

# FLINK-POWERED CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE: SCALING FROM 5 BILLION DOWN TO ONE

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Comcast Corporation

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Flink Forward – San Francisco 2019



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NBCUNIVERSAL

A global media and technology company with several businesses, including Comcast, NBCUniversal, and Sky.

COMCAST	NBCUniversal					sky
Products & Services	Cable Networks	Broadcast	Film	Parks	Products & Services	
<div><div>xfinity xFi</div><div>xfinity x1</div><div>xfinitymobile</div><div>xfinity home</div><div>COMCAST BUSINESS</div><div>COMCAST SPOTLIGHT</div><div>FRESHWHEEL A COMCAST COMPANY</div></div>	<div><div>UNIVERSO</div><div>CNBC</div><div>USA</div><div>E!</div><div>UNIVERSAL KIDS</div><div>NBCSN</div><div>OLYMPIC CHANNEL</div><div>GOLF</div><div>FY</div><div>MSNBC</div><div>OXY GEN</div><div>bravo</div></div>	<div><div>NBC</div><div>TELEMUNDO</div><div>NBCUniversal Owned Television Stations NBC Owned Television Stations Telemundo Station Group</div><div>NBC Sports</div><div>NBC NEWS</div><div>TeleXitos</div><div>COZI</div><div>NBC Olympics</div><div>NBC SPORTS REGIONAL NETWORKS</div></div>	<div><div>UNIVERSAL</div><div>FOCUS FEATURES A COMCAST COMPANY</div><div>UNIVERSAL</div><div>UNIVERSAL PICTURES HOME ENTERTAINMENT</div><div>UNIVERSAL ANIMATION DEVELOPMENT</div><div>DREAMWORKS</div><div>ILLUMINATION ENTERTAINMENT</div></div>	<div><div>UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD</div><div>UNIVERSAL GRANDIO RESORT</div><div>UNIVERSAL STUDIOS JAPAN</div><div>UNIVERSAL STUDIOS SINGAPORE</div></div>	<div><div>sky Q</div><div>sky mobile</div><div>sky store</div><div>NOW TV</div><div>sky broadband</div><div>sky</div></div>	
Comcast Spectacor	Channels & Content					
<div><div>COMCAST SPECTACOR</div><div>SPECTRA BY COMCAST SPECTACOR</div><div>P</div><div>WELLS FARGO CENTER</div><div>FUSION</div></div>	<div><div>sky atlantic</div><div>sky one</div><div>sky sports</div><div>sky news</div><div>sky cinema</div><div>sky box sets</div><div>sky original productions</div><div>sky VR</div><div>sky KIDS</div></div>					
<div><div>COMCAST VENTURES</div></div>	<div><div>Snap Inc. *</div><div>MOVIES.COM</div><div>FANDANGO</div><div>VOX MEDIA *</div><div>BuzzFeed</div><div>cinemapaya</div><div>sportsengine</div><div>hulu *</div><div>GOLF NOW</div><div>bluprint</div><div>Flixster</div><div>Rotten Tomatoes</div></div>					

# COMCAST CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIPS

**30.3 MILLION OVERALL CUSTOMER  
RELATIONSHIPS AT 2018 YEAR END**

**25.1 MILLION RESIDENTIAL HIGH-SPEED  
INTERNET CUSTOMERS AT 2018 YEAR  
END**

**1.2 MILLION RESIDENTIAL HIGH-SPEED  
INTERNET CUSTOMER NET ADDITIONS IN  
2018**





# DELIVER THE ULTIMATE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

IS THE CUSTOMER HAVING A GOOD EXPERIENCE  
FOR HIGH SPEED DATA (HSD) SERVICE?



IF THE CUSTOMER ENGAGES US DIGITALLY, CAN  
WE OFFER A SELF-SERVICE SOLUTION?

IF THERE IS AN ISSUE CAN WE OFFER OUR AGENTS  
AND TECHNICIANS A DIAGNOSIS TO HELP SOLVE  
THE PROBLEM QUICKER?



REDUCE THE TIME TO RESOLVE ISSUES

REDUCE COST TO THE BUSINESS AND THE  
CUSTOMER



# REDUCE COST AND TIME TO RESOLUTION

## CUSTOMER SELF-SERVICE

### COST

\$ ~0

### TIME

< 15 MINUTES

## TALK TO AN AGENT

### COST ORDER OF MAGNITUDE:

\$ 5-10

### TIME:

< AN HOUR

## TECHNICIAN VISIT TO HOME

### COST ORDER OF MAGNITUDE:

\$ 50-100

### TIME:

AT LEAST A DAY



How do we personalize  
the conversation?

