# **Kroger Gains Super Marketing Ability with Workfront**

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# Adobe Summit





2,700 stores420,000 employees20+ banners

About our Marketing Operations journey:

- Started in 2018
- Workfront is the foundational element of transformation because bring the work together was required for scale
- Engaged Zee Jay to support process and tech deployment
- Started simple with intake processes to capture the work and now moving into the heart of personalization at scale with automations that create content on the fly using connections to vital pieces of the Martech stack.

# 7 ZEEJAY DIGITAL



SPECIALIZED Adobe Workfron



2x Workfront Partner of the Year
1 of 4 Specialized Partners Globally
100s Implementations
1000s Integrations

- Founded in 2017 to be premier marketing operations advisor to CMOs
- Starting in 2018, increasingly aligned with Workfront, and now Adobe
- Now, the go-to partner for marketing operations transformation









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# 7 ZEEJAY DIGITAL

**Eric Rotkow**Erotkow@ZeeJayDigital.com

- Marketing Operations & Technology Manager
- Manage technology investments across the Martech portfolio.
- Over the course of 4 years the team has grown 166% and manages platforms across several areas from standard marketing operations with workflow management and creative optimization to media and data management across performance and lifecycle channels.
- Cincinnati, Ohio

- Managing Director
- Agency and MarTech background
- Lead transformation and key client relationship
- Providence, Rhode Island



# **Work Management Context WX in Grocery** Work Experience 85% Improved work experience translates to better business outcomes

# HIGH PERFORMING ORGANIZATIONS ARE ALREADY ON PACE TO ALIGN WX AND CX

60%

Enterprises digitizing work experience, transforming employer/employee relationships

55%

Investment in work management is the #1 way cited by marketing leaders to increase productivity

# AT SCALE, WORKERS ARE GRAVITATING TO WHERE THEY HAVE THE TOOLS TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE CUSTOMER

49%

U.S. workers are likely to leave their job if technology is out-ofdate/hard-to-use 32%

U.S. workers who've left an employer whose tech was a barrier to doing good work

112% pts

The number of people who report turning down a job because tech is out of date/hard to use

110% pts

Number of workers who say doing their best work was more important than pay

**↑7% pts** 

Number of workers who applied for a job because they bear a company's employees use great tech.

#### THE OUTCOMES OF AN ALIGNED WX AND CX ARE CLEAR

30%

osts trimmed by rewiring marketing for speed collaboration, and customer focus 15%

irowth achievable not by changing what marketing does, but transforming how work is done



## The Content Supply Chain, and How Workfront Enables It

**Activate** 

& Scale



#### **OPTIMIZATION**

Access to information and data to help users work faster and smarter and get more predictable results

#### Measure & Intake & **Optimize** Strategy Ø Leadership **Brand** Λ Analytics Strategists Plan & Technology Operations **Budget** The Content **Project** Data Supply Managers Chain **Studios** Marketing Production Creatives W Legal Agency Align & Store & O **Share** Create

**Review & Approval** 

#### **CONNECTED SERVICES**

Connect business critical applications to boost productivity and achieve measurable business outcomes

#### **EXECUTION, DELIVERY &** COLLABORATION

**VISION & STRATEGY** 

Learn from, plan, prioritize,

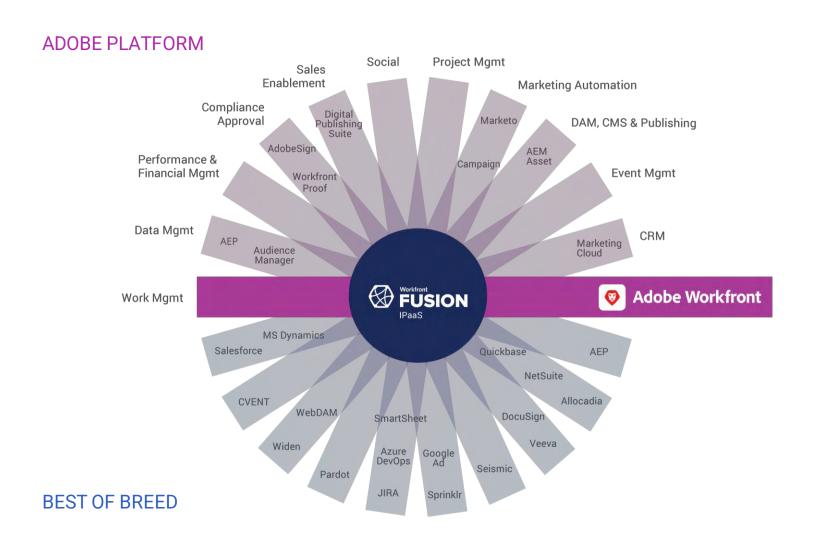
and iterate your work

Connect, collaborate, deploy, measure and report on progress to finish work faster

#### **Common Baseline Use of Workfront**



## How we think about work management technology...



Work management as the center of gravity, or chassis, for work.

