→ June 4th 2025

Al use case presentation: Preventing Customer Failure







Introduction & Context

A rising risk on cost of bad debt

- 2023: high increase of SME bankruptcies due to economic situation
- Resulting in higher risk of bad debt
- Credit Teams overwhelmed & focused on high outstanding balances
- No ability to analyse & process a huge volume of small billings
- How to react as quickly as possible to cut critical outstandings?
- How to identify the most criticals among thousands of customers?





A perfect case study in the use of Al

- a structured and efficient analysis process, but...
- ...tedious given the number of variables to be analyzed...
- ...an impossible « human » scale up given billing volumes...
- ...but millions of historical data availables & « real » problem to solve
- A « bankable» use case for AI analytics & automation!





Data Scientists in the spotlight

A classical 5 step data sciences method

- Step 1: Clean and process 23 millions of billings over 10 years
- Step 2: Identify correlated metrics with failures and build a model
- Step 3: Train the model for behavior profiling & detection of risks
- Step 4: Set up a prioritized alert system sent to administrative staff
- Step 5: Launch a pilote to validate a GO/ no GO





Results that meet the challenges

- + 1M€ raised each month & 6 day of DSO in pilote regions
- Thanks to a limited alerts set to most relevants & staff capacity
- simplified & more efficient day-to-day work for administrative staff
- has enabled us to identify new criteria for detecting weak signals



Lessons learnt

3 months to build, 1 year to deploy

Project was succesfull because:

- Of a high sponsorship from the Group CFO
- we built a model to solve a problem, not the other way around
- Data Scientists were embedded into the credit management team
- 100% in-house project, designed from the outset in a single tool
- integrate upstream impacts, and rework processes and reporting
- solid change management based on ambassadors and top managers







