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# The Real Cost of Manual Identity Execution

Manual identity execution is a hidden tax, especially across disconnected apps outside your IdP's control. When apps lack APIs or SCIM support, managing access falls back to tickets, spreadsheets, and app-by-app changes. What seems manageable becomes costly at scale. The burden isn't a policy problem, it's an execution gap.

**96%**

of organizations still rely on manual identity workflows

**$410K/year**

lost to manual identity execution

## Where the $410K leaks

Manual processes do more than slow you down, they drain your budget. Between license waste, onboarding delays, and compliance risks, the cost of manual execution is a mounting liability. Relying on humans doesn't just waste time; it creates exposure.

| | |
|---|---|
| Audit & reporting drag | $148K |
| License waste | $131K |
| Security risk exposure | $57K |
| Productivity loss | $49K |
| Manual IT administration | $25K |

## Closing the manual identity execution gap

Manual execution slows productivity, increases risk, and fragments visibility. Automation shifts identity from human workflows to policy-driven systems.

### Brain drain

Productivity slows to human speed, trapped in manual onboarding and offboarding workflows driven by tickets and spreadsheet-based audits.

**$250K**

in annual IT labor lost to manual tasks

### Time reclaimed

Identity moves at system speed, as IdP-triggered workflows replace manual ticket queues to execute onboarding and offboarding in real time.

**3,300**

hours returned to IT annually

### Risk exposure

End users, not security teams, manage identity policies like enabling MFA, setting passwords, and timely access removal, creating hidden risk.

**58%**

of former employees retain system access

### Security gaps closed

Security controls operate automatically by enforcing MFA through global policy and deprovisioning users across all apps the moment they leave.

**97%**

reduction in manual access work

### Audit friction

Access visibility breaks down across disconnected systems, forcing IT to reconcile access data manually in spreadsheets. What should be measurable becomes fragmented.

**72%**

rely on manual entitlement reporting, leaving audits slow and fragmented

### Audit readiness

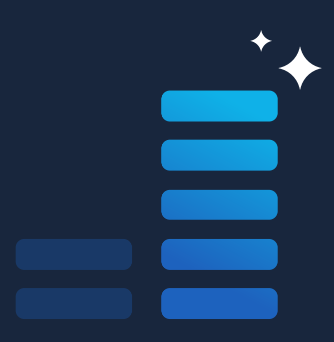
Access and entitlements are centralized and updated in real time, eliminating spreadsheet-based reviews. Identity becomes measurable and enforceable by policy.

**82%**

faster audit preparation

## Business impact

Closing the execution gap doesn't just reduce manual work, it delivers measurable business impact.



**280%**

return on investment in year one

**$410K**

reclaimed annually through identity automation

MANUAL EXECUTION IS THE BOTTLENECK

## Automation is the advantage

See How It Works

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Sources

https://www.cerby.com/customers

https://www.cerby.com/content-hub/identity-automation-gap-report-2025