

UTILISING GENERATIVE AI IN TALENT ACQUISITION STRATEGIES

Abstract

Artificial Intelligence (AI) solutions have revolutionised the modern business landscape, transforming various business processes, including talent acquisition. Integrating generative AI and talent acquisition strategies has opened up opportunities to streamline the recruitment process, improve candidate engagement and experience, eliminate hiring inefficiencies, and facilitate data-driven hiring decisions. Although businesses must overcome hurdles like resistance to change, data security concerns, and preprogrammed biases, achieving synergy between AI solutions and human expertise promises smarter, faster, and more efficient hiring decisions.





Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been the driving force behind the rapid transformation in the contemporary business landscape. The capabilities of AI, data analytics, and automation have touched virtually every aspect of business operations, and talent acquisition is no exception.

The rapid advancements in large language models and generative AI solutions for businesses have ushered in a new transformative era for talent engagement and recruitment. Recruiters are finding ways to integrate AI and talent acquisition strategies to stay competitive and attract

and retain top talent in this highly competitive global workforce.

But how is generative AI making waves when it comes to recruiting?

Role of AI in talent acquisition

Al solutions are pivotal in augmenting human intuition and creativity to transform talent acquisition strategies as we know them. Al's data analytics and automation capabilities are freeing HR professionals from the repetitive, monotonous, and timeconsuming task of sifting through mounds of applications to identify trends, sort candidates, and automate engagement.

Generative AI in talent acquisition not only streamlines the processes but also delivers key insights – about experience, skill sets, or compatibility – to the recruitment team to help them make better hiring decisions. On the other hand, it also helps enhance candidate engagement and experience via dynamic content delivery with a human touch.

As a result, a hybrid approach of integration AI and talent acquisition can offer several benefits, including:

- Improved hiring accuracy
- Streamlined recruitment processes
- Better talent retention
- Efficient onboarding processes
- Reduced recruitment costs

Talent acquisition challenges AI can solve

Traditional talent acquisition and management practices are impractical in the modern workplace, with businesses worldwide trying to retain top talent from a highly competitive global talent pool.

Some of the major challenges of traditional talent management strategies include time-intensive manual processes, potential for bias, inefficient workflows, and shallow talent pools. Leveraging artificial intelligence for talent acquisition can help overcome these challenges while freeing up the HR team to focus on more impactful activities.

Some of the major talent acquisition challenges AI can help resolve are:

Reducing manual work

One of the biggest challenges generative AI can help resolve is automating time-

intensive manual work, freeing the recruitment team to focus on other high-impact activities. From creating and uploading job descriptions and screening resumes to scheduling interviews and sending follow-up emails, generative Al in talent acquisition reduces a significant burden on the HR team with the help of automation and data-driven insights.

Expanding talent pool

With manual processing, recruitment professionals are often limited to where they can post listings and invite applications. Al-powered recruiting solutions can help companies expand their talent pipeline, facilitating access to a global talent pool – especially when hiring for remote positions. Additionally, the centralised platform also makes it easier to

manage job postings from multiple sites and collaborate with different stakeholders to find the ideal candidate.

Ensuring DEI compliance

DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) is one of the key focus areas for talent acquisition professionals. However, relying on traditional hiring practices of individually screening candidates opens up the possibility of unconscious bias creeping into the hiring process, resulting in a non-inclusive workplace. By taking the human factor out of the screening process, Al recruiting tools make it easier to remove such unconscious biases and focus only on the candidates' qualifications, skill sets, and experience.



Generative AI use cases in talent acquisition

As we have seen in the previous sections, Al plays a pivotal role in improving talent acquisition efficiency and overcoming the challenges of traditional hiring practices. But what does generative AI in talent acquisition look like?

Here are six use cases of generative Al in talent acquisition:

Automate pre-screening

Many job postings receive hundreds – if not thousands (for lucrative positions) – of applications, and the biggest hurdle HR teams need to overcome is initial candidate screening. Generative AI can greatly accelerate this process with the help of custom pre-screen criteria and automation

tools. As a result, recruiters only have to go through profiles of candidates meeting the job prerequisites, making the process much faster.

Create engaging job descriptions

Compelling, engaging, and precise job descriptions are fundamental to attracting the right set of applicants. Instead of the recruitment team spending hours on creating the "perfect" job descriptions, generative Al can simplify this process, analysing industry trends, company culture, and preferred skills and experience levels to generate engaging job descriptions in minutes. As a result, the job descriptions are more comprehensive, optimised for search engines, and reach the right candidates for a higher applicant conversion rate.

