

# 5 INDICATORS THAT YOU NEED WORKLOAD AUTOMATION IN RETAIL

In its research report on [How Retail Profits from Workload Automation](#), Aberdeen Group combined its benchmark research with its extensive visibility into technology installations to connect the current **business context** and **technology context** in the retail sector with **the business value of Workload Automation** solutions. The following checklist provides five indicators of a need for Workload Automation in retail, along with four high-level attributes of leading Workload Automation solutions.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Top-level business objectives include <b>growth in profitability / margin</b> , and <b>increased customer service</b> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	In support of the top-level business objectives, the leading drivers for technology investments include <b>reducing cost</b> , <b>driving growth</b> , and <b>improving collaboration</b> , both internally and with external business partners.
<input type="checkbox"/>	In response to these drivers for technology investment, the organization's technology strategies are aimed at <b>streamlining and accelerating business processes</b> , and <b>providing visibility into business processes</b> throughout the retail value chain.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The existing <b>technology infrastructure has grown increasingly complex</b> , and includes a <b>diverse mix of platforms</b> (e.g., mainframes, distributed systems, private clouds, and public clouds), <b>databases</b> , and <b>applications</b> (e.g., ERP, Warehouse Management, and any of dozens of other enterprise software installations).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Traditional approaches to <i>batch processing</i> , <i>job scheduling</i> , and <i>file movements</i> across the diverse enterprise application portfolio tend to be <b>siload</b> , and <b>predominantly manual</b> .
Given the above business context and technical context, key enterprise technology capabilities that the retail sector is looking for include the following attributes of leading Workload Automation solutions:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Simpler, faster integration of workloads and data</b> , across a diverse portfolio of enterprise-class applications and IT infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>More reliable application delivery and performance</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Improved enterprise-wide visibility</b> , for all stakeholders (e.g., internal business users, external partners) and collaborators (e.g., developers, operations staff, schedulers) of key business processes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Effective automation</b> , which contributes to <i>lower total cost of administration</i> ; <i>reduced human error</i> (particularly in comparison to manual methods); and <i>lower risk of unplanned downtime and business process disruptions</i>

Read the full report: [How Retail Profits from Workload Automation](#), March 2017