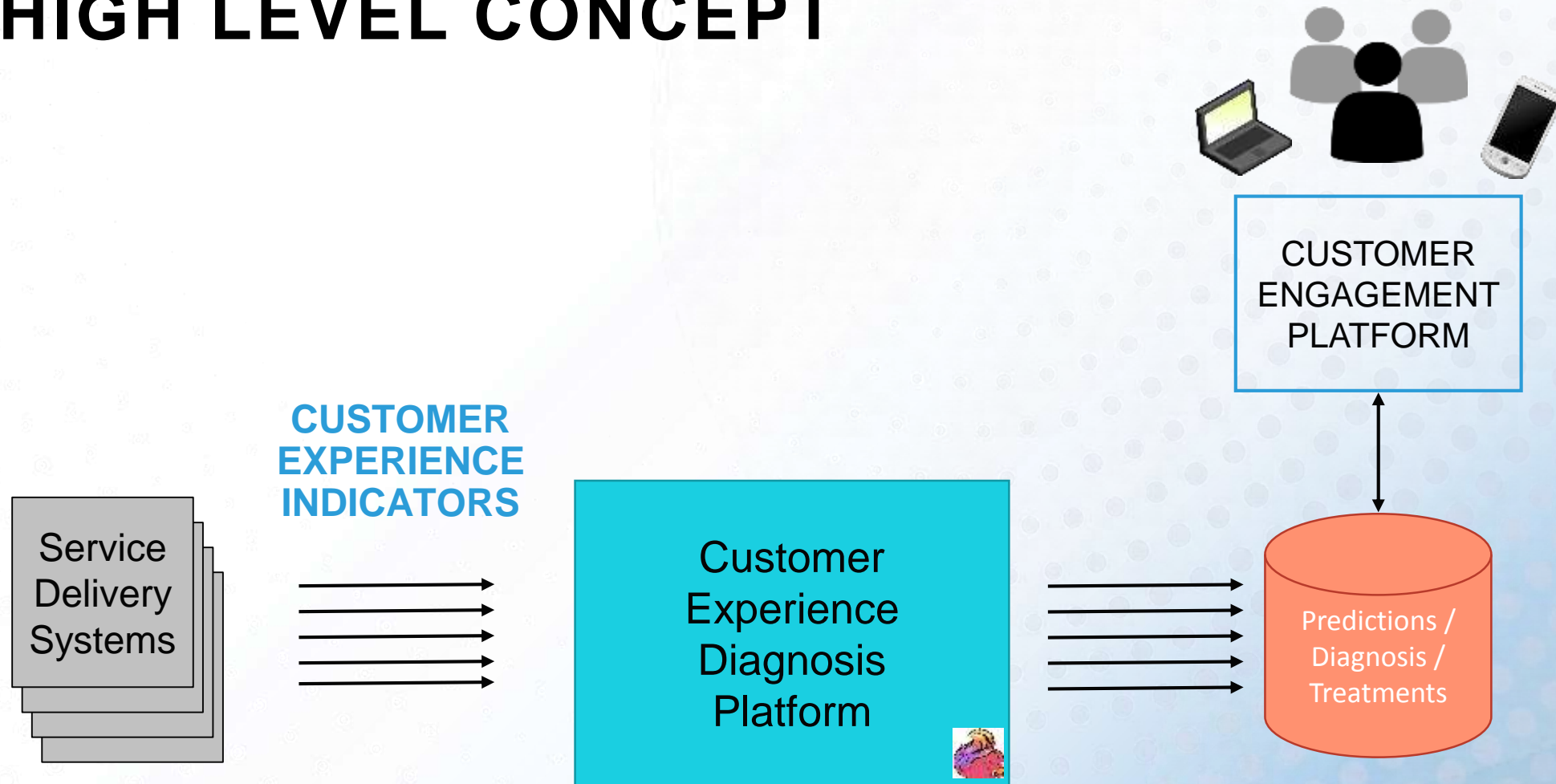


# CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE INDICATORS



Comcast collects, stores, and uses all data in accordance with our privacy disclosures to users and applicable laws.

# HIGH LEVEL CONCEPT



*Comcast collects, stores, and uses all data in accordance with our privacy disclosures to users and applicable laws.*



# SIMPLIFY INDICATORS

```
"packetErrors": ["327"],  
"systemUptime":  
    {"string": "4:26:34.27"},  
"octets": ["174756692"],  
"timerError": { "int": 0 },  
"sysInfoHwphase2": {"int": 1}  
"firmwareDlError": { int": 0 },  
"sysErrorTr69NotRegistered": null,  
"sysShSnmpsubagentRestartMw": null,  
"wifiErrorKernelDriverNotconnected":  
null,  
"forcedNonDeviceRebootError":  
    { "int": 0 }
```

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GREEN

CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE  
IS GOOD



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```

**GREEN**

**CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE  
IS GOOD**



**RED**

**POSSIBLE IMPACT TO  
CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE**

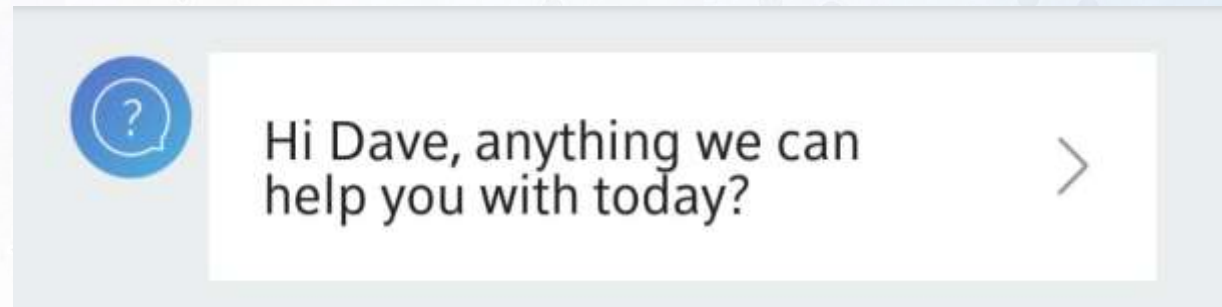
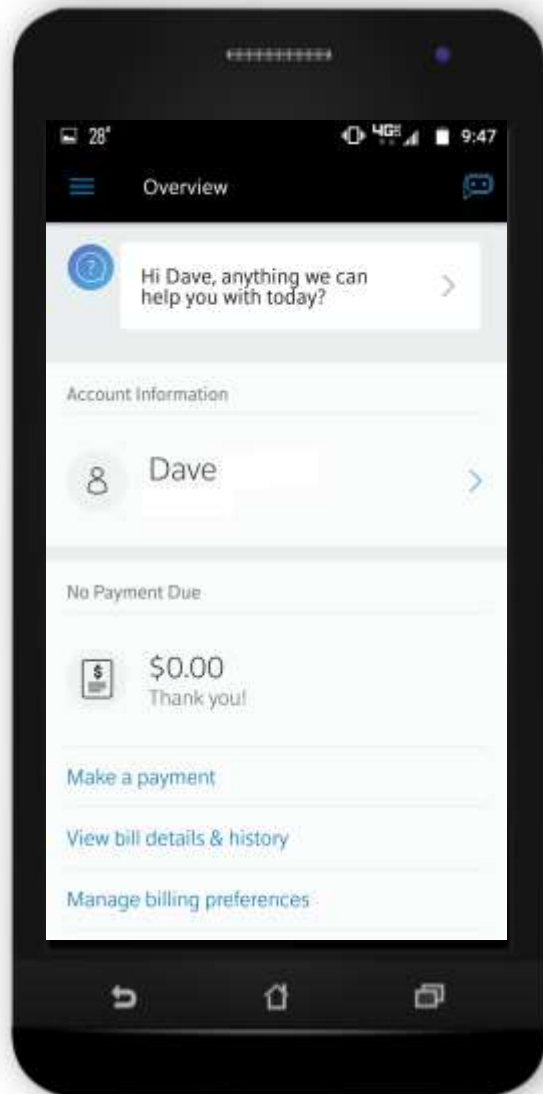