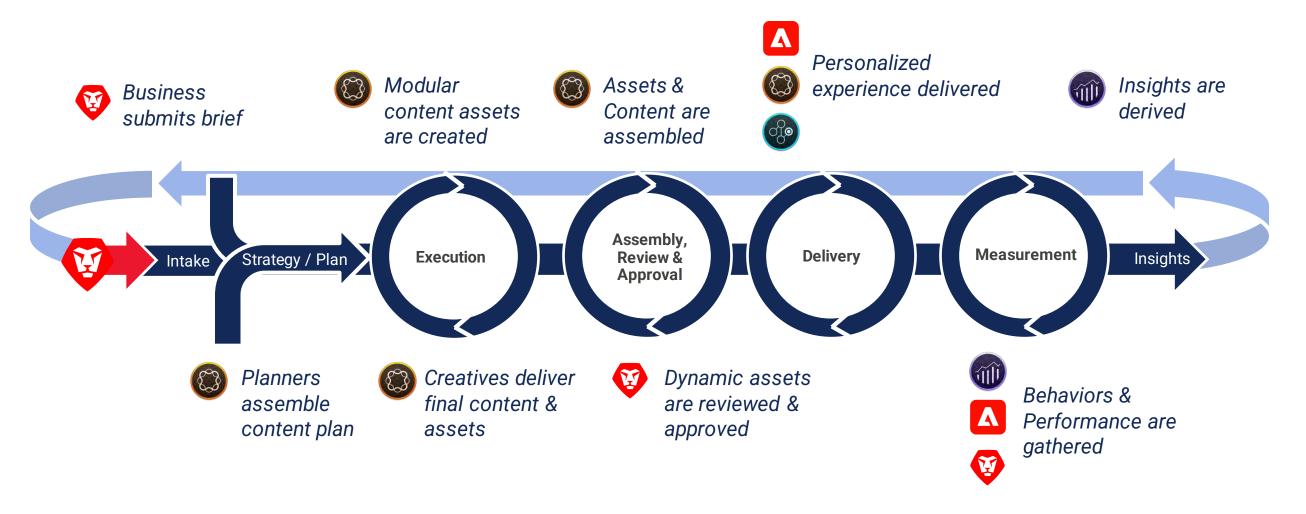
Highly configurable, malleable for diverse teams within an enterprise.

Architected for ease of integration...

... For a seamless Adobe platform experience...

... Extended with other best of breed solutions.

