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IDP in the age of GenAI:

How generative AI is transforming document processing

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Introduction

The arrival of generative AI has triggered disruption and innovation that has transcended traditional boundaries and spread across sectors in a very short span. Investment in AI research is expected to cross the $500 billion mark next year. The figure stood at $394 billion in Nov 2025. 1 Still, it remains to be seen whether GenAI will completely transform how people live and work or if it'll be another technology that promises revolution but delivers only incremental improvement.

Even so, things haven't been the same since the fateful day of November 30, 2022, when ChatGPT was publicly released. GenAI continues to find use cases as the adoption rate increases and billions are poured into the cutting edge of AI research.

"Generative AI is the single most important change in the long history of IDP. For the first time, a computer can classify documents and extract data without human intervention, training samples, or prior knowledge. In AI terms this is known as **zero-shot learning**; in other words, the document is recognized with no prior encounter or training."

- Dan Lucarini, senior analyst at Deep Analysis and noted IDP market expert.

One such use case is Intelligent Document Processing (IDP), one of the technologies where GenAI has the potential to wholly transform and redefine what it means to process documents intelligently.

IDP is already familiar with rule-based systems and basic ML, but GenAI and LLMs are transforming how documents are processed and understood. GenAI-powered IDP is improving accuracy, speeding up workflows, and automating complex tasks with unprecedented precision.

In 2026, Docspire looks at the current state of GenAI, why the business case for GenAI-powered IDP is strong, and takeaways from GenAI incorporation in IDP. We'll also examine how Docspire is leveraging AI for IDP.

What is Generative AI?

An area of AI that specifically refers to artificial intelligence that can respond to a query with text, images, video, and other assets.

Generative AI systems can interact with humans and are often built using large language models (LLMs). It's also referred to as "GenAI."

The state of GenAI in 2026: Moving from promise to performance

In 2026, the discourse around GenAI has moved from unbridled enthusiasm to an in-depth evaluation of its impact on business outcomes. That is not to say that the enthusiasm has waned, but with the amounts invested in GenAI over the last two years, the focus is now shifting towards measuring value, developing tailored solutions, and ensuring readiness for organization-wide adoption.

With that said, we're looking at the five biggest GenAI developments of 2026:

What is Intelligent Document Processing (IDP)?

A technology-driven approach that automates document processing and information extraction.

IDP encompasses a broad set of capabilities, combining Optical Character Recognition (OCR), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Natural Language Processing (NLP), and Machine Learning (ML) algorithms to process documents.

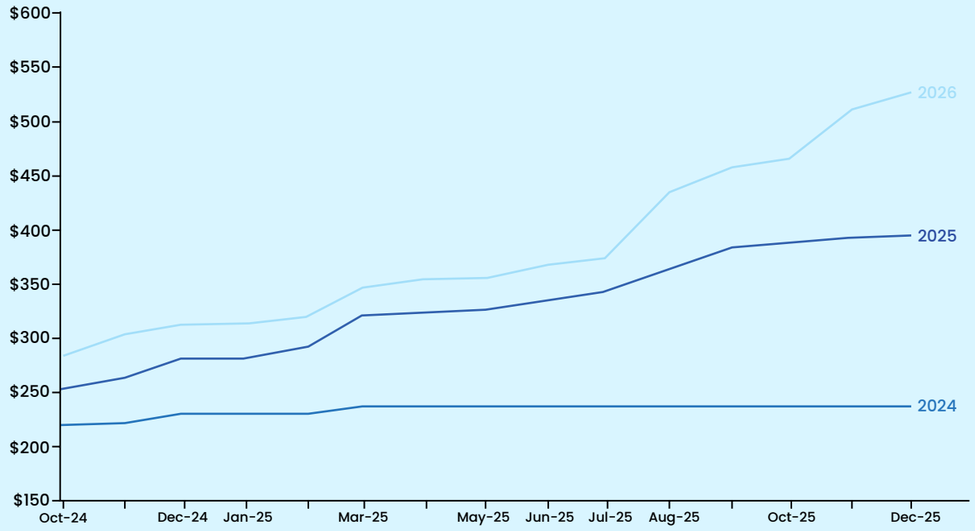
1. Investment in GenAI skyrockets.