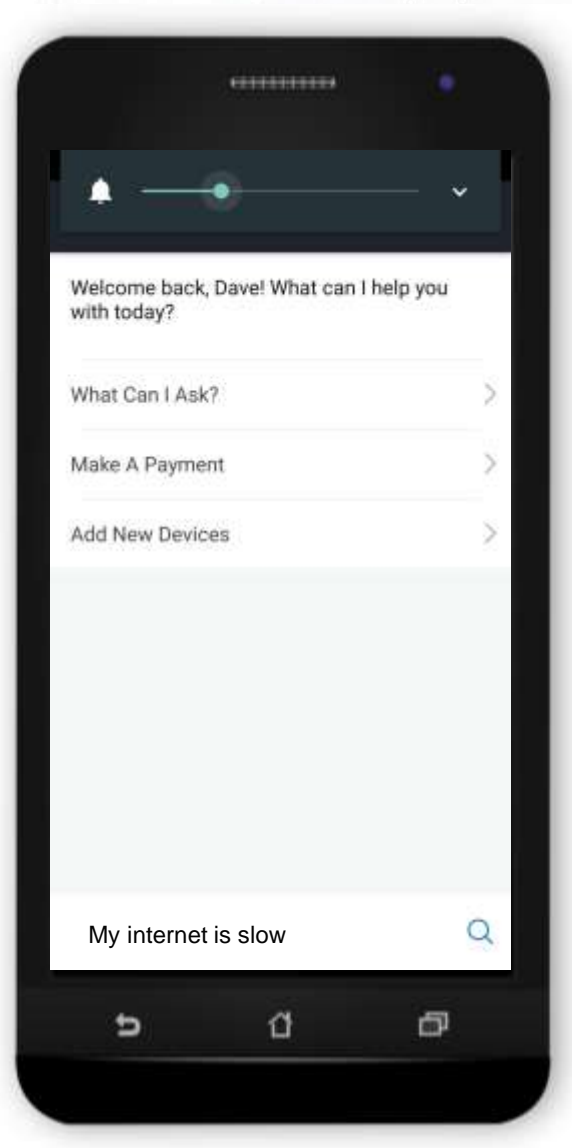


# What is the Digital Experience?

# XFINITY ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE



# XFINITY ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE



My internet is slow



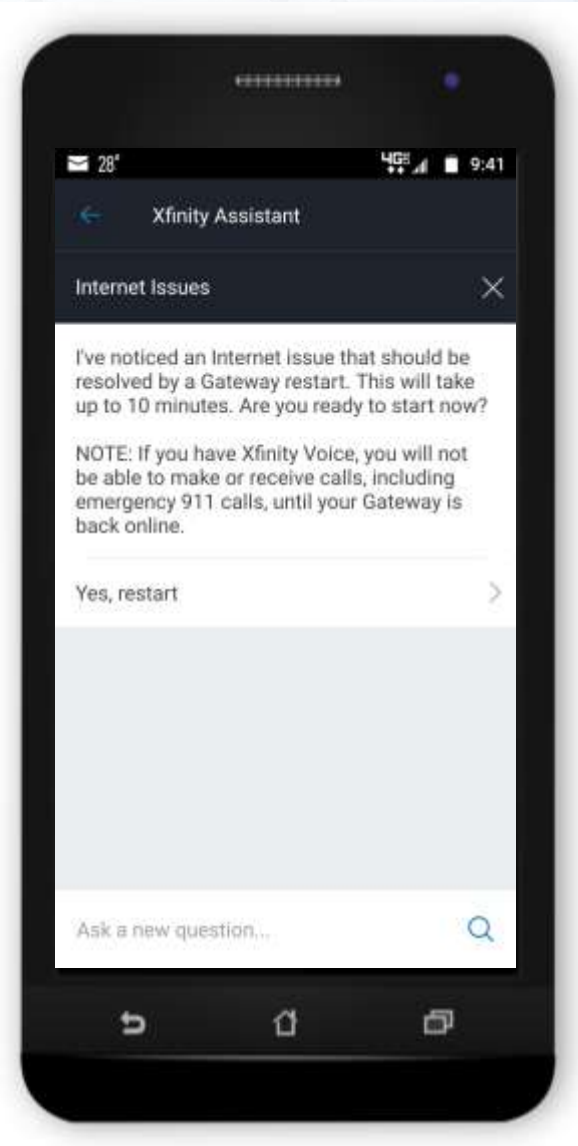
# XFINITY ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

**FLINK  
POWER!**

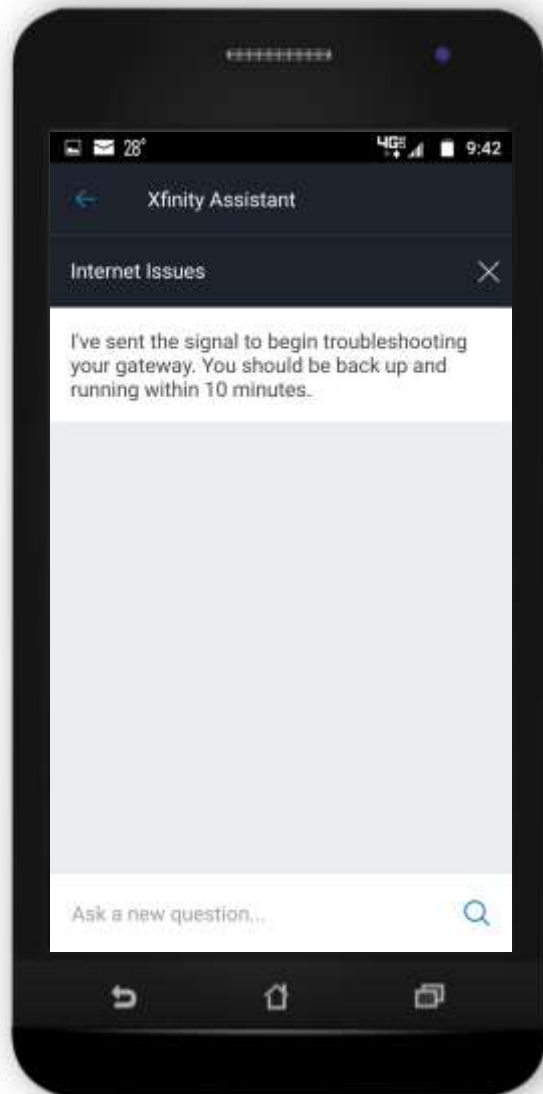


# XFINITY ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

I've noticed an Internet issue that should be resolved by a Gateway restart. This will take up to 10 minutes. Are you ready to start now?