## **Dynamic Content / Review and Approval**







2018 Executive-driven transformation initiative – Content at Scale



## **Roadmap Focus**

## STAND UP FOUNDATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

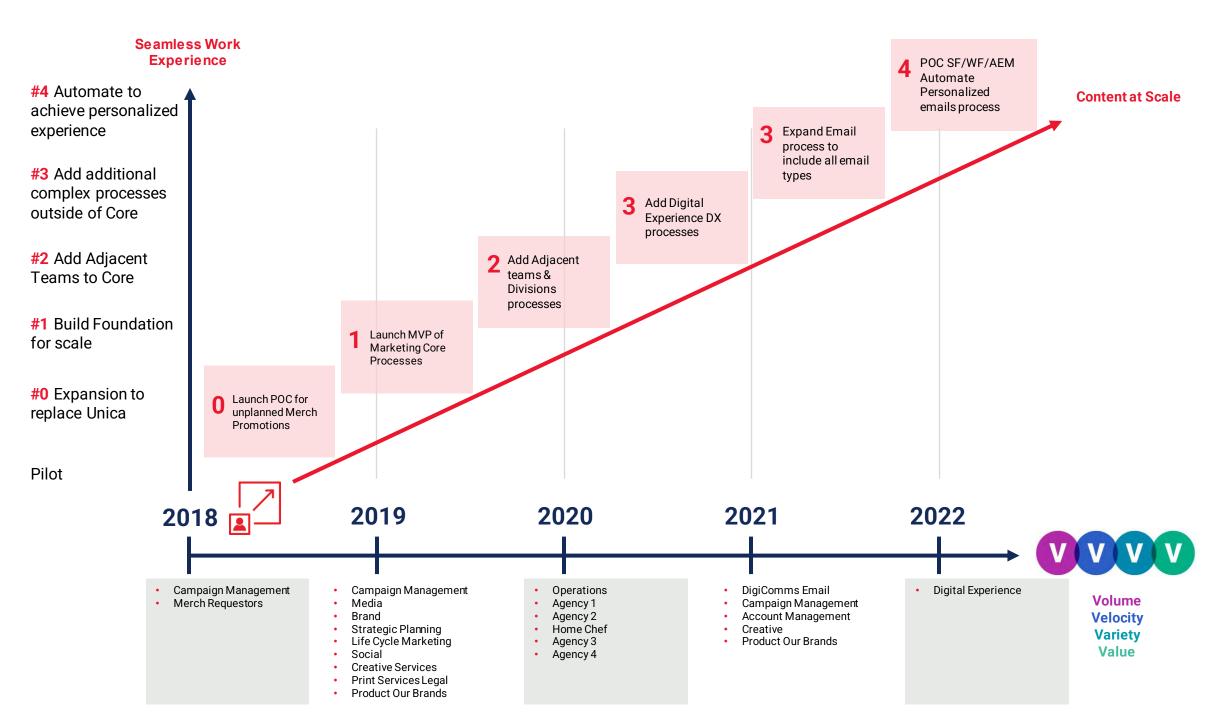
(Build Process)

#### **AUTOMATIONS**

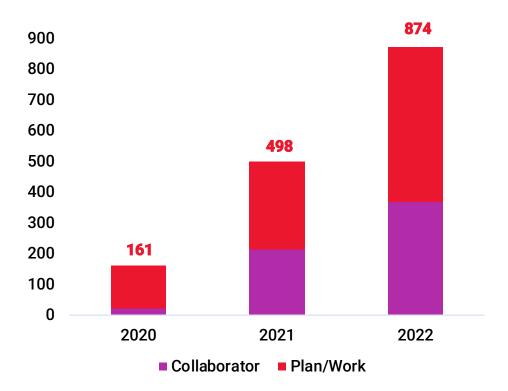
(Build Efficiency)

# REAL-TIME OPTIMIZATIONS / OUTPUTS

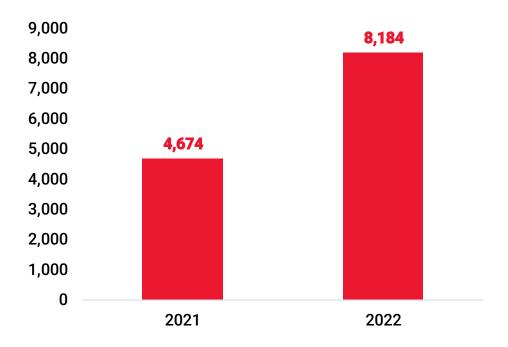
(Content at Scale)



#### # of Users By License Type



#### # of Completed Projects









# Why Kroger Selected Workfront: FLEXIBILITY

With a multitude of self-governing teams and processes we knew the system of choice would need to be able to withstand many angles of the process...

...and be updated easily without dev resources.

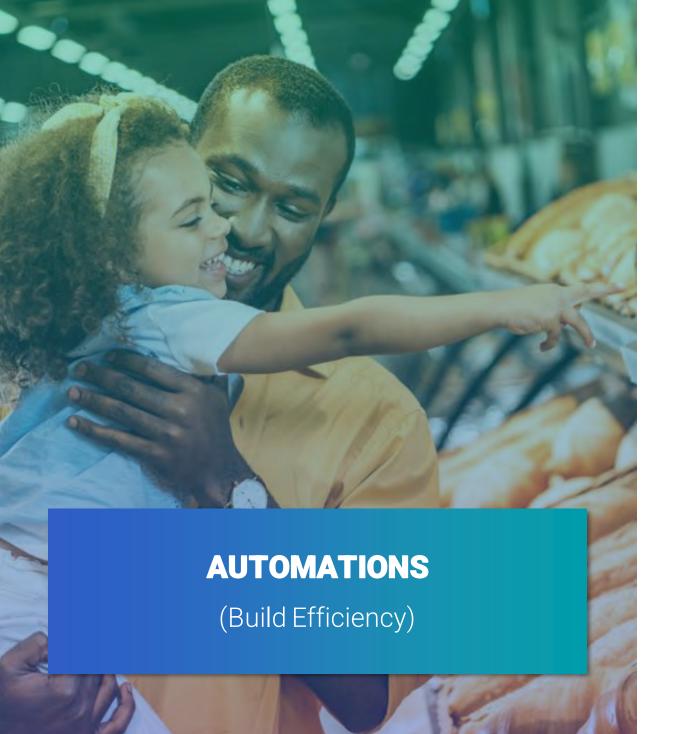
30 distinct Kroger teams working in Workfront today with more teams collaborating using updates more than 88,000 times.