Global venture capital investment in generative AI surged to $49.2 billion in just the first half of 2025 2. The focus shifted decisively toward mature, revenue-generating AI companies, with average deal sizes tripling as investors concentrated on established players.

Major investments from SoftBank, Microsoft, and others into companies like OpenAI, xAI, and Anthropic signaled confidence in generative AI's long-term potential, while emerging areas like Agentic AI—, systems that can perceive, decide and act autonomously—, gained significant traction.

Capex estimates for 2026 have been revised higher

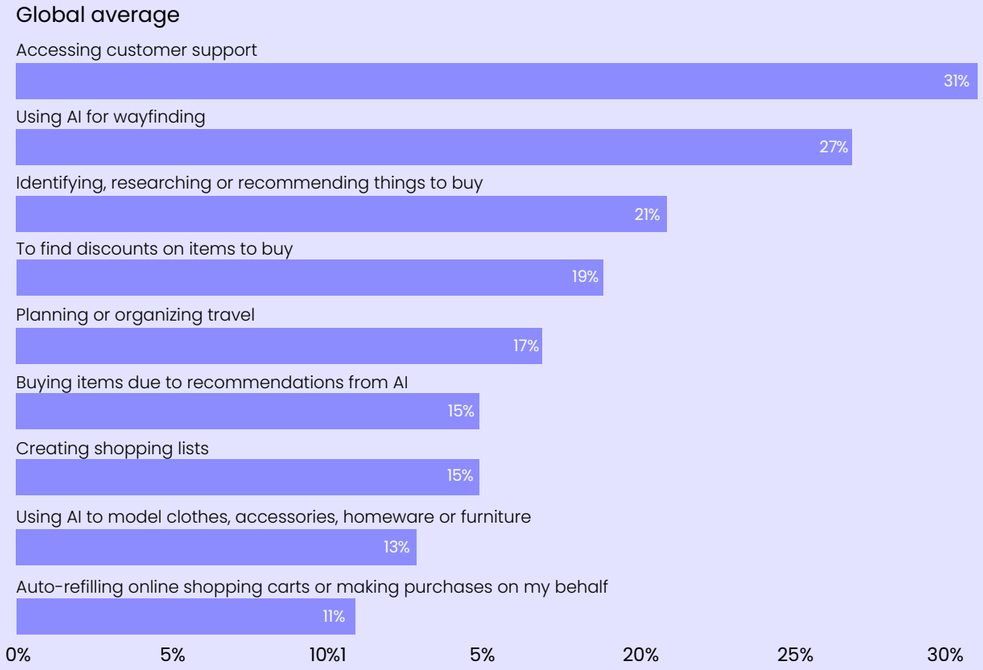
Consensus capex estimates for AI hyperscalers (billions)



2. GenAI adoption is on the rise.

GenAI adoption surged in 2025 as organizations moved beyond experimentation to scaled implementation across diverse sectors. 82% of people globally have consciously used AI in the last six months, with 67% using it as part of their customer experience.

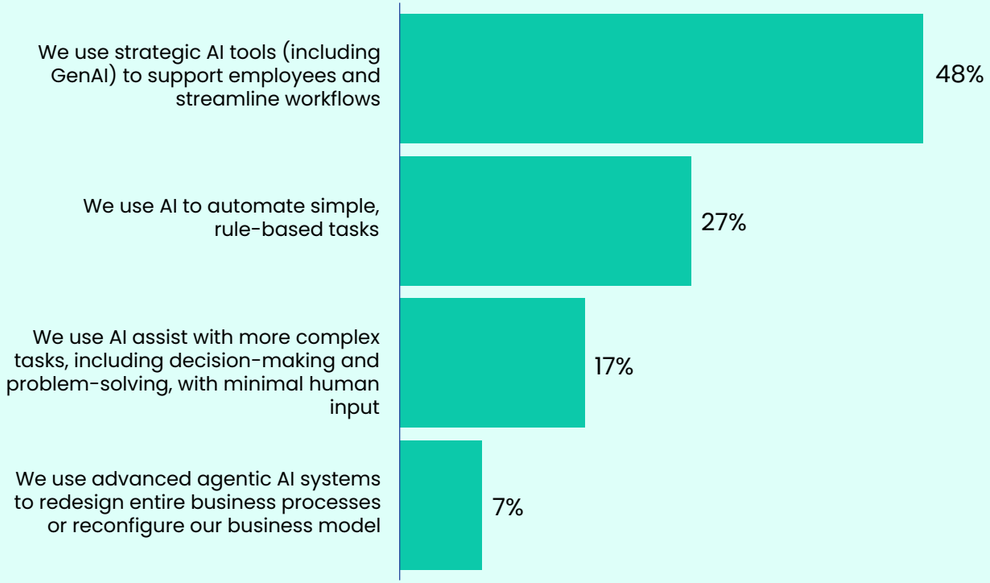
This widespread consumer adoption is matched by enterprise confidence—76% of retail CEOs are confident in their ability to deploy AI solutions that will deliver tangible return on investment. The technology has rapidly evolved from pilot programs to becoming integral to operations, particularly in retail where AI now powers everything from hyper-personalized engagement to autonomous shopping experiences, fundamentally transforming how businesses operate and customers interact with brands.



