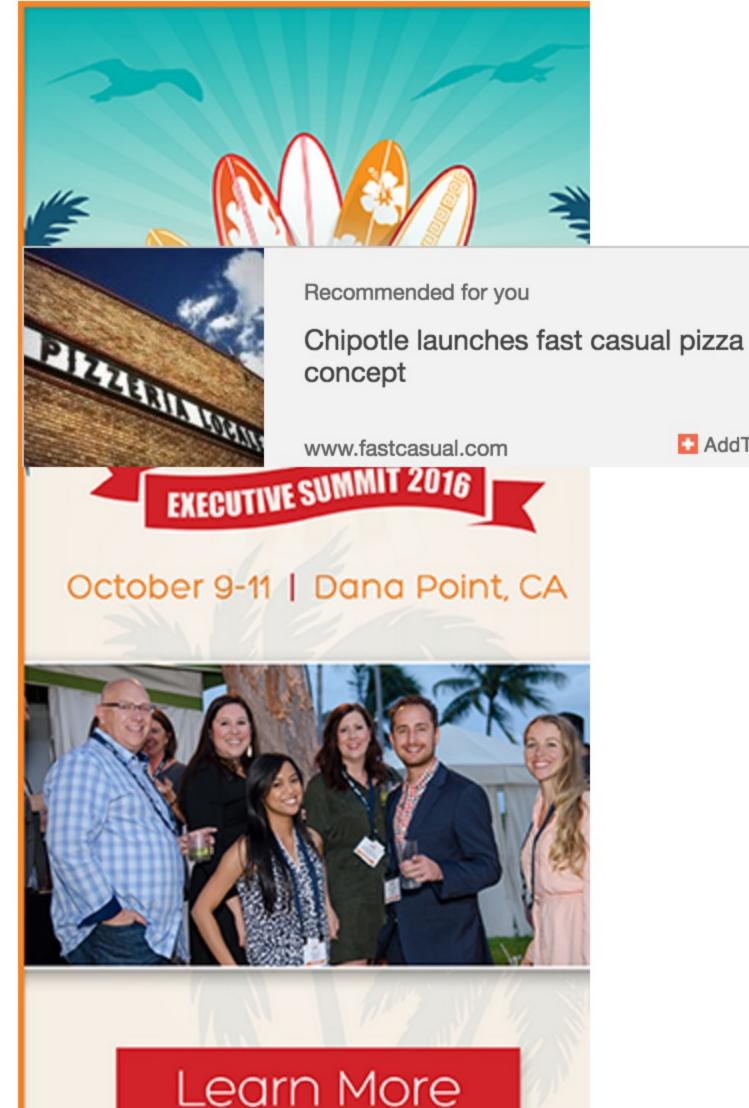
Where in the restaurant world will Pokemon GO, go?

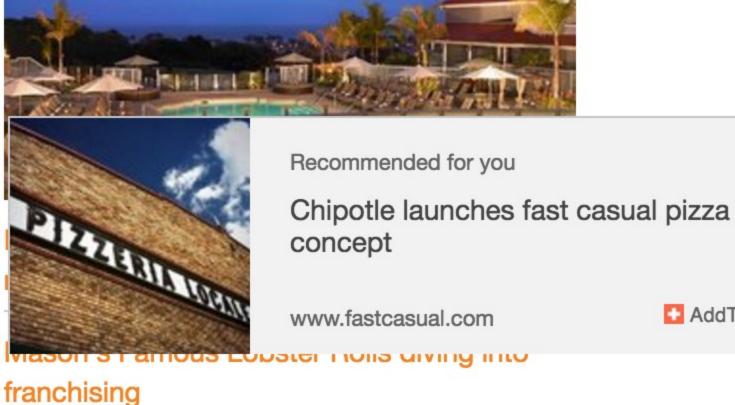80-year-old yeast + 3D printer = instant pizza satisfaction

How can a 3D-printed pizza change the world?

Boo(ze)-hoo! Restaurant liquor sales fall for 3rd straight year

FEATURES

Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls diving into franchising

Why the streets outside Los Angeles are suddenly bleeding pink ...

5 Tried-and-True Technologies that Improve Restaurant Operations

Drive the moment: How the connected car can drive your business
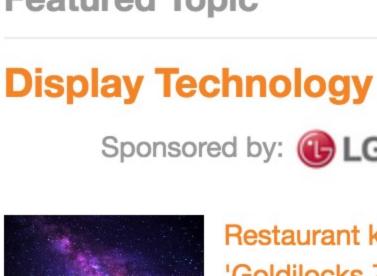
TOPIC CENTERS

Catering
Coffee / Specialty
Beverages
Customer Service / Experience
Digital Signage
Display Technology
Equipment & Supplies
Fast Casual Executive Summit
Food & Beverage
Food Cost Management
Food Safety

Marketing / Branding / Promotion
Menu Boards
Online / Mobile / Social
Online Ordering
Operations Management
PCI Compliance
POS
Restaurant Design / Layout
Staffing & Training
Sustainability
Systems / Technology

Featured Topic

Display Technology
Sponsored by: LG
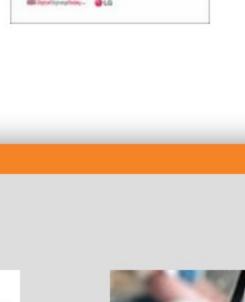
Restaurant kiosks and the 'Goldilocks Zone'

Restaurant, retail customer experience leaders headline ICX Summit

Digital Display Technology: An Introduction to Digital Signage
Download now

Fast Casual

NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP
Subscribe To Our Newsletter
Enter your email address   Subscribe

FOLLOW US
⚲ in f y

COMPANY INFO
About Us
Bloggers
Media Kit / Editorial
Calendar
Contact Us

Editorial Policy
Privacy Policy
Terms Of Use
Site Map

FEATURED

Early bird gets the worm: Top 5 reasons to meet us in Call for Fast Cas Exec Summit

Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls diving into franchising

Why the streets outside Los Angeles are suddenly bleeding pink ...

TOPICS
Catering
Coffee / Specialty
Customer Service / Experience
Digital Signage
Display Technology
Equipment & Supplies
Fast Casual Executive Summit
Food & Beverage
Food Cost Management
Food Safety
Franchising & Growth
Health & Nutrition
In-Store Media
Insurance / Risk Management

Marketing / Branding / Promotion
Menu Boards
Online / Mobile / Social
Online Ordering
Operations Management
PCI Compliance
POS
Restaurant Design / Layout
Staffing & Training
Sustainability
Systems / Technology
Top 100
Trends / Statistics