Reporting across teams

Teams may work independently, yet in a single platform

Teams may self-govern, but with universal reporting

Teams may connect where business process dictates



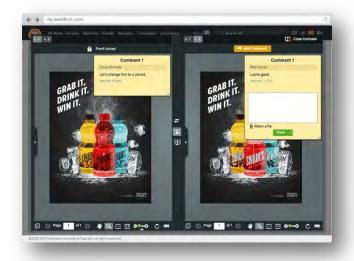


# Why Kroger Selected Workfront: PROOFING

Our largest area of opportunity was streamlining creative approvals.

In 2022 Kroger proofed 48,170 deliverables.

Workfront, by far, had the most impressive and flexible proofing capability.

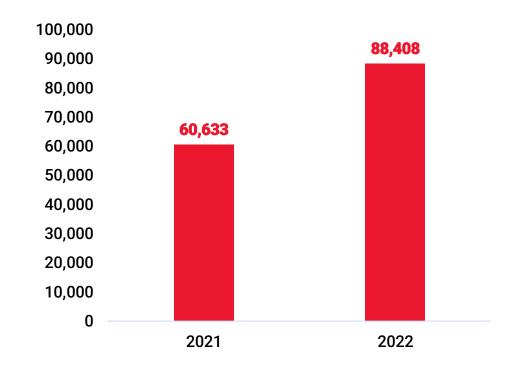


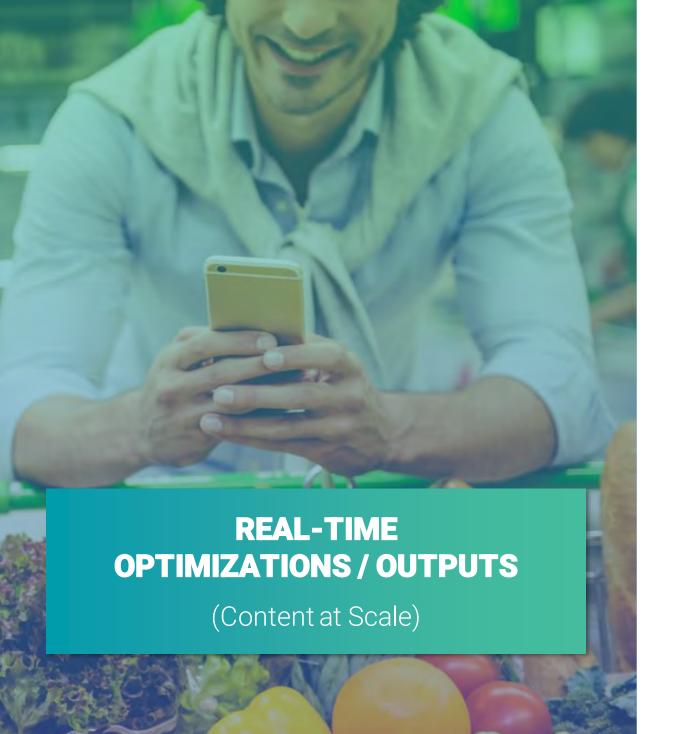


#### # of Proofs

# 60,000 50,000 40,000 33,401 30,000 10,000 2021 2022

#### # of Comments (Collaboration)







# Why Kroger Selected Workfront: INTEGRATIONS

The north star wasn't to create a workflow tool for just creative output but to build a work destination that interwove all systems that touched the process from point "A" to "Z."

