

POST-TRADE MODERNIZATION



Where leaders are focusing in 2026

Prioritizing workflow change without replacing core systems



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THE EXECUTIVE VIEW

Post-trade modernization in 2026



Executive takeaway

The challenge is no longer whether post-trade needs to change, but where intervention will materially reduce risk and operational drag.

- Post-trade risk and cost are increasingly driven by workflow fragmentation, not system gaps
- Firms making progress are modernizing around legacy platforms, rather than replacing them
- The fastest gains are coming from fixing exceptions, handoffs, and cross-system visibility
- Leaders are prioritizing targeted intervention over broad, multi-year transformation

Why post-trade is back on the leadership agenda



Post-trade priorities are being reshaped by a convergence of pressures that are increasingly difficult to defer:

- Regulatory expectations are shifting toward end-to-end lifecycle transparency
- Operational risk is amplified by distributed ownership across systems and teams
- T+1 settlement and real-time confirmation requirements are exposing workflow breaks
- Cost pressure is forcing selective, outcome-driven automation

What's changed

Incremental improvements are no longer enough. Leaders are being pushed to make clearer prioritization decisions.

The real constraint in post-trade modernization



Despite sustained investment in platforms and automation, post-trade change often slows or stalls because:

- Core systems are rarely the primary bottleneck
- Data exists, but workflows remain fragmented across tools
- Exceptions and breaks sit outside system boundaries
- Ownership breaks down when processes cross teams, regions, and technologies

Leadership reality

Most post-trade risk, delay, and manual effort re-enter the lifecycle between systems, not within them.

How leading firms are approaching post-trade change



Institutions making tangible progress are taking a different approach:

- Orchestrating post-trade workflows across existing systems
- Treating exceptions and breaks as first-class, end-to-end processes
- Preserving auditability, control, and operational oversight
- Enabling change without disrupting core settlement platforms

Observed result

Faster resolution cycles, improved transparency, and measurable reductions in manual intervention, without the risk of large-scale system replacement.

Case study: Modernizing post-trade without platform replacement

A tier-1, EU-headquartered bank with multi-asset post-trade operations across three regions faced persistent operational risk driven by fragmented exception workflows.

Context

- High-volume post-trade activity across asset classes
 - Exceptions managed across multiple systems and teams
 - Limited end-to-end visibility and auditability
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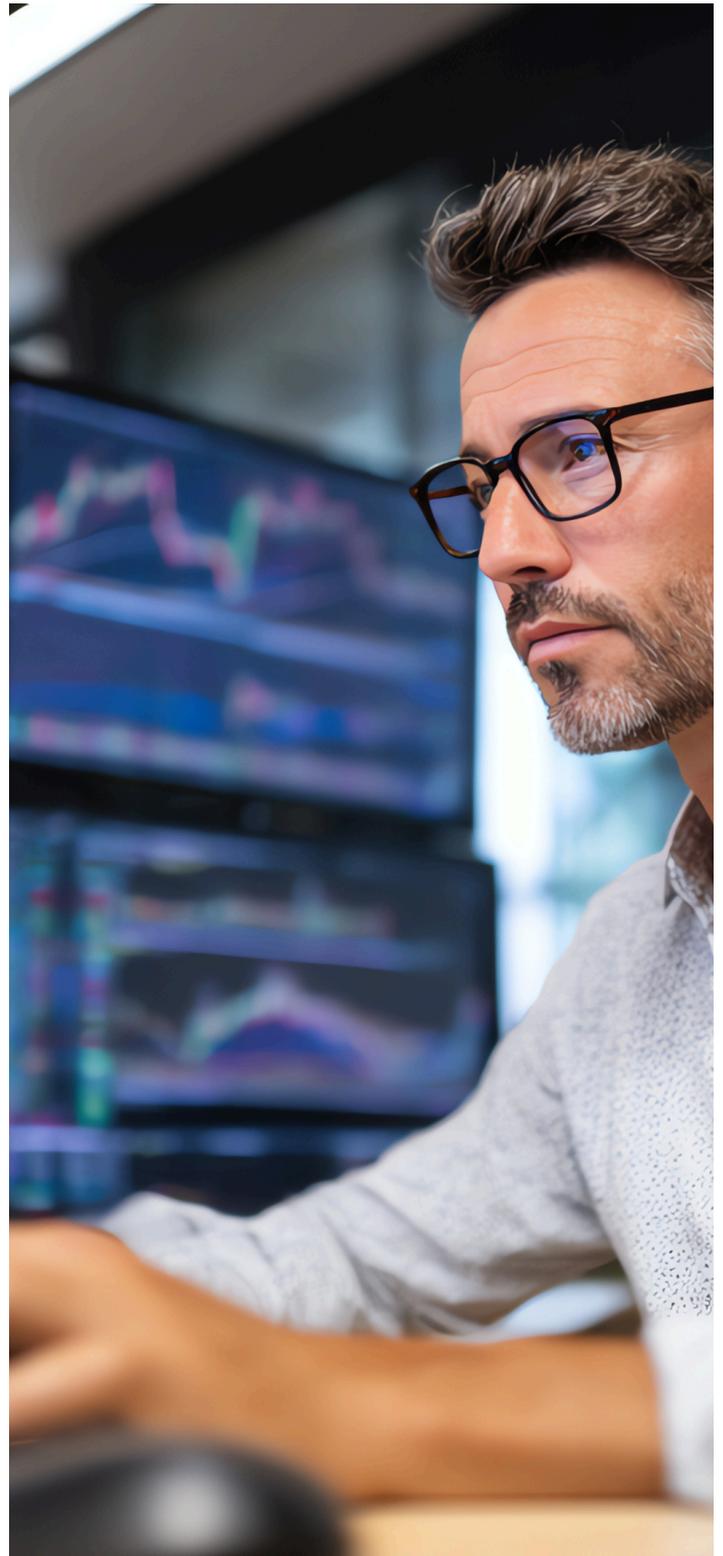
Approach

Rather than replacing core settlement platforms, the firm focused on:

- Orchestrating exception workflows across existing systems
 - Creating a unified view of breaks and reconciliations
 - Preserving full audit trails across the post-trade lifecycle
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Observed outcomes

- Reduced manual exception handling
 - Faster reconciliation and resolution cycles
 - Improved cross-team visibility and operational control
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2026 prioritization questions for post-trade leaders



Where do exceptions create the greatest operational or regulatory risk?



Which workflows cut across the most systems and teams?



Where does manual intervention materially slow resolution?



What can be improved without touching core settlement infrastructure?

Moving from insight to execution

Supporting prioritization and next steps for 2026

→ How teams are approaching this with Genesis

Genesis is used where firms need to:

- Connect post-trade workflows across existing systems
- Introduce controlled automation and AI with full auditability
- Reduce operational risk without disruptive technology changes
- Enable faster, safer iteration as priorities evolve

An orchestration layer for post-trade workflows where replacement is not an option.

→ A practical next step

For many leadership teams, a useful starting point is a focused discussion on:

- Which post-trade workflows are worth prioritizing this year
- Where fragmentation is creating the most friction and risk
- What is realistically fixable in the next 6–12 months

This snapshot is designed to support that conversation.



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