

Who owns AI after the pilot?

Starting question

Who can operate, change, and stop the system on Monday morning?

Follow the move from an attractive AI strategy to a system someone can actually run. Read each passage as a test of authority, not enthusiasm.

Volume 7 · Edition 1

Every production AI system needs a clearly accountable owner. Not merely a sponsor who supports the budget, but someone responsible for the system's ongoing behaviour.

The owner must have both a name and usable authority; a sponsor alone cannot run incidents.

Field Note 7 · AI strategy without operational ownership is theatre · edition 1

Volume 40 · Edition 1

If the human remains the router, the machines never become colleagues. They remain tabs.

Orchestration changes the operating model, but it also makes ownership of handoffs more important.

Field Note 40 · AI-First Is an Operating Model · edition 1

The pilot has worked. People want to keep using it. The next decision is whether the organisation can operate the whole workflow once the people who built the demonstration return to other work.

The successful demonstration is the beginning of the operating obligation, not its end.

Field Note 45 · Who owns the AI system after the pilot? · edition 1

Counterargument

A committee can provide oversight and specialist teams can divide the work. A single owner should not become a bottleneck or a substitute for those skills.

Exercise

Choose one live or proposed AI workflow. Name its accountable owner, on-call operator, stop authority, quality signal, and provider-outage response. Mark every unanswered item as work still to be done.

Edition manifest

1. Volume 7 · Edition 1 · ai-strategy-without-operational-ownership-is-theatre

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2. Volume 40 · Edition 1 · ai-first-is-an-operating-model

SHA-256 3ed4ca9c4a44b42d1755107df91b818c7c14c624beeac4efc414fbb91130009

3. Volume 45 · Edition 1 · who-owns-the-ai-system-after-the-pilot

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