Banking and financial trends
Keys to stay ahead
Consumer financial applications have dramatically changed the Banking, Finance Services and Insurance (BSFI) industry over the past five years.

Seventy-three percent of smartphone users have signed up for financial services and are using them regularly.¹ Meanwhile, 92.3 million US consumers used proximity-based mobile payments at least once during a six-month period in 2020²—a figure expected to grow.

These numbers show how much consumers rely on financial applications. They expect them to work securely and flawlessly, necessitating extensive software testing. As a leader in financial services, you must prioritize high application quality while avoiding testing bottlenecks in the development process.

This guide explores technology trends in the financial services industry:
1. Contactless payments
2. Open banking
3. Automation
4. Implementation challenges

Read on to learn more and discover the keys to producing high-quality financial apps—fast.

¹ Mobile App Daily, An Insight into Best Mobile Banking Trends of 2023. (2023)
² Forbes, How The Pandemic Changed Mobile Payments. (2021)
69 percent of American consumers said fintech was a ‘financial lifeline’ during the pandemic.  

About 27 percent of Americans use an online-only bank, and of those at online-only banks, 88 percent reported they are satisfied with the bank’s services.  

19 percent of people made their first contactless payment in May 2020—57 percent predicted they would continue after the pandemic.  

In Deloitte surveys, Financial Services professionals have identified tech and team performance as the biggest priority trends for the industry, surpassing other industries such as Consumer, Life Sciences, and Tech.  

75 percent of surveyed banking executives claim COVID-19 has increased urgency to modernize payment systems.  

420 billion transactions will switch from cash to digital payments by 2023.  

26 percent of banking executives and 43 percent of fintech executives say they have the right partner for open banking.  

96% of organizations say generative AI is on their boardroom agenda.  

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3. Plaid Blog, Survey finds that fintech has been a lifeline during COVID-19; consumers say it’s the “new normal” (2020)  
5. National Retail Federation, Coronavirus leads to more use of contactless credit cards and mobile payments despite cost and security concerns (2020)  
8. Ibid.  
10. Capgemini, Generative AI in Organizations
Technology disruption

Emerging technologies like AI, blockchain, and cloud computing are disrupting the Financial Services industry. Firms are being forced to adapt to a rapidly changing landscape and are shifting to a data-driven economy, where data is a key enabler of value creation.

OpenText solution

OpenText™ ValueEdge Functional Test

Create resilient tests quickly and test anything, anywhere, on any platform. ValueEdge Functional Test is a comprehensive, AI-powered cloud-based solution for functional testing, offering business-centric model-based testing, codeless test authoring, and a testing lab for execution on any host, mobile device, or browser.

More contactless payments

According to HES FinTech\textsuperscript{11}, the size of the digital payments market transaction value in 2023 was $9.46 trillion. Over the next five years, the CAGR of digital payments market transaction value is estimated at around 11 percent, equaling a total growth to $14.78 trillion by 2027.

At the forefront of contactless payments are ‘in-app’ transactions. According to Digipay, In-app payments are becoming increasingly popular, with more businesses adopting this payment method.\textsuperscript{12} This has led to increased competition and innovations in digital payment, resulting in improved user experience and more convenient payment options.

OpenText solution

OpenText™ LoadRunner Family

Contactless payments require high-performing apps that surpass customer expectations. To make this happen, every team member must be responsible for application quality. The LoadRunner family of performance engineering solutions allows users to:

\begin{itemize}
  \item Confidently test app performance
  \item Script with precision
  \item Detect anomalies
\end{itemize}

Learn more about performance engineering with LoadRunner solutions.

\textsuperscript{11} HES FinTech, Digital Payments Trends to Watch Out For in 2023 and Beyond. (2023)
\textsuperscript{12} Digipay.guru, Top 7 Contactless Payments Trends to Keep an Eye on in 2023. (2023)
Open banking

Today people are more likely to invest their money rather than keep it in the bank, so third-party financial institutions are giving traditional banks a run for their money.

Third parties offer flexible high income-generating investments. Consumers are keying into them via open banking, where they allow third-party service providers to access their data for investment purposes via application programming interfaces (APIs).

Although there are security concerns about data exposure in open banking, the trend is likely to continue. If you provide open banking services, or plan to, you can mitigate threats through collaboration and the right security software.

OpenText solution

OpenText™ Fortify

Customers of open banking demand security. Fortify’s application security platform automates testing throughout the CI/DC pipeline so developers can quickly resolve issues. With Fortify, users can:

- Build secure software—fast
- Attain actionable results with machine learning
- Automate and scale security testing

Learn more about application security with Fortify.
Automate, automate, automate

Automation has greatly affected mobile finance development. Up-to-date balance statements, financial application status updates, and other automatic conveniences are now commonplace.

You can use automation to speed up processes and reduce employees’ workload so that they have more time for critical projects. Automation can also provide a better user experience for consumers. In short, your organization can’t afford to rely on manual testing.

OpenText solution

**OpenText™ UFT One**

Accelerate test automation with one intelligent functional testing tool for web, mobile, API, and enterprise apps.

Simplify and improve test creation, execution, and maintenance through AI-powered intelligent automation. AI-based machine learning and advanced OCR provide advanced object recognition. When combined with AI-based mockup identification, AI-based recording, AI-based text matching, and image based automation, teams can reduce test creation time and test maintenance efforts while boosting test coverage and resiliency of testing assets.

- Test more than 200 technologies, including SAP, mainframes, Salesforce, and more.
- Gain fast, continuous testing feedback with source control and CI/CD integrations.
- Run tests at scale with cross-browser and cross-device mobile testing.

Learn how **AI-powered automation** reduces test creation time and maintenance while boosting coverage and resiliency.
Understanding implementation challenges

Despite the enthusiasm for new technologies, Dilip Krishna, head of innovation for Deloitte and Touche LLP’s financial services businesses, explains that implementing them with minimal impact is difficult. “Financial executives now have to figure out how to incorporate and apply new technologies, as well as the short- and long-term impacts on existing processes and systems,” Krishna says. “It’s always harder than you think, but with strategically taken risks can come significant rewards.”

More people are using mobile technologies for their finances. Despite challenges associated with introducing new software and processes, ensuring that your applications delight customers is worth it.

OpenText solution

OpenText™ ALM Octane

When adopting new technologies, monitoring and optimizing value streams are musts. With ALM Octane, you can:

- Accelerate transformations from iterative approaches to agile and DevOps practices.
- Align work from ideation to release—regardless of the number of teams, projects, and locations.
- Unify testing efforts across unit, integration, acceptance, security, and performance.
- Prioritize quality and ensure it at every stage with release management.
- Use dashboards and metrics for a visual, customizable display of progress and quality.

Learn how to optimize the flow of work for high-quality software delivery.

Summary

The rapid acceleration of technology is pushing financial services and banking to rely on fast acting applications to keep up with consumer and business demands. Here are a few takeaways to immediately focus on:

- Contactless payment methods and automation tools will help you thrive.
- Facilitating and protecting open banking data will position you well in the future.
- OpenText has an array of software to help your financial institution prepare and succeed for what lies ahead.

Next steps

Explore all the powerful solutions OpenText has to offer the banking industry that improve engagement, security, compliance and visibility.

OpenText Banking Solutions

About OpenText

OpenText, The Information Company, enables organizations to gain insight through market leading information management solutions, on premises or in the cloud. For more information about OpenText (NASDAQ: OTEX, TSX: OTEX) visit opentext.com.