

FOR DIRECTORS, AUDIT COMMITTEES, CFOs, AND GENERAL COUNSEL

AI governance as fiduciary duty.

The board question is no longer whether the organisation uses AI. The question is whether management can prove that material AI systems have accountable owners, documented risk assessment, incident procedures, and independent review.

Why now

Insurers, lenders, buyers, and regulators are adding AI governance documentation to ordinary diligence. When the question appears at renewal, financing, procurement, or investigation, absence of evidence becomes a board-level risk.

Three questions every board should be able to answer

01 Inventory

Do we know every material AI system currently operating in the organisation?

02 Accountability

Who is personally accountable if one of those systems causes harm?

03 Evidence

Can we show a regulator that the system was assessed before deployment?

What Ethicality certification produces

- ✓ Named AI accountability officer
- ✓ Risk register for material AI systems
- ✓ Third-party assessor sign-off
- ✓ Incident response protocol
- ✓ Annual surveillance review schedule

TWO-PAGE BOARD BRIEFING

The board motion

Suggested agenda item

Resolved: management will identify all material AI systems, name the accountable officer, and obtain independent certification of AI governance controls on a defined timeline, with annual surveillance reported to the audit committee.

Evidence pack requested by boards and insurers

AI system inventory

Which tools are in use, by function, owner, vendor, and risk category.

Insurance renewal

Answers to AI-governance questions before premium negotiation.

Control map

Policies, approvals, escalation paths, disclosure rules, and incident handling.

Investor diligence

A credible response to cost-of-capital and governance review.

Certification report

Independent assessment results that can be shown in diligence or renewal.

Procurement trust

Evidence buyers can rely on without a bespoke questionnaire every time.

Recommended timeline

Week 1

AI inventory and officer named

Weeks 2-5

Evidence collection and assessor review

Weeks 6-8

Certification decision and board record update

Next step

Ask management for a single-page AI register and a proposed certification timeline. Ethicality can scope the assessment before the next renewal, financing round, or regulator request.

Start at ethicality.ai/get-certified