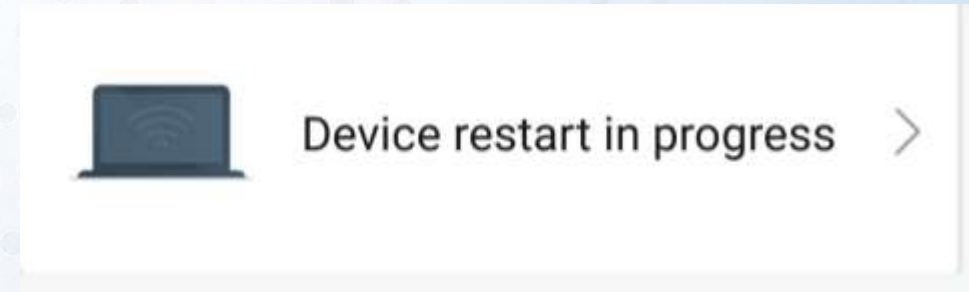
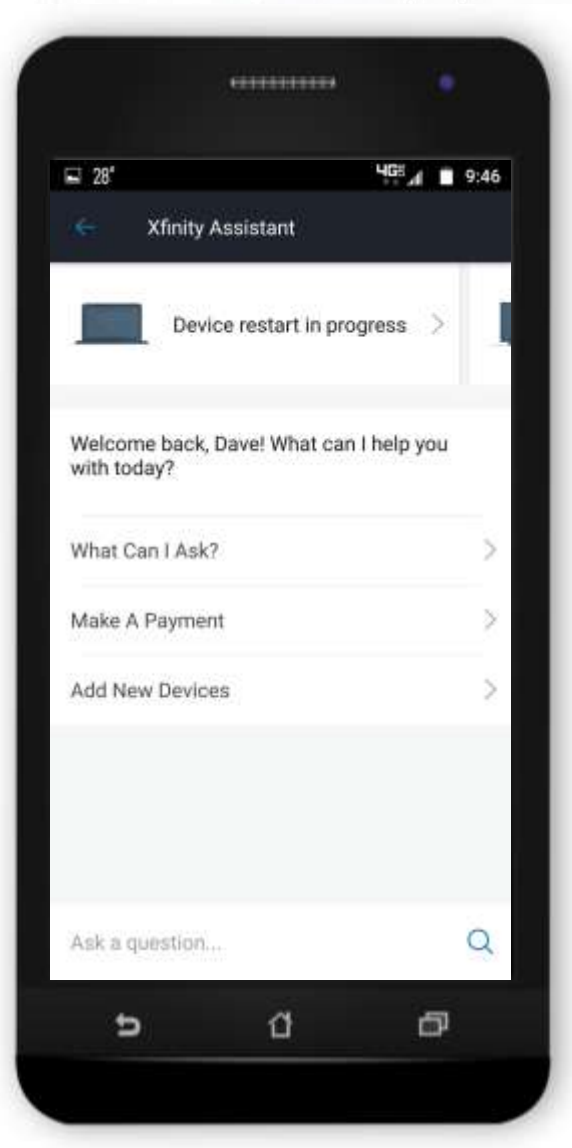
# XFINITY ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE



I've sent the signal to begin troubleshooting your gateway. You should be back up and running within 10 minutes.



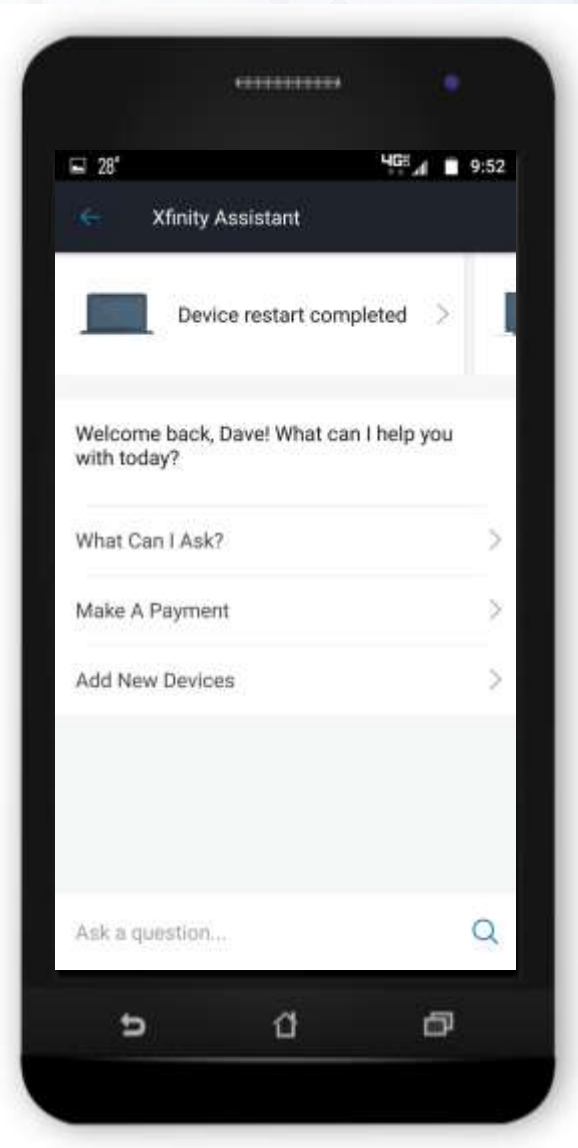
# XFINITY ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE



