

Category

Data & AI

AI Leadership & Board Oversight Playbook (Ownership, Sponsorship, Accountability)

Making sure someone with real authority actually owns AI strategy, not just the AI budget line

- Executive
 - Intermediate
 - Template Included
-
- Administrator
 - 15 September 2018
 - 3 minute(s)

Overview

A framework for AI leadership and board oversight — establishing clear executive ownership and accountability for AI strategy, appropriate board-level oversight structure, and genuine sponsorship beyond budget approval — addressing the common gap where AI initiatives lack clear senior accountability despite significant investment.

Isn't approving the AI budget sufficient executive sponsorship for

AI initiatives? Budget approval alone doesn't constitute genuine ownership — AI initiatives without a specific accountable executive owner beyond budget approval often drift without clear strategic direction or accountability for outcomes, regardless of how much funding was approved.

What should board-level AI oversight actually look like in

practice? Regular, substantive review of AI strategy and risk — not just periodic updates — with board members who have sufficient AI literacy to ask genuinely probing questions, similar to how boards oversee other significant strategic and risk areas.

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