**5** integrations to Kroger apps

7 integrations to 3<sup>rd</sup> party apps

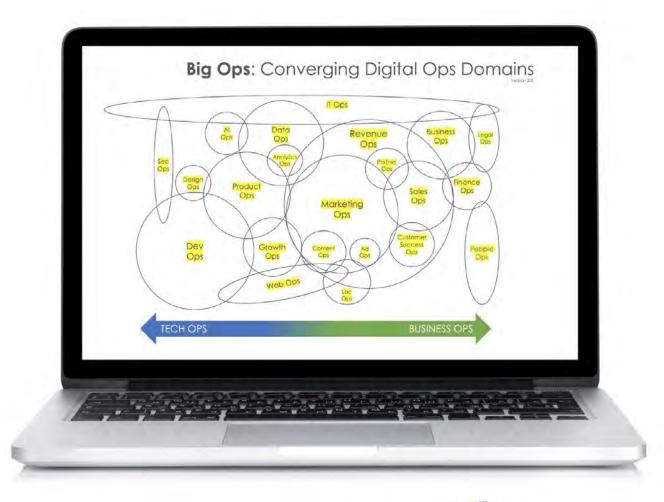
**40+** integration scenarios

5 integrations planned in 2023



# Operational areas are converging, as technology and data permeate the organization





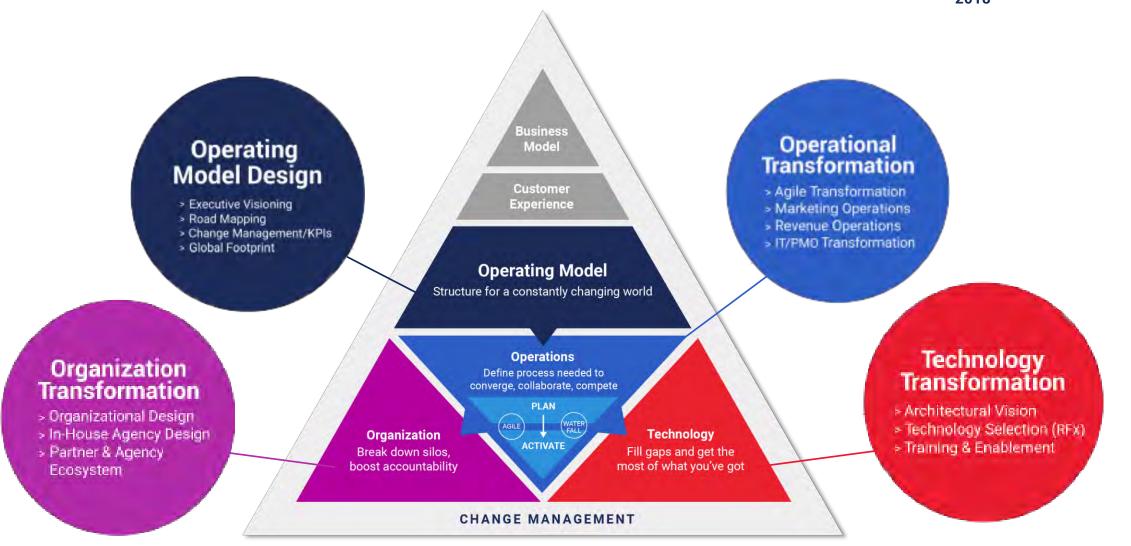
You may be asking:

- Where to begin?
- What does "process-first" really mean?
- What does a high-quality user experience really mean?
- What technology is more core to our stack than others?
- Principals for substantive change in 2023, after all we have leaned about marketing workflow in last 30 years?

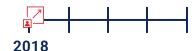


#### **How We Think**





#### Methodology



Immersion

2

Future State (future vision)

3

Change Planning 4

Build Core Operations Platform 5

**Deploy Change** 

1 Assess

- Market
- Current state
- Leadership intent

2.1 Operating Model

2.2 Tech Solution

3.1 Roadmap

3.2 Change Management

**4 Core Elements** 

- Hierarchy
- Attributes
- User access & security
- Master data
- Reporting

**5 Deploy** 

- Pods
- Teams

Change Assurance is measurable and sustainable. It ensures increased speed to adoption, and productivity throughout complex enterprise transformations. 3.2.1 Planning & Tracking

