



NEWS RELEASE



NTT DATA
Trusted Global Innovator

September 27, 2018

Business Alliance with AI inside Inc. and Unified Work Efficiency Improvement with RPA and OCR

—Adding AI-OCR Solutions to Eliminate Burden of Completing Handwritten Applications Forms and Automating Business Processes with RPA—

NTT DATA Corporation

NTT DATA Corporation (NTT DATA) has, on September 26, 2018, reached an agreement with AI inside Inc. (AI inside), a leading company in the AI-OCR^{*1} solutions industry, to form a business alliance and engage in joint development of AI solutions.

The DX Suite platform provided by AI inside is an AI-OCR solution platform that sorts and digitizes large amounts of paper documents with high accuracy and supports streamlining of business processes. NTT DATA will start the deployment of services as the only business partner that can provide DX Suite both as on-premises and cloud-type platforms. The addition of DX Suite allows NTT DATA to provide a unified solution that can cover everything from scanning documents to digitizing data with OCR, performing business processes with RPA, and using multiple RPA management and control tools. This enables unified automation of PC tasks that handle handwritten application forms, which is in high demand from many clients in financial and public sectors.

NTT DATA will, along with more than 200 WinActor business partners, further deploy RPA solutions enhanced with the addition of DX Suite in Japan and overseas, and aim for total sales of 20 billion yen by the end of FY 2020.

Background

Businesses are accelerating the automation of PC tasks with RPA as part of their initiatives of transforming the way we work, but issues still remain on what to do with handwritten documents that cannot be automated with only RPA tools.

Until now, conventional OCR tools were able to automatically digitize OCR forms that have fixed-pitch boxes for each character, but not non-OCR forms (with no separate boxes for each character). However, AI technology advances in recent years have led to the creation of enhanced OCR technology that can recognize non-fixed-pitch handwritten characters, and there are high expectations of automating business processes that were not possible in the past.

To meet automation needs that exist in industries that handle documents with handwritten characters, NTT DATA has conducted comparisons of AI-OCR vendor technologies and examined the optimal AI-OCR solutions that can be provided in conjunction with WinActor. And now, NTT DATA came to the conclusion to use AI inside's DX Suite that features approximately 98% accuracy in handwritten character recognition^{*2}, and to deploy it as part of our RPA solutions.

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Figure 1. Examples of OCR Results in DX Suite

Summary

As a business partner of AI inside that provides DX Suite, an AI-OCR solution platform, NTT DATA will, along with 200 business partners that deliver WinActor, deploy DX Suite as a solution that can enhance the capabilities of RPA. DX Suite is fundamentally a cloud solution, but NTT DATA will act as the only business partner that can provide the solution as both on-premises and cloud-type, to meet the needs of financial and public organizations that are particularly concerned with security. On-premises type platforms are expected to become available this year.

AI inside, on the other hand, will introduce WinActor/WinDirector, the most highly-appraised RPA tools in Japan, to their DX Suite users as a business partner of NTT DATA.

About DX Suite

The DX Suite platform is an AI-OCR solution platform that can sort and digitize large amounts of paper documents with high accuracy and support efforts in streamlining business processes. It consists of three features shown below and requires no special calibration or prior learning by users. Currently, DX Suite is the standard product in the AI-OCR industry, with active users numbering 152 companies*3.

- Neural X (Intelligent OCR): For digitizing handwritten characters with high accuracy of approximately 98% (when using NTT DATA's sample forms). With its Auto Learning feature that uses advanced reasoning and auto-learning algorithms, the tool becomes smarter the more you use it.
- Elastic Sorter: For efficiently sorting documents with AI. It also supports seamless integration with intelligent OCR and RPA.
- Management Console: For central management of permissions and access levels. The permissions management allows you to make sure business is executed legitimately and implement measures against identified risks. Users can also set detailed access levels.

Fees

DX Suite (Cloud version): The account issuance fee is 1,500,000 yen, maintenance fee is 1,000 yen/ID (user)/month, and pay-as-you-go fees start from 100,000 yen/month*4.

The sales prices for DX Suite (Hybrid version) and DX Suite (On-Premises version) are estimated on a case-by-case basis.