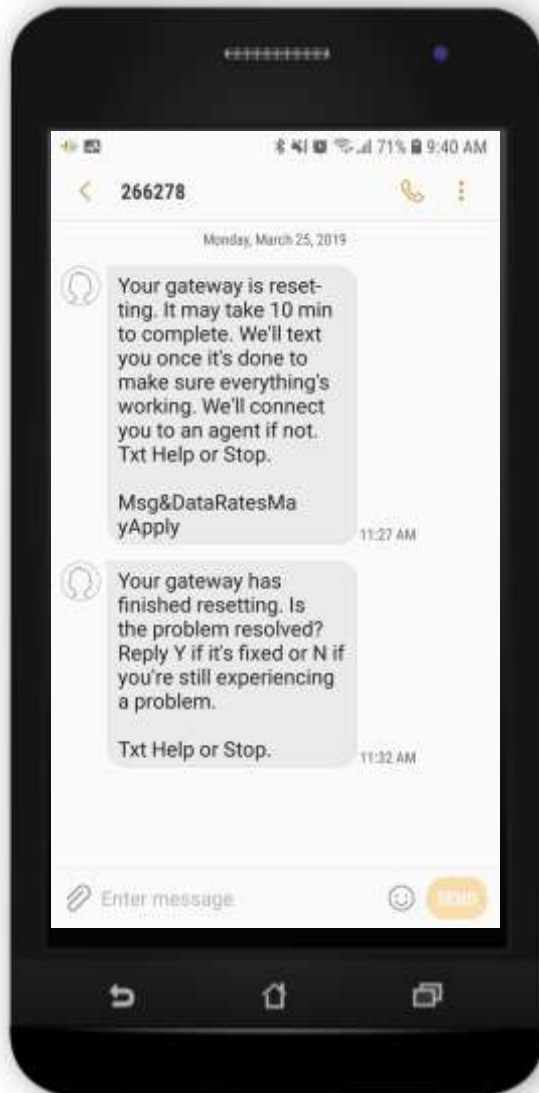
# XFINITY ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE



Device restart completed



# XFINITY ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE



Your gateway has finished resetting. Is the problem resolved? Reply Y if it's fixed or N if you're still experiencing a problem.

Txt Help or Stop.