- Impact & Risk
- Strategy & Workplan
- Readiness & Implementation

3.2.2 Engagement

- Stakeholder Assessment
- Resistance Management
- Manage Stakeholders

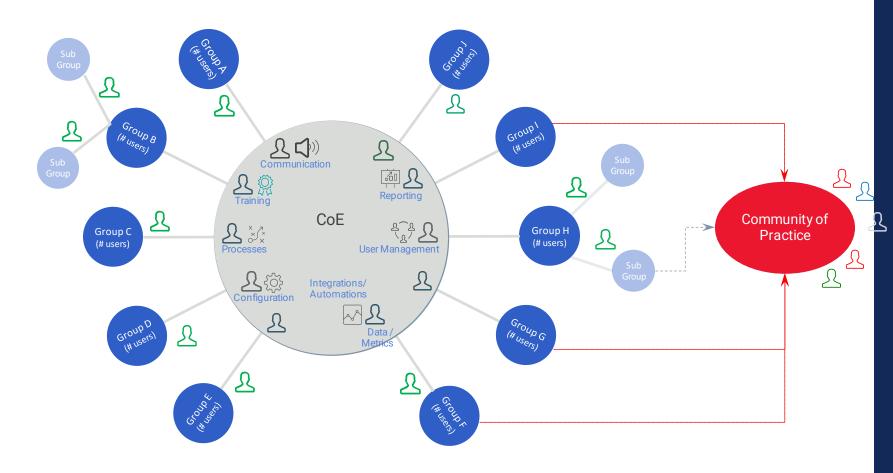
3.2.3 End-User Training

- Approach
- Plan, Agenda, Materials
- · Delivery, Support & Coaching

**3.2.4 Organizational Alignment** 

- Process Concepts
- Role Definition
- User Mapping

#### **Enterprise Governance**



#### Governance/Oversight

- Change Management
- Framework
- Administration
- Enterprise expansion

#### SYSTEM ADMIN

∫ GROUP ADMIN

Cross Training

- Functional Experts
- COE Participants
- Team Member Point of Contact

#### **Subject Matter Experts**

- SUBJECT MATTER SORJEC SORPE
- Lunch & Learn
- Peer-to-peer
- Champions
- **Share Good Practices**

**Community of Practice** 

#### APPLICABLE TEAM

**MEMBERS** 

#### As teams roll into common platform, manage tradeoff between central standards and group flexibility

#### CoE/Central Standards

#### Have authority over:

- Default Project, Task and Issue Preferences
- Milestone Paths
- Companies, Groups, Teams, and Job Roles
- Expense and Risk Types
- Access Levels
- System Wide Filters, Views, Groupings
- System Wide Integrations (SharePoint, Box, etc.)
- · Email Notifications and Reminders
- Platform Branding
- Import/Export System Wide Data through "Kick-Starts"
- Audit Logs

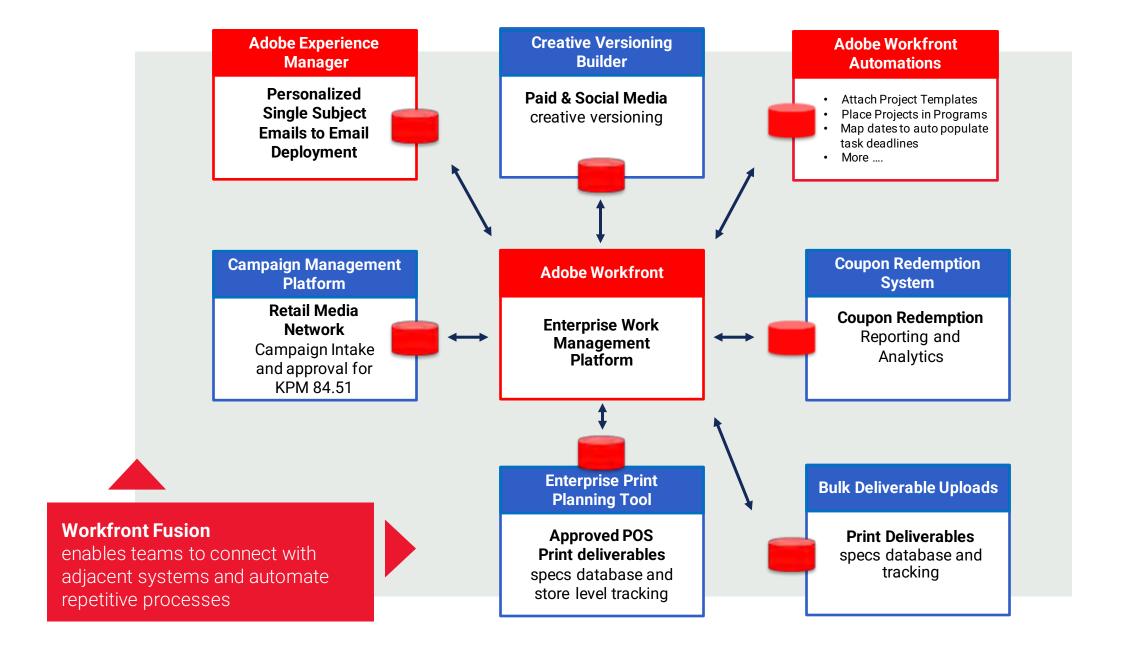
#### Group flexibility

#### For all associated groups have authority over:

- Group Project, Task and Issue Preferences
- Process definition and templates
- Custom Forms and elements
- · Subgroup administration
- · Group team member management
- Approval management
- · User Interface definition
- · Status management
- · Schedule management



## **Kroger's Connected Marketing Operations Stack**



# Use Case 1 (of 4) Digital Asset Management



**Business Problem:** Teams across org and their vendors without ability to store, send and notify final creative assets in central repository.