3. Improved productivity and efficiency are the top benefits.

GenAI delivered measurable productivity gains in 2025. Workers using generative AI saved 5.4% of their work hours weekly, translating to a 1.1% productivity increase for the overall workforce.

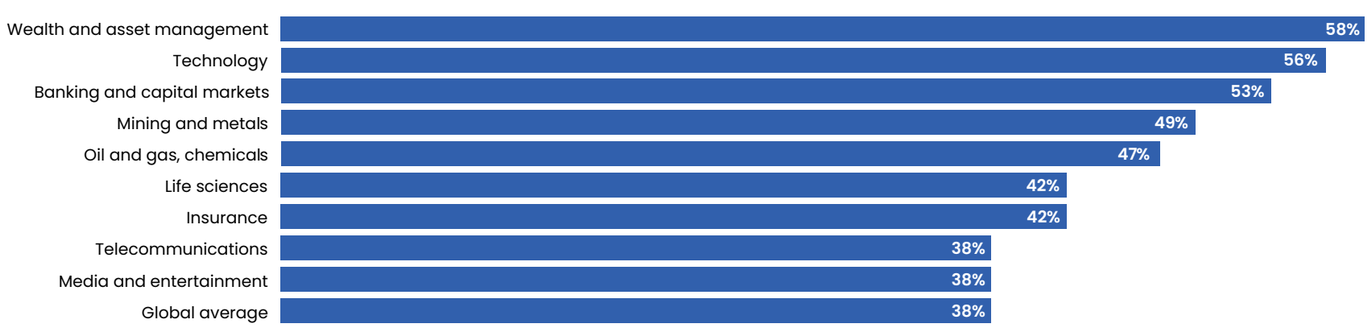
Nearly half of organizations now use AI to streamline workflows and support employees, with 91% planning to increase AI investment. Productivity improvements are immediate and measurable.



4. Scaling GenAI: Organizations think their technology is ready, but **talent isn't**.

Despite widespread adoption of AI tools in the workplace, many organizations in 2025 continue to face a significant readiness gap between technology and talent. 88% of employees now use AI at work, but usage is mainly limited to basic tasks, and only about 5% use AI in advanced ways that transform their work. At the same time, just 12% of employees receive sufficient AI training, while 37% worry that AI could erode their skills and 64% feel their workloads have increased, highlighting persistent talent and readiness challenges. As a result, many companies are missing out on up to 40% of potential productivity gains from AI due to gaps in talent strategy and integration.

