Managers and machines, unite!

Intelligent machines are poised to dramatically shift management roles and recast the workforce of the future. But what do managers think?

84% of managers at all levels believe machines will make them more effective and their work more interesting.

Managers underrate the need for human skills

Managers think the top 3 skills to succeed in the future are:

- Digital/technology: 42%
- Creative thinking and experimentation: 33%
- Data analysis and interpretation: 31%

And underrate the interpersonal skills required to inspire the workforce of the future:

- Social networking: 21%
- People development/coaching: 21%
- Collaboration: 20%

Confidence in the advice of intelligent systems diminishes down the ranks

Percentage of managers who strongly trust the advice of intelligent systems:

- Top-level managers: 46%
- Middle-level managers: 24%
- First-line managers: 14%

To increase their trust in the advice of intelligent systems, middle and first-line managers want:

- Understanding of how the system works and generates advice: 60%
- System with a proven track record: 55%
- System that explains its logic: 49%

For more information visit: www.accenture.com/ManagersandMachines

Source: Accenture Institute for High Performance surveyed 1,770 first-line, middle-level and executive-level managers from 14 countries, representing 17 distinct industries in August/September 2015. We define intelligent machines as computers and applications that collect/analyze data, make informed decisions or recommendations for action, and learn from experience.