**Kroger Solution:** Final Brand Assets are sent from Workfront to DAM.

**Deployed:** January 2020

## Workfront

User places final approval creative content in Workfront project folder.



## **Fusion**

Fusion listens for creative content in folder and triggers the actions to move to DAM.



#### DAM

Final creative content is placed in sister folder in DAM

Fusion triggers Workfront to notify user that final files are received by DAM.

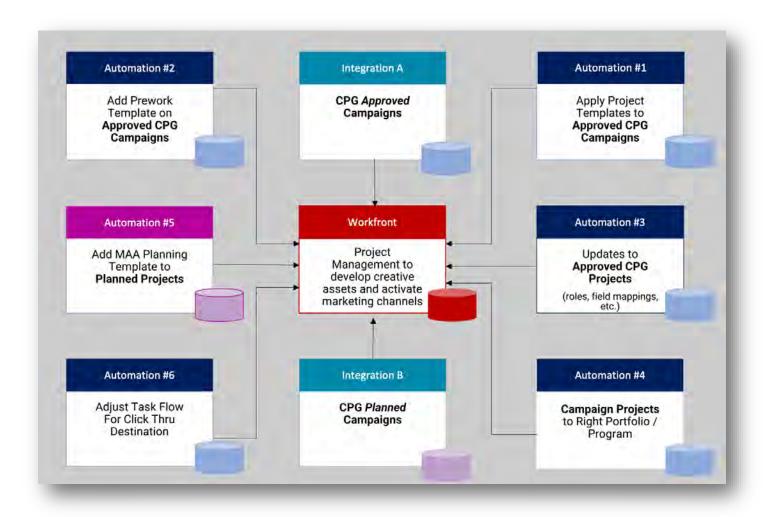
# Use Case 2 (of 4) Retail Media Network

2021

Business Problem: Given the increasing volume of Kroger's media network, how to automatically create CPG projects in Workfront using inputs from campaign/targeting platforms, thus allowing Campaign Managers to transition from manually tracking campaign timelines in Excel (improving efficiency and transparency)

Kroger Solution: Integrate Kroger's Workfront instance with 84.51's campaign and targeting platforms and automate project creation/set up using fusion

**Deployed:** September 2021



# Use Case 3 (of 4) Celtra Integration



**Business Problem:** How to reduce Creative Services team's manual work by integrating Celtra creative management platform (creative versioning and sizing tool) with Workfront

**Kroger Solution:** Integrate Celtra with Workfront

**Deployed:** September 2022

#### Workfront

User creates a Paid Media/Paid Social project in Workfront



#### **Fusion/Celtra**

Fusion watches for Paid Media/Paid Social projects and creates a sister project in Celtra



#### Fusion/Celtra & WF

When user marks "Release to Channel" task as Done in Workfront, fusion brings over final files from Celtra and places them on the Workfront project

## Use Case 4 (of 4)

## Personalized Email, w/ Workfront + Adobe Experience Manager



**Business Problem:** Streamline Email creation process and create capability to develop personalized emails.

**Kroger Solution:** Pilot the creation of personalized single subject email end to end from intake, to execution and personalization through deployment. Including, existing Workfront process to incorporate manual process for metadata and links.

**Deployed:** In Progress

#### Workfront

Manage the intake and collection of attributes and data variables, and approval of emails.



#### **AEM**

Serves up personalized imagery based on attributes and variable data



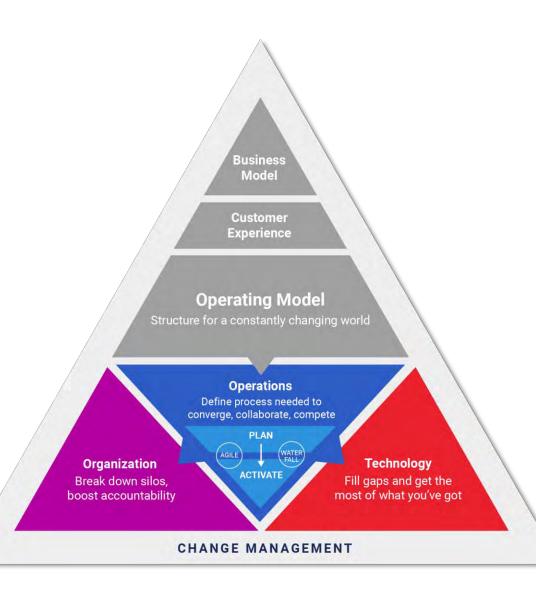
# **Email Deployment Platform**

Sends personalized email to Kroger customer.





