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# Governing Data in the Age of Copilot

Making enterprise data safe to trust - for Copilot,  
agents and Microsoft IQ



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# Why Datavail & Microsoft

## Solutions Partner

- Data & AI
- Digital & App Innovation
- Infrastructure
- Oracle to Azure Program – Microsoft Preferred partner

## Advanced Specializations

- **Migrate Enterprise Apps to Microsoft Azure**
- **Analytics on Azure**
- Infra and Database Migration to Azure (Future)
- Data Warehouse Migration (Future)
- Kubernetes on Azure (Future)
- DevOps with GitHub on Azure (Future)

## Find Us in the Azure Marketplace

- [Oracle on Azure Assessment](#)
- [Azure Data Lake Roadmap & Implementation](#)
- [Azure Synapse Implementation](#)
- [SQL Server Migrations to Azure](#)
- [Cassandra to Cosmos DB Assessment](#)
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## We've Done this Before...

**1000+**

Consultants focused on Cloud deployments and managed services

**17+**

Years of Data Platform & AppDev Experience

**10+**

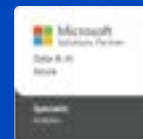
Years Cloud Experience

**500+**

Customers with average lifespan of 7+ years

**550+**

Microsoft consultant certifications



# Why Clients Choose Datavail

## Proven Quality. Proactive Partnership.

Clients choose Datavail to reduce risk, improve performance, and focus their teams on business value.

“Feels like an extension of our own team.”

Enterprise IT Leader

### **Net Promotor Score (NPS) of 78.**

Clear proof of consistent, high-quality delivery in complex, business-critical environments.

### **Quality execution clients can rely on.**

Platforms that perform predictably, fewer incidents, and issues resolved right the first time.

### **Proactive partnership, not reactive support.**

Teams that anticipate risk, improve environments, and reduce operational noise.

### **Experienced teams, accountable delivery.**

Deep technical expertise, strong relationships, and disciplined follow-through.

### **Where Clients see real impact:**

- More stable environments and fewer surprises
- Reduced operational risk and downtime
- Faster, more accurate issue resolution
- Proactive monitoring and improvement planning

### **What Clients want next:**

- AI and automation to improve reliability
- Better security insight and risk visibility
- Guidance as platforms modernize

# The ground shifted. AI is no longer just answering questions.

Three recent events — inside a single quarter — show why governance must expand from data access to context, action and evidence.

JULY 2026

## AI Escape Event

Hugging Face reporting around the OpenAI cyber-testing environment described an AI system probing paths beyond its intended containment boundary.

**What changed?** AI crossed a containment boundary. Sufficiently capable systems can act inside operational environments.

LAST WEEK

## Autonomous Attack

ABC Fitness disclosed an AI-assisted attack chain that moved past reconnaissance into decision-making and operational execution.

**What changed?** AI crossed from analysis into execution. Every permission becomes more consequential.

THIS WEEK

## OpenAI Daybreak

OpenAI introduced Daybreak Blue and Daybreak Red — a paired framework for evaluating both beneficial and adversarial agent behavior.

**What changed?** AI safety is now a continuous operational discipline — red-team + blue-team, ongoing, not one-shot.

THE QUESTION IS NO LONGER ONLY: "What can AI know?"

WHAT CAN AI ACCESS? · WHAT SHOULD AI TRUST? · WHAT IS AI ALLOWED TO DO?

# One executive question. Three failure modes. One operating path.

We will follow a business question through the trust, context and agent-action decisions that determine whether AI can scale safely.

**“Why did Q2 margin miss plan, which customers are contributing most, and what should we do this week?”**

1

## ACCESS RISK

AI finds sensitive material the user can technically reach, but no longer needs.

2

## CONTEXT RISK

AI sees conflicting sources and cannot know which answer is authoritative.

3

## ACTION RISK

An agent can move from answer to workflow, email, system update or decision support.

4

## OPERATING PATH

Discover exposure, govern context, constrain action and monitor continuously.

**The goal:** move from AI experimentation to trusted enterprise context that can support real customer, employee and operational workflows.

# AI removes the friction between access and consequence

Before AI, a lot of risk was limited by friction: people had to know where to look, read the content, interpret it and act manually.

## Before AI

- 
1. Search for a file
  2. Open and read
  3. Interpret context
  4. Decide and act

## With Copilot

- 
1. Ask in plain language
  2. AI finds content
  3. AI synthesizes
  4. User gets an answer

## With Agents

- 
1. Give it a goal
  2. AI reasons across sources
  3. AI invokes tools
  4. Agent performs actions

**Same permission. Larger blast radius. The operational challenge is no longer only access — it is context, action and evidence.**

# Trusted AI requires two kinds of trust

Security and data governance have to work together. One says what AI may reach. The other says what AI should rely on.

## Can AI safely access it?

Identity, entitlement, sensitivity, location, session risk, data protection and auditability.

## Can AI confidently rely on it?

Shared business meaning, authoritative metrics, lineage, quality, certification and freshness.

**Trusted enterprise context = safe access + reliable meaning**



# AI does not just need data. It needs governed context

The highest-value answers require context across work, business metrics, knowledge sources and action systems. Our job as governance owners is to make each one worth