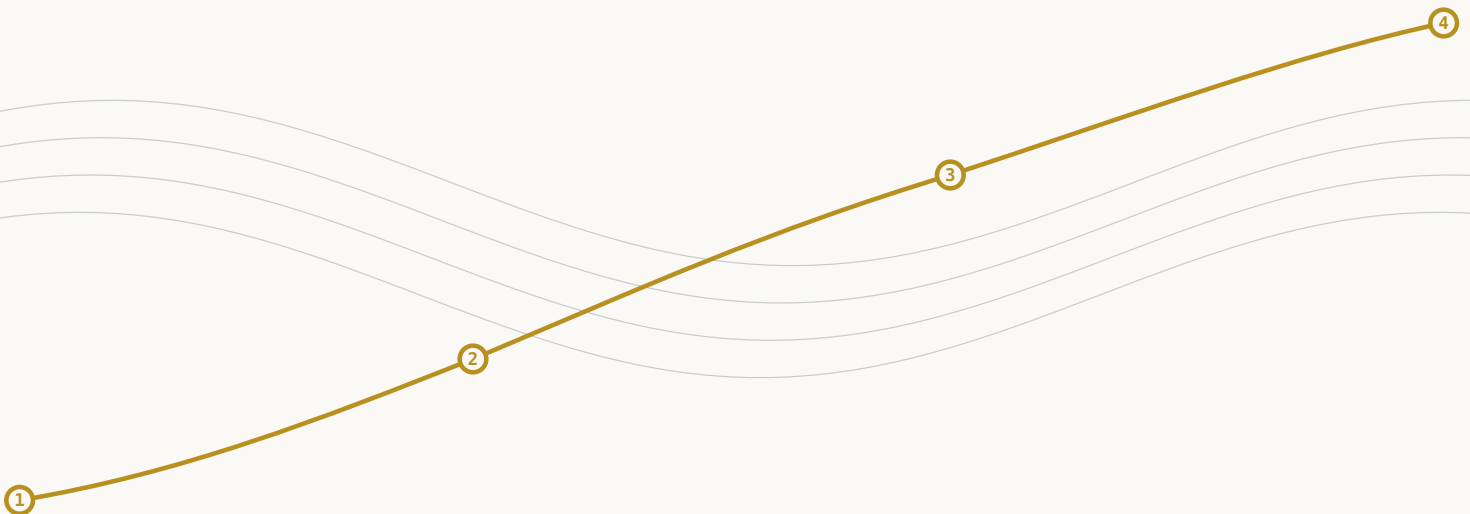


EXPLORATORY EXECUTIVE DIAGNOSTIC

Authority Alignment Diagnostic

A practical field guide for testing who can act when an AI intervention is required.



AUGUST 2026

Use this guide with one real intervention. A blank owner, threshold, decision right or obligation is a governance gap to resolve - not a score to celebrate.

STEP ONE

Define the intervention

Choose one consequential event where the organization may need to approve, contain, remediate, pause, scale, resequence, fund or stop AI-enabled work.

SIGNAL OR EVENT

What happened, or what condition was detected?

DECISION REQUIRED

What consequential decision must now be made?

EVIDENCE AND THRESHOLD

What evidence is required, and what threshold triggers action?

TIME BOUNDARY

How quickly must an authorized disposition be reached?

Keep the case specific. Generic statements such as 'the business owns it' hide the exact authority gap this exercise is designed to reveal.

STEP TWO

Map who can act

Name the real owner, forum or authority at each layer. If the answer depends on the event, record the rule that routes the decision.

01 TECHNICAL AUTHORITY

Can the action be constrained, identified, observed and contained?

- What control detects the event?
- Who can contain or reverse it?
- What evidence is preserved?

NAMED OWNER / AUTHORITY

02 OPERATIONAL AUTHORITY

Who owns operation, approval, exception response and remediation?

- Who accepts the exception?
- Who approves the response?
- Who owns remediation and closure?

NAMED OWNER / AUTHORITY

03 PORTFOLIO AUTHORITY

Who can stop, scale, sequence, fund or withdraw?

- Which forum can pause or stop?
- Who changes funding or sequence?
- What escalation moves the decision?

NAMED OWNER / AUTHORITY

04 INSTITUTIONAL / ACQUISITION

Which duties, performance rules and end states govern?

- What obligation defines acceptable?
- Who interprets the obligation?
- What evidence proves closure?

NAMED OWNER / AUTHORITY

STEP THREE

Create one governed record

A common intervention record keeps the signal, evidence, authority, disposition and learning connected through the moment of action.

01	SIGNAL / EVENT	What happened?
02	DECISION REQUIRED	What must be decided?
03	EVIDENCE / THRESHOLD	What supports or triggers the decision?
04	AUTHORITY BY LAYER	Who holds each relevant right?
05	AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION	Approve, contain, remediate, pause, scale, resequence, fund or stop?
06	OWNER / DEADLINE	Who acts, and by when?
07	OUTCOME / LEARNING	What happened, and what should change?

CONTINUITY TEST

Can another accountable leader reconstruct why the disposition was authorized, who acted, what obligation applied and what the organization learned?

STEP FOUR

Interrogate the blank cells

Use the questions below to distinguish a documentation gap from a real authority gap.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Is the intervention event specific enough to route? | ☐ Do institutional, regulatory or acquisition duties define acceptable closure? |
| ☐ Is each decision right assigned to a named role or forum? | ☐ Does the escalation path preserve accountability across layers? |
| ☐ Can the operational owner act without waiting for an undefined escalation? | ☐ Are the authorized disposition and action deadline recorded? |
| ☐ Can the portfolio authority pause, stop, scale or resequence the work? | ☐ Can the outcome be connected back to the original decision and evidence? |
| ☐ Is the evidence threshold explicit and available? | ☐ Will the learning change policy, ownership, thresholds or operating design? |

INTERPRETATION

A blank answer is a prompt for investigation. It is not, by itself, evidence of organizational failure. Resolve the owner, right, threshold or obligation before the next consequential intervention tests it in real time.

USE BOUNDARY

This exploratory Navixtent diagnostic is a governed synthesis and leadership reflection tool. It is not an external standard, certification, compliance determination, validated maturity assessment, market-adoption claim, commercial offer, or evidence of realized benefits.

RELATED NAVIXTENT PAPER

Beyond the Control Plane: Four authority layers for governable AI execution.