## Imperatives – critical to success



#### **ORGANIZATION**

- · Commit to creating positive emotions about the change
- Create the WHY Impact, vision, purpose
- · Include every area impacted but...
- Decide how much influence people have on the strategy

#### **OPERATIONS**

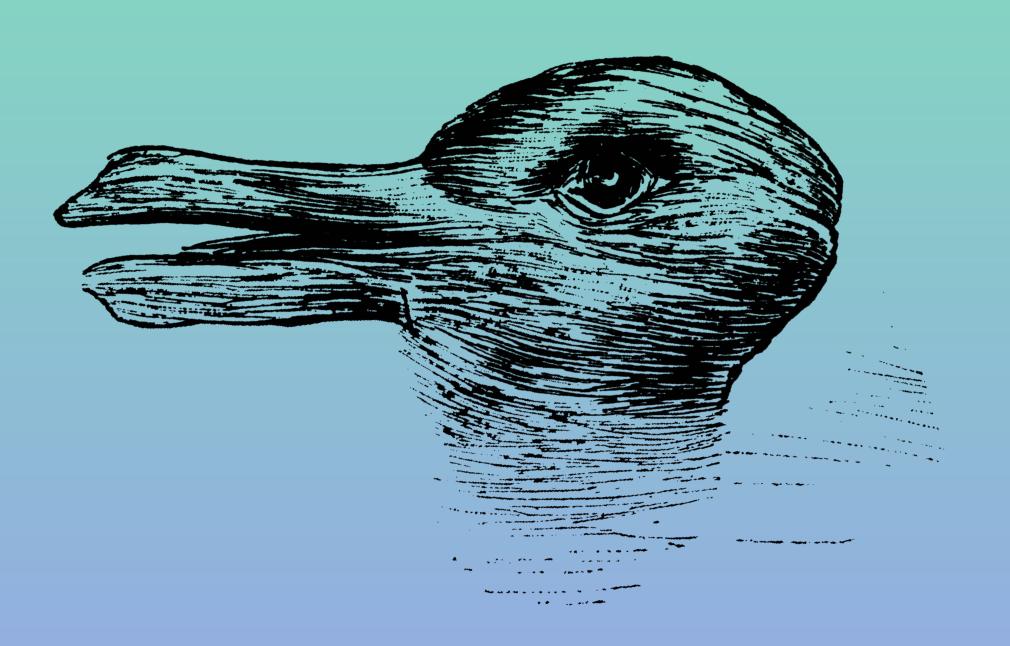
- Document the process as-is, determine how close the technology can meet your users
- Compassionate action will determine your project success
  - ✓ Inject your users voice into the design "I hear you" to "I got you and I am going to do something about it"

#### **TECHNOLOGY**

- · Chose to ease-in where you can and meet them where they are
- Integrations are on not optional
- · Ongoing care and integrations are not optional

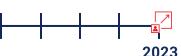
#### **CHANGE MANAGEMENT**

- · Change is perpetual. Plan for it. Staff for it.
- Get outside expertise
- Maintain executive support by checking in on sentiment
- Create a platform where users have a voice
- Create a plan so that people feel like this change is for them and not happening to them
  - ✓ Surveys, 1:1s, Change Champions



#### What's Next:





# **Enhancements & Automations**

- Adobe Workfront native integrations Jira & SharePoint
- AEM integrations
- Advanced notifications for Fusion connected enterprise print planning solution
- Optimize existing Fusion automations date automations and deleting redundant tasks

#### Operational Team Improvements

- Quarterly release cadence
- Expand core functionality, including resource planning
- Enhance existing workflows, including Email DigiComms, Digital Experience, Media
- Further customize team dashboards and reporting

# Adoption, Training & Maintenance

- Continued adoption activities
- Continued end user training, for current functionality and quarterly enhancements
- Enhancement resulting for organizational changes
- Data hygiene

# Q&A



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