**FOLLOWING UP ON THE INTERACTION:**

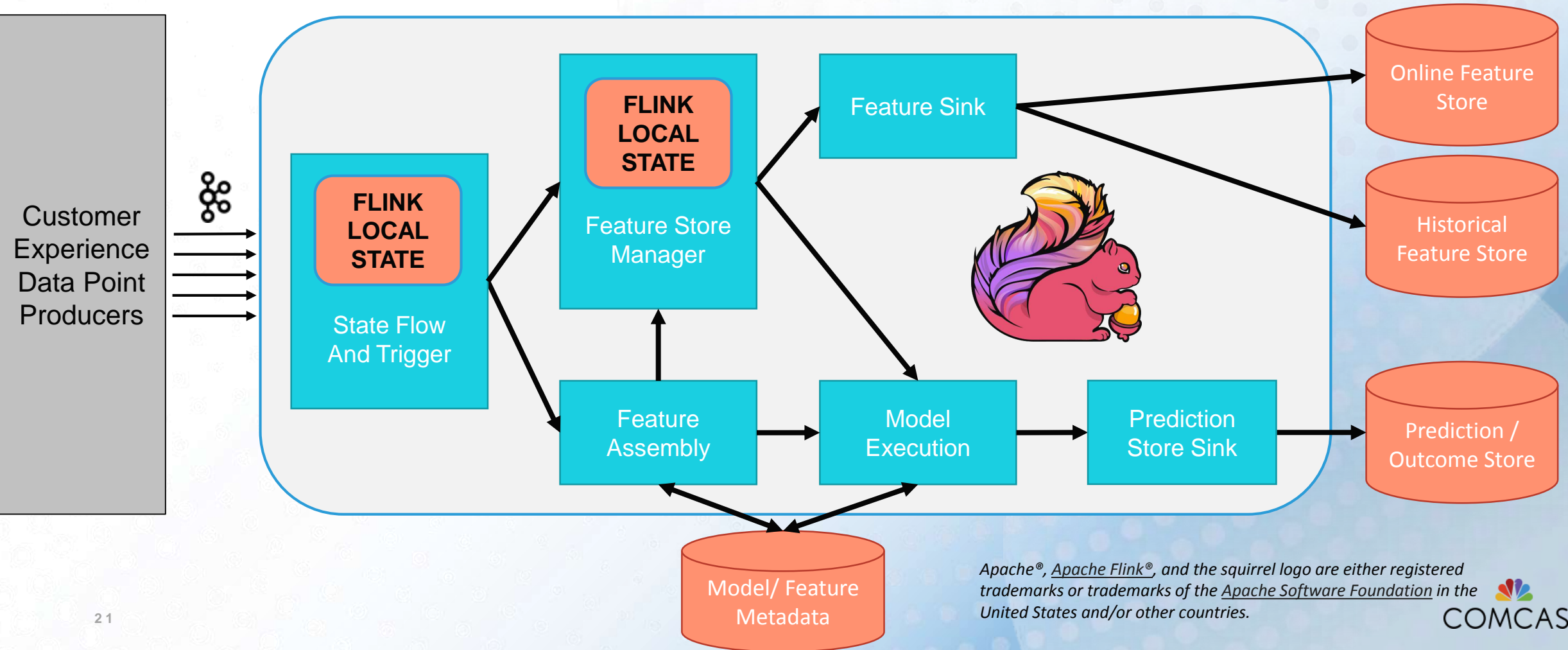
**Is the problem resolved?**

**If so, great!**

**If not, offer to talk with an agent.**



# POWERED BY APACHE FLINK®



# CHALLENGES ALONG THE WAY

THE  
**TRIGGER AND  
DIAGNOSIS**  
PROBLEM

THE  
**REST**  
PROBLEM

THE  
**INEFFICIENT  
OBJECT HANDLING**  
PROBLEM

THE  
**FEATURE STORE**  
PROBLEM

THE  
**VOLUME**  
PROBLEM

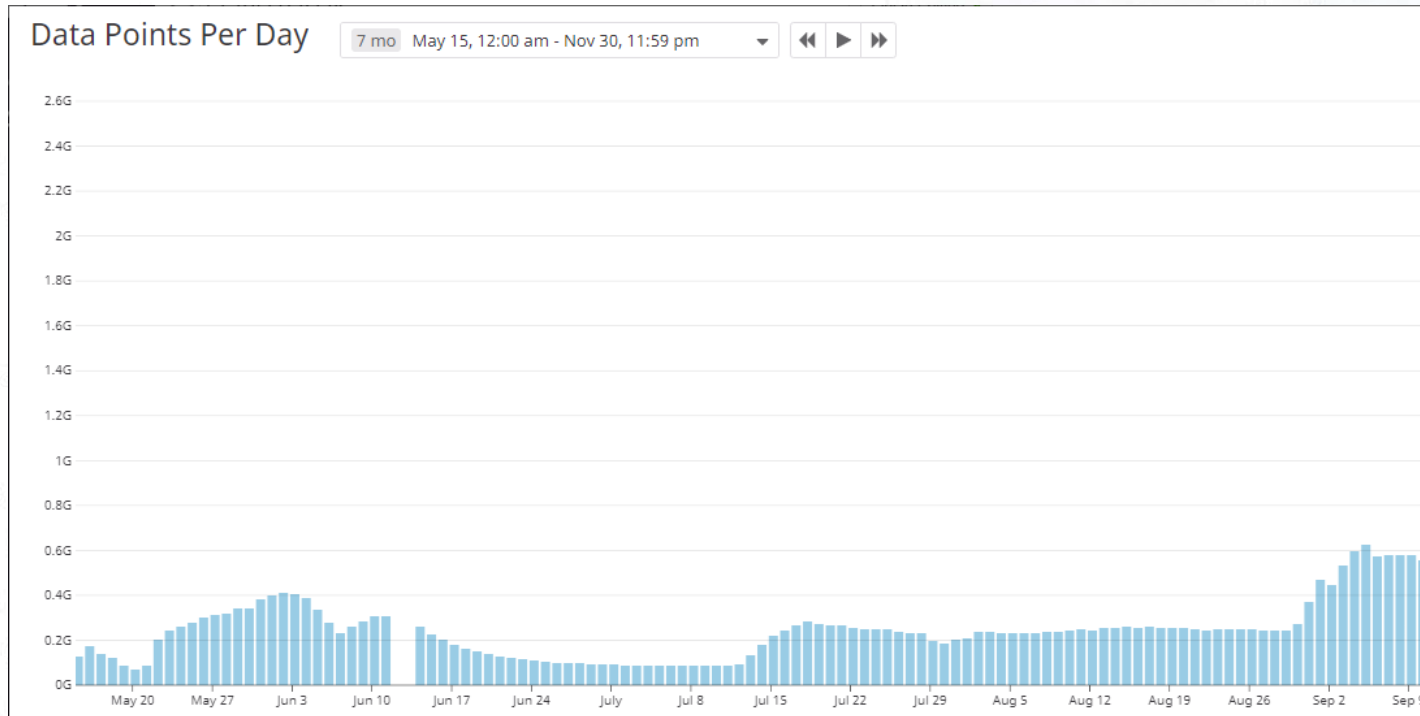
THE  
**CUSTOMER STATE**  
PROBLEM

THE  
**CHECKPOINT**  
PROBLEM

THE  
**TRIGGER AND  
DIAGNOSIS**  
PROBLEM

THE  
**REALLY HIGH VOLUME  
AND FEATURE STORE**  
PROBLEM #2

# DATA POINT VOLUME MAY–NOVEMBER 2018





# DATA POINT VOLUME MAY–NOVEMBER 2018



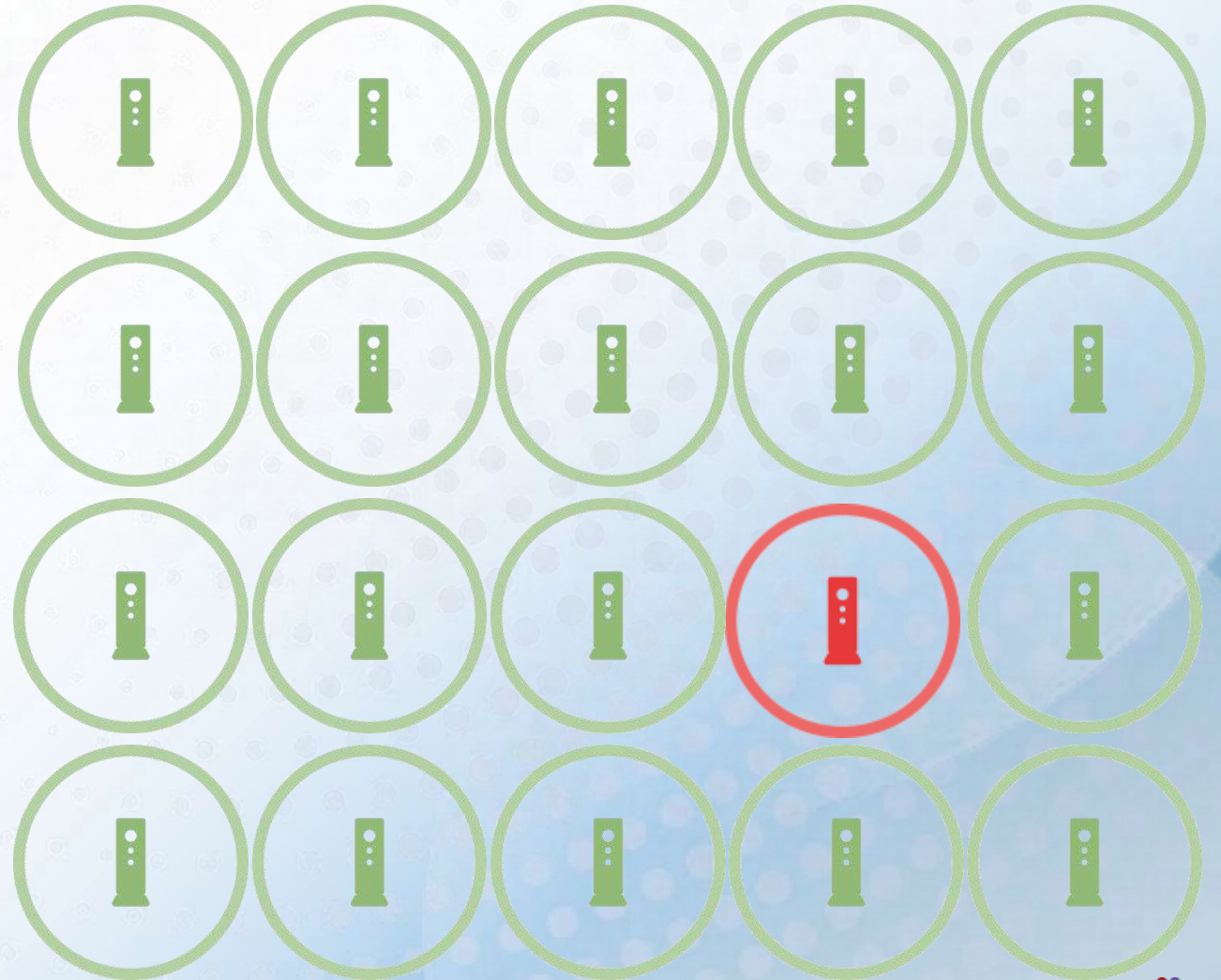
# DATA POINT VOLUME MAY–NOVEMBER 2018



# LET'S ADD ANOTHER 3 BILLION!

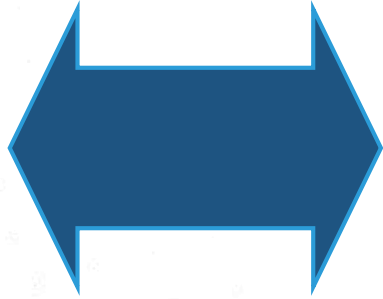
15 MILLION DEVICES

3 BILLION DATA POINTS



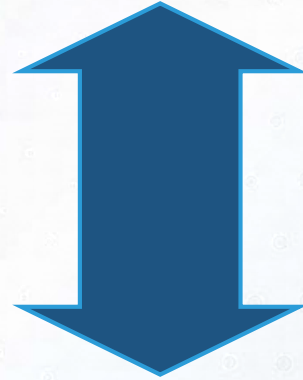