Shadow AI use is significant in sectors with the fastest AI adoption rates

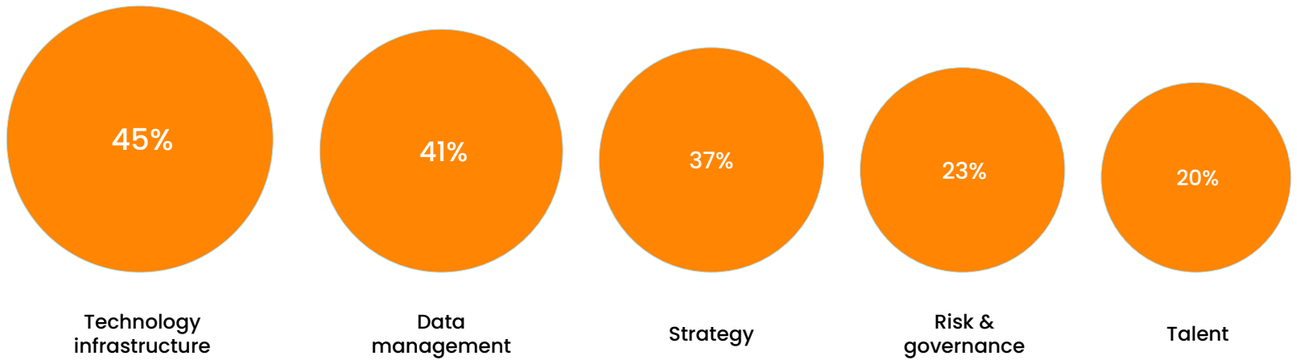


5. GenAI leads to increasing investments in data management.

Organizations recognize that robust data practices are essential for scaling AI initiatives. 86% of organizations expected to increase their data management investments in 2025, with 44% citing data readiness for GenAI as the primary driver of these investments 6; indicating that improving data quality, governance, and compliance is now a core priority tied directly to GenAI success. These efforts reflect ongoing challenges such as sensitive data handling, data privacy and security concerns, and governance requirements that must be addressed to fully operationalize GenAI at scale.

Do organizations think they are ready?

Percentage of organizations that are highly prepared for GenAI across the following areas



Source: www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/us/Documents/consulting/us-state-of-gen-ai-q3.pdf

The **Business Case** for GenAI-driven IDP Is Solid

The ideal scenario for any organization is that all its data is in digital format. But in the real world, most organizations still rely on physical documents, PDFs, and images to varying extents.

Organizations in sectors as diverse as finance, healthcare, retail, and manufacturing rely on unstructured data in a variety of formats. The complexity is further compounded by the need to share this data with other functions. In short, even within a single organization, there are tons of viable use cases for IDP.

Plus, the business case for GenAI-powered IDP is solid and delivers more immediate value than many of the other use cases. The GenAI impact has already been priced into the growth of the IDP sector. The global IDP market is projected to grow from $10.57 billion in 2025 to $66.68 billion by 2032.

Leverage AI with human oversight for better accuracy and reliability.

The combination of IDP and GenAI is generating a lot of enthusiasm, largely because of its ability to deliver immediate value.