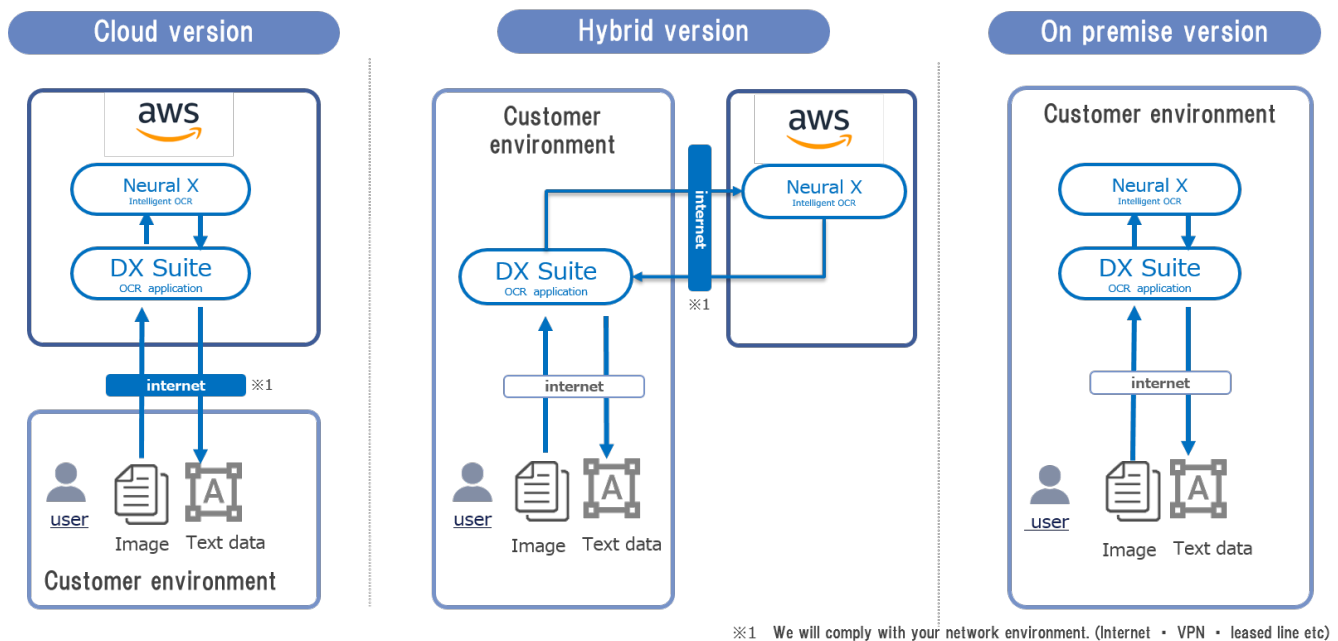


Figure 2. How DX Suite is Provided

Deployment of Solutions

The addition of DX Suite to NTT DATA's product line completes the solution that covers all business processes, including the KodakAlaris OCR scanner^{*5}, Prefixfort-OCR suitable for use with OCR forms^{*6}, DX Suite suitable for use with non-OCR forms, WinActor for automating routine tasks, and WinDirector for managing and controlling these tools. These tools allow users to conduct unified automation of business processes, including paper and digital documents.

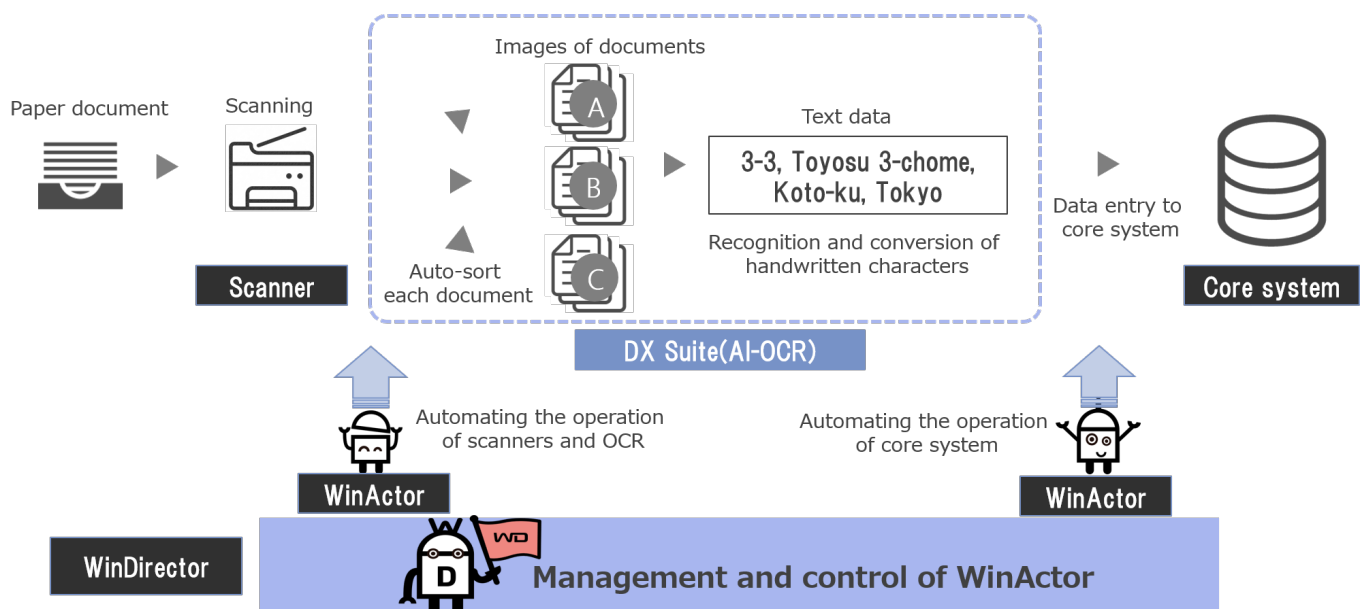


Figure 3. Integration with RPA

Future Plans

NTT DATA will, along with more than 200 WinActor business partners, contribute to initiatives of transforming the way white-collar workers work by further deploying RPA solutions enhanced with the addition of DX Suite, an AI-OCR, in Japan and overseas, and aim for total sales of 20 billion yen by the end of FY 2020.

- *1 AI-OCR is a solution that uses AI (artificial intelligence) to perform character recognition.
- *2 Based on OCR test results using NTT DATA's sample forms.
- *3 As of August 30, 2018.
- *4 1.0 yen for each item and 0.1 yen for blank items (with no value to be read with OCR).
- *5 KodakAlaris's OCR scanner is a high-precision scanner that can scan with image quality suitable for OCR.
- *6 OCR forms are forms with boxes laid out for filling in characters.

*All company, product, and other names used in this document are registered trademarks of their respective companies.

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