

AI-SPEND DISCUSSION CHECKLIST

Questions to work through with your IT, finance, security, procurement, and business leaders.

What are we using?

- ☐ Which AI tools and subscriptions have teams bought, and who approved them?
- ☐ Which platforms we already own have AI features switched on?
- ☐ Where are developers or data teams calling model APIs directly?
- ☐ Are any agents or automated workflows running, and what can they reach?
- ☐ Where might people be using unapproved AI tools with company data?

Who owns the cost?

- ☐ Is there a named owner for AI spend overall, and for each major tool or workload?
- ☐ Can we see spending by team, application, or workflow, or only as a total?
- ☐ Where does AI spend show up today: software budgets, cloud bills, expense reports?
- ☐ What renewals, commitments, or price changes are coming in the next 12 months?

Can we connect spending to a useful business outcome?

- ☐ For our largest AI costs, what result is each one supposed to produce?
- ☐ Which uses would we expand if they cost less, and which would we stop?
- ☐ How would we know if an agent or workflow started costing more than it is worth?

Governance, security, and accountability

- ☐ Do AI tools and agents operate with the least access they need?
- ☐ Would we know if an agent acted outside its approved scope?
- ☐ Which policies cover sensitive data in AI tools, and how are they enforced?
- ☐ Who signs off before a new AI tool, agent, or integration goes live?

Decide your next steps

- ☐ Agree on one owner to pull together a first inventory and spend baseline.
- ☐ Pick the two or three questions above with the weakest answers.
- ☐ Set a date to review what you found and decide what to change first.

Want a second opinion on your answers?

Start with a complimentary 30-minute AI FinOps conversation with ARG. We will discuss your environment, priorities, and the options worth exploring as a starting point for an AI Cost Savings Plan.

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