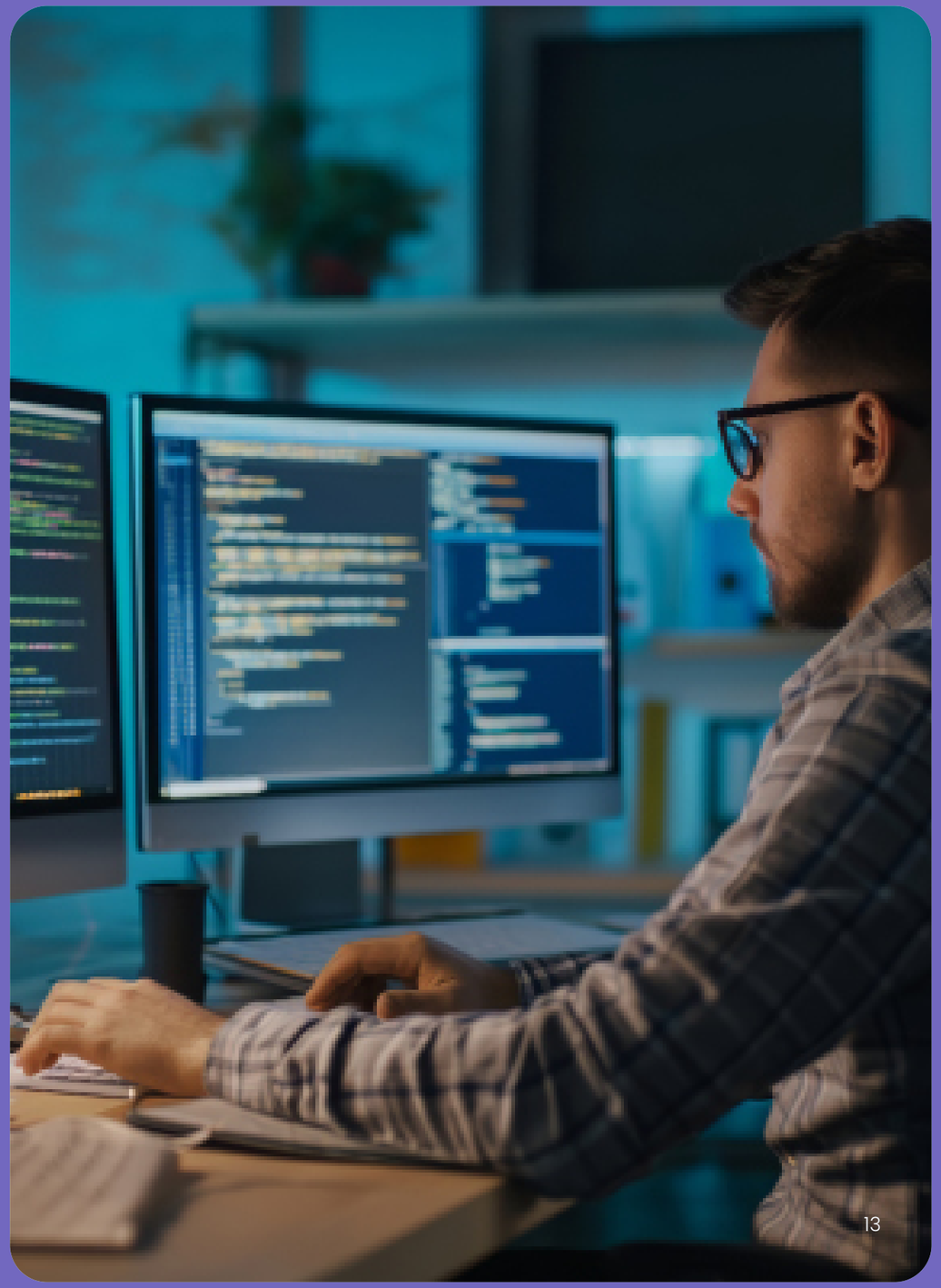
Plus, unlike other AI use cases, IDP has several built-in safeguards, serving as an ideal use case for organizations and a potential gateway to advanced AI initiatives down the line.

For instance, IDP can automate document processing tasks while still leveraging the human review process, which may be triggered by low confidence scores or validation errors. If the score drops below a defined threshold for a certain document type or a validation rule fails, a human can review it to ensure accuracy and reliability.

Blur the lines between structured and unstructured for **valuable intelligence**.

The developments in the GenAI space have opened a brand-new set of opportunities to create and manage documents and data. In fact, given how quickly GenAI is maturing, it's worth considering if any data needs to be considered unstructured at all. For instance, AI can leverage technologies like Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) to allow users to talk to their data.

This can have far-reaching implications as organizations rethink how they ingest and leverage unstructured data, allowing for it to be integrated into business intelligence and analytics in much the same way as structured data.