# MEETING THE CHALLENGE



## HORIZONTAL SCALING

TO MEET THE VOLUME



## VERTICAL SCALING

TO PROCESS HIGH-  
VOLUME DATA SOURCES



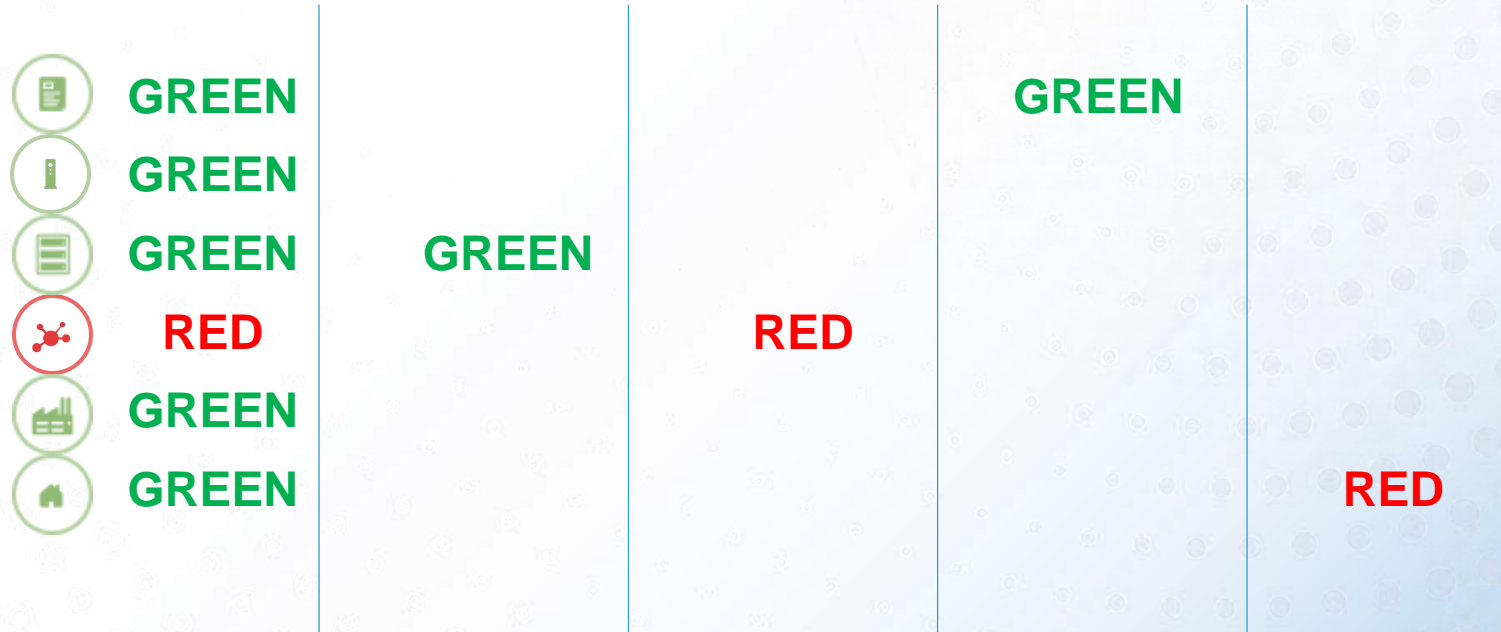
## FLINK FEATURES

QUERYABLE STATE  
CHECKPOINTING  
GLOBAL WINDOWS  
CONNECTED STREAMS  
STREAMING SINKS

# USING FLINK STATE TO TRIGGER DIAGNOSIS

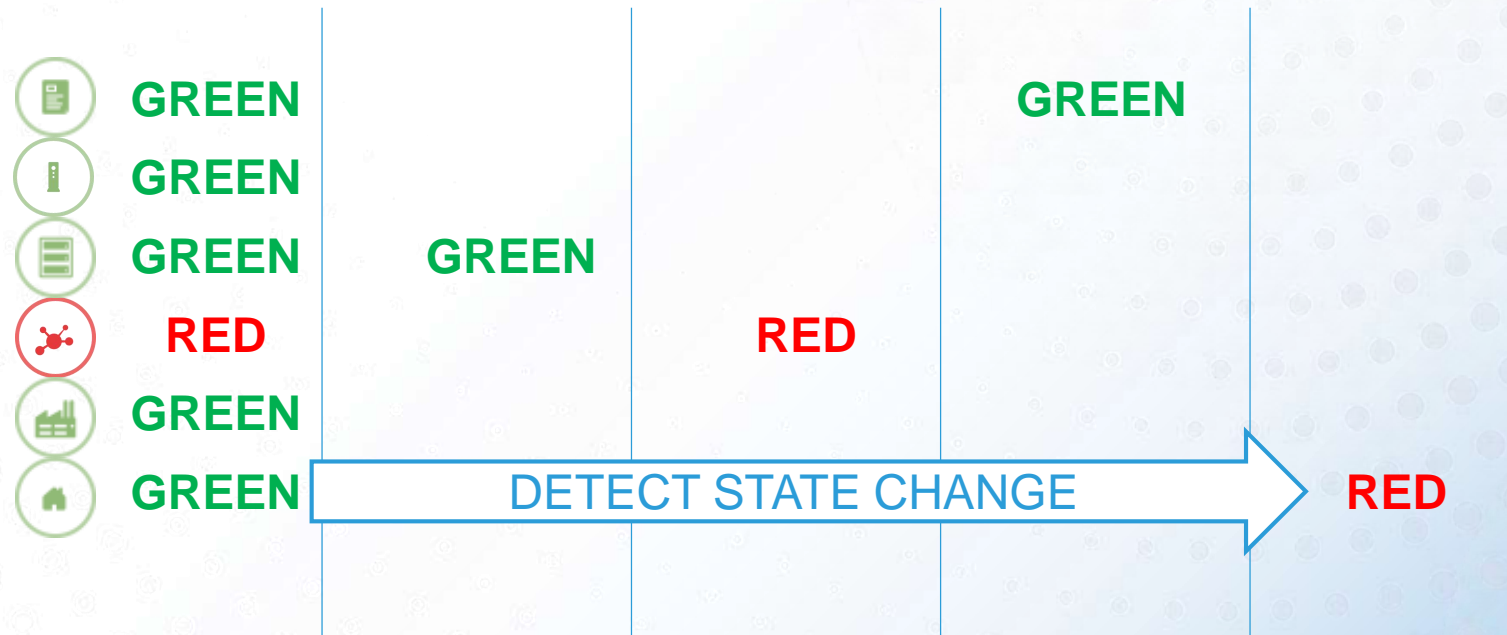


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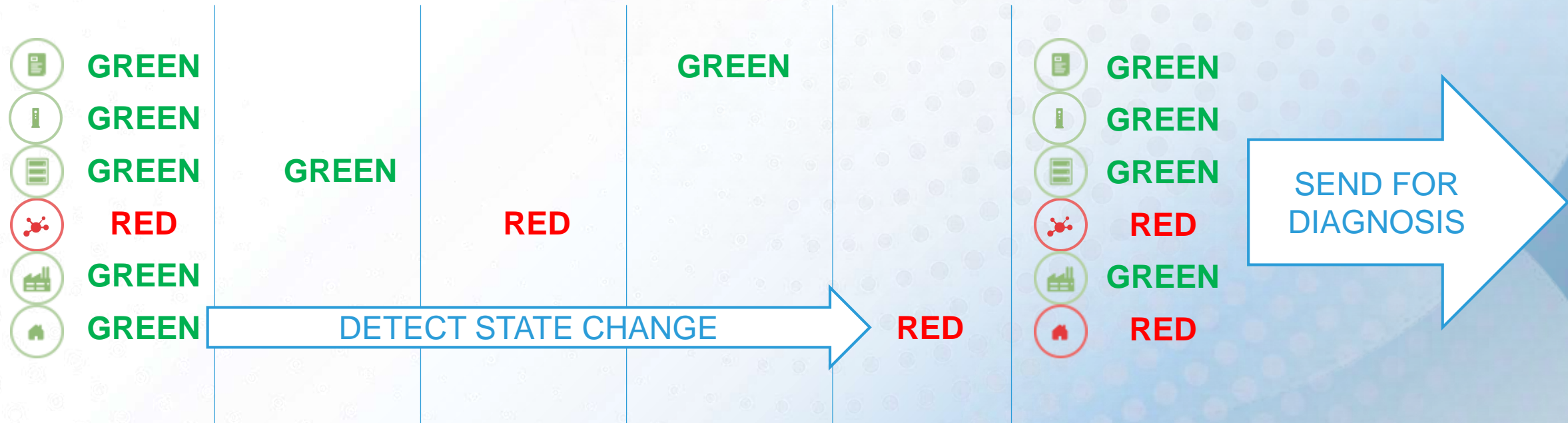




# USING FLINK STATE TO TRIGGER DIAGNOSIS



# USING FLINK STATE TO TRIGGER DIAGNOSIS



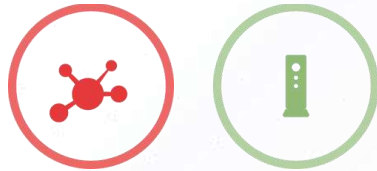
# KEEPING TRACK OF DATA POINT STATE

25+ MILLION HIGH SPEED INTERNET CUSTOMERS

10+ DATA POINT TYPES

TWO FLINK STATES TO MANAGE:

RED / GREEN “TRIGGER”



[ENTITY ID]  
(DATA POINT TYPE, STATE)

~1 GB TOTAL

QUERYABLE STATE  
FEATURE STORE

UP TO 15KB JSON  
PER DATA POINT

~ 1 TB TOTAL



# WHERE ARE WE TODAY

## INDICATORS

**725+  
MILLION  
DATA  
POINTS  
PER DAY**

## HIGH-VOLUME INDICATORS

**6 BILLION  
PER DAY**