Generate candidate survey response summaries

Post-interview and assessment feedback from candidates can offer great insights into the effectiveness of your hiring process and help you identify potential areas of improvement. Generative AI tools make it easier for recruiters to collect and analyse these responses, offering invaluable insights into candidate

experience. As a result, the recruitment team can make data-driven decisions to refine and improve recruitment strategies.

Enhance recruiter productivity

Many recruiters spend a significant amount of time communicating and coordinating with candidates via email, text messages, or calls, which can hamper their productivity when it comes to other core tasks. Generative AI for business can help recruiters craft contextually appropriate and personalised responses to candidate queries in minutes, significantly lowering their workload. Moreover, conversational chatbots can help answer simple candidate guestions without the need for human intervention. As a result, recruiters can not only reduce time-to-hire but also build strong relationships with potential hires for a more efficient recruitment lifecycle.

Provide real-time job recommendations

Generative AI is helpful not just to recruiters but also to candidates. AI tools can analyse a candidate's background, qualifications, experience, skill sets, and preferences to provide real-time job recommendations relevant to them. Such personalised suggestions help create a tailored candidate experience, increasing the chances of successful hiring while also building a positive employer brand.

Create candidate resumes

Generative AI tools can help candidates generate resumes highlighting their skills, experience, and qualifications relevant to the job description. Such standardised resumes not only save time for the candidates but also ensure a chance of fair comparison between like candidates.



Challenges of using generative AI in talent acquisition

Using generative AI in talent acquisition promises a lot of potential, but it also comes with significant challenges, from resistance to change to data security concerns, that businesses must address. Here are some key challenges recruiters may face with integrating AI and talent acquisition:

Resistance to change

Many HR teams feel generative AI tools, like ChatGPT, will replace them, leading to resistance to change and reluctance to embrace this revolutionary technology. However, no matter how impressive generative AI solutions become, they cannot truly replace humans – especially when it comes to tasks like candidate relationship management and effective hiring. Instead, they will augment the human teams, helping them leverage data-driven insights for enhanced decision-making. Working together, AI and humans can find the best possible candidates and create an engaging employee experience.

Data security concerns

Data is at the heart of any machine learning or generative AI stack you use for your business. Although they can bring countless benefits, improper handling of data can open you up to a host of compliance and reputational risks. Working with a reputed and trustworthy partner who implements stringent data security and privacy protocols can help you overcome this challenge and assure the candidates that their data is safe with you.

Pre-programmed biases

Although an automated screening process with generative AI can help eliminate unconscious bias from the hiring process, it also opens the possibility of introducing pre-programmed biases in hiring. As chatbots and AI platforms learn from existing data, any bias in training data will reflect as a pre-programmed bias. Generative AI solutions have exhibited such biases in the past, giving prejudiced responses based on race or gender. This raises serious ethical concerns as such implicit bias can deviate the company from its DEI objectives, leading to unequal and biased hiring practices without the knowledge of the recruitment team.

Focusing on using quality and diversified training data for generative Al in talent acquisition can help overcome this challenge.

Lack of human touch

Using generative AI solutions for business and talent acquisition can often lack a human touch as chatbots can only provide pre-programmed responses to candidates' questions. Additionally, only quantitative analysis of candidate information can often lead to missed nuances that subjective appraisal from a human recruiter might find fitting. Intuition, personality, and ambition are just some of the factors that often influence hiring decisions, which AI tools cannot catch. Focusing only on

pre-determined parameters like years of experience, qualifications, or certifications can result in the rejection of suitable candidates. Overcoming this challenge is easy; making sure your Al tool works with the human recruitment team and restricting the final hiring decisions to human hiring managers can ensure you find the top talent for your company.

Despite these challenges, generative AI for business has emerged as a game-changing solution for talent acquisition and hiring teams. They can help recruiters develop and implement more efficient talent acquisition strategies for smarter, faster, and more efficient hiring decisions.

Conclusion

The bottom line is, generative AI for business is revolutionising virtually every business operation, including talent acquisition and recruitment. Integrating generative AI and talent acquisition can offer a host of benefits, including streamlined processes, enhanced hiring

accuracy, reduced recruitment costs, efficient onboarding, and better talent retention. It can also help overcome challenges like reducing manual processing, facilitating access to a larger talent pool, and enhancing DEI compliance. Although businesses must address

challenges like data security concerns, resistance to change, and lack of human touch, generative Al in talent acquisition is set to change the future of recruitment, augmenting the creativity and productivity of the human hiring team for efficient hiring decisions.

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