

HOW WE ENGAGE

AI Operating Discipline

The Identient framework for retiring Verification Debt

/ The problem

Every AI-data interaction inside your firm — every agent action, every model query, every identity-to-data touchpoint — accrues **Verification Debt**: liability that compounds silently and comes due at the worst moment, whether that moment is a release, a regulatory inquiry, or an IP dispute. Unlike technical debt, it cannot be refactored after the fact.

/ Our response

AI Operating Discipline — a four-phase methodology, applied across five control dimensions, accelerated by a Hybrid Twin of your AI, identity, and data posture. Same framework in every industry; the regulatory and risk language flexes on top.

Verification Debt declines →				
	Diagnose	Design	Deploy	Defend
Inventory	AI use cases	Classification	Live registry	Drift checks
Ownership	Map gaps	RACI + AIRB	Cadence live	Continuous
Identity	Exposure scan	Architecture	Bounded access	Attestation
Evidence	Logging gaps	Telemetry plan	HITL + logs	Audit trail
Performance	Value model	Business case	Stage gates	Portfolio view
Hybrid Twin · AI-enabled accelerator across all four phases				

/ The four phases

Diagnose	Design	Deploy	Defend
Establishes the baseline. Catalog use cases, map ownership gaps, scan identity exposure, assess logging coverage, name value hypotheses. OUTPUT Risk register, maturity score, sized Verification Debt.	Builds the blueprint. Classification framework, RACI and AIRB, identity architecture, telemetry plan, business case. OUTPUT Architecture, operating model, roadmap, ROI.	Makes the changes stick. Live registry, AIRB cadence operating, bounded access enforced, logging and human-in-the-loop on, stage gates running. OUTPUT Closed gaps, audit-ready artifacts, target maturity reached.	Keeps Verification Debt from re-accruing. Drift checks, continuous accountability and attestation, audit trail maintained, portfolio view of the AI estate. OUTPUT Sustained discipline across the AI estate.

/ The five control dimensions

Inventory	What AI exists, who owns it, how it is classified.
Ownership	Who is accountable, in which forum, with what authority.
Identity	Who or what is acting, with what permissions, on what data. Every other practice is weakest here; we are strongest.
Evidence	What is logged, traceable, monitored, attestable.
Performance	What value is being created, against what gates, at what cost.

/ Same matrix, three industries

The dimensions are universal. The content adapts to the regulatory and risk language of each sector.

Fintech

Inventory of AI touching customer financial data, advice generation, and transaction monitoring. Identity bounded by advisor and customer access, agent provenance, and FINRA-grade recordkeeping. Evidence at best-execution and supervisory-review standard. Performance gates aligned to SOC 2 and FINRA examination cycles.

Healthcare

Inventory of AI touching PHI, clinical decision support, diagnostic assistance, and scheduling automation. Identity bounded for clinicians, patients, care teams, and clinical-workflow agents. Evidence at HIPAA audit and FDA SaMD standard where applicable. Performance gates aligned to clinical safety committee and HHS audit posture.

High Tech & SaaS

Inventory of AI features in product, internal copilots, and agentic workflows touching IP and customer data. Identity bounded across employees, contractors, customers, and non-human identities — agents, MCPs, APIs. Evidence calibrated to IP protection and security questionnaire scrutiny. Performance gates aligned to release cycles and procurement review.

/ The Hybrid Twin

An AI GRC agent with chat, deployed in your environment and grounded in your own policies, standards, risk register, and control evidence — answering your team's governance questions with grounded, cited responses in Teams or Slack. In **Diagnose**, it ingests your policies, configurations, and registers to produce a populated 5x4 baseline in days rather than weeks. In **Design**, it simulates scenarios before deployment. In **Deploy**, it tracks remediation against the matrix and fields your team's questions as they work. In **Defend**, it runs continuously — **surfacing drift, anchoring AIRB conversations, and keeping an audit-ready answer one question away.**

/ How engagements map to the framework

Diagnose

Phase 1 risk assessment

Design

Architecture & operating model design

Deploy

Remediation, training & migration support

Defend

AIRB cadence, advisory & continuous attestation

Verification Debt is the meter that descends through the engagement; **AI Operating Discipline is what is left in its place.**

/ Begin where you are

Most engagements begin with a four-to-six-week Diagnose, sized to your AI footprint and regulatory context. From there, the framework runs as an integrated multi-phase program or as discrete modules — engaged together or independently.

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