## TOTAL

**~7 BILLION  
DATA POINTS  
PER DAY**

# WHERE ARE WE TODAY – FLINK CLUSTERS

CLUSTERS

14

VCPU

1100

INSTANCES

150

RAM

5.8 TB

# RESULTS

**MILLIONS**

OF UNIQUE USERS  
REACHED

**MILLIONS**

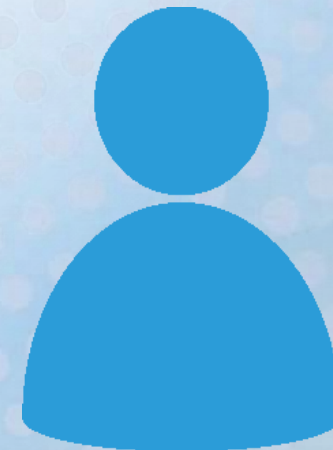
OF OPERATIONAL  
DOLLARS SAVED

**INCREASED**

CUSTOMER  
SATISFACTION WITH  
DIGITAL INTERACTION

**REDUCED**

TIME TO RESOLVE  
COMMON ISSUES  
THROUGH SELF-  
SERVICE





# RESULTS

**MILLIONS**  
OF UNIQUE USERS  
REACHED

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TIME TO RESOLVE  
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THROUGH SELF-  
SERVICE

**SCALING THE EXPERIENCE TO  ONE**

For more details, please attend my  
technical presentation!

ADVENTURES IN SCALING  
FROM **ZERO** TO ~~5~~ **7** **BILLION**  
DATA POINTS PER DAY

5:30 PM – 6:10 PM

Carmel Meeting Room



# WE'RE HIRING!



**PHILADELPHIA  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
MOUNTAIN VIEW  
DENVER**





COMCAST