Understand context and intent to **serve customers better.**

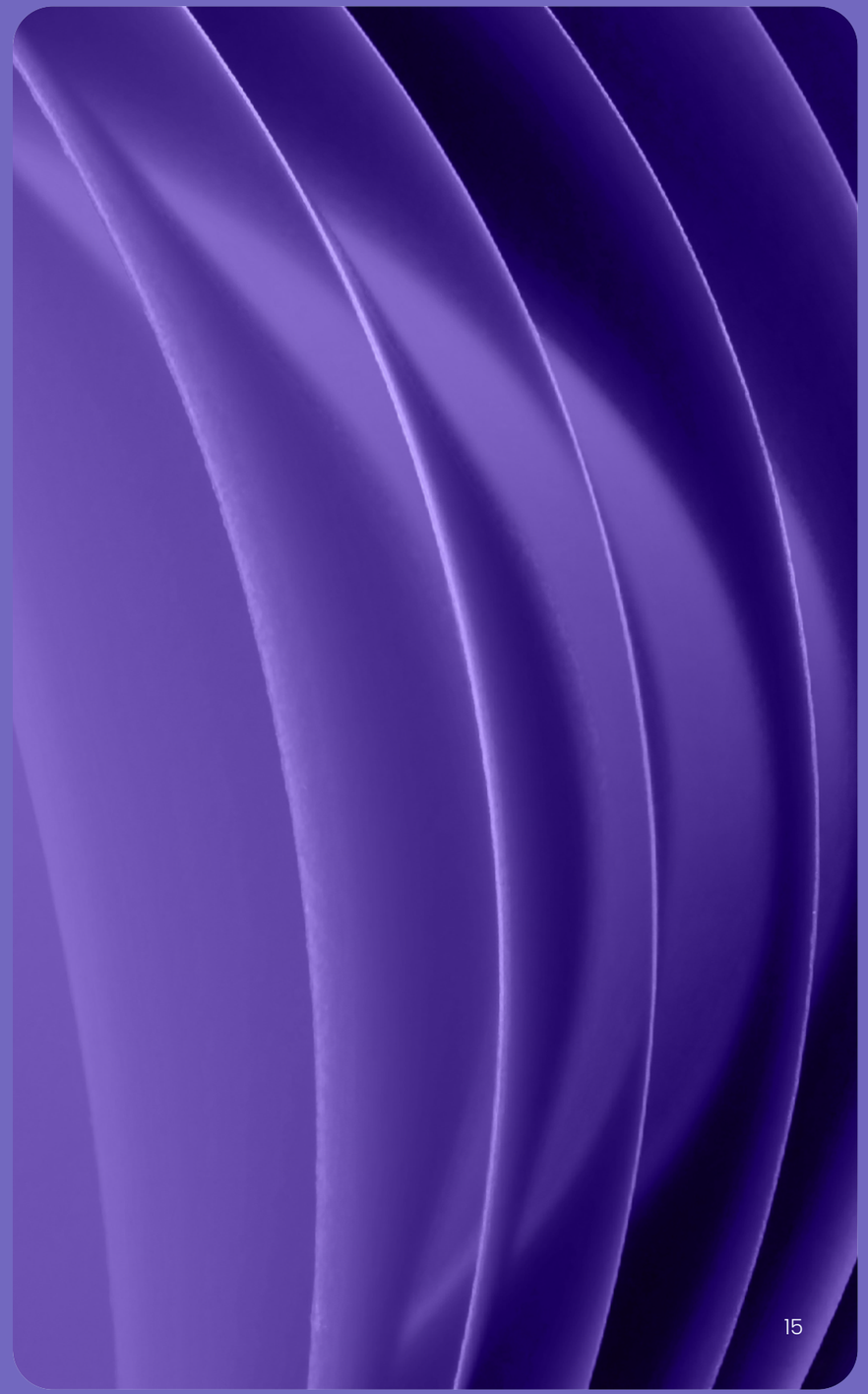
GenAI leverages large language models (LLMs) to make sense of pretty much everything we see, read, or hear. This means that many of the barriers to transformation that led to the creation of the IDP ecosystem will cease to exist. In other words, GenAI gives organizations the power to process vast amounts of data with more meaning and context.

By combining their “unstructured” data with the other aspects of the workflow and better understanding the context and intent of their data, organizations can serve customers a whole lot better while cutting costs.

Conclusion: GenAI is revolutionizing document processing

GenAI is poised to remake the document processing environment with its strengths tailormade to overcome the limitations of the existing solutions. Organizations that adopt AI-powered document processing solutions can automate workflows, improve efficiency, and leverage unstructured documents for BI and analytics the same way they do structured data.

2026 will see a shift from exploring AI's potential in IDP to delivering actual value. Self-learning AI models are ready to enhance accuracy, deliver contextual understanding, and handle even the most complex document processing tasks with ease. As GenAI technology improves, organizations can expect even greater benefits, with faster, smarter, and more reliable document processing becoming the norm.



Docspire: Truly Intelligent Document Processing Solution

Docspire is a next-generation solution built to transform how organizations handle document processing. Designed for industries such as healthcare, insurance, manufacturing, retail, finance, and government, it enables clients to process millions of documents efficiently while reducing costs, saving time, and ensuring high accuracy.

Docspire takes document processing to the next level by embedding cutting-edge AI and deterministic automation across every stage of the workflow. The solution minimizes human intervention, allowing teams to focus on strategic decisions that drive business growth.

Once workflows are set up, Docspire's GenAI-powered engine handles the rest—preparing data, extracting it with precision, validating outputs, and intelligently mapping information to the desired destinations for a seamless and reliable experience.

Experience **Docspire Intelligence** for a glimpse of the future of **AI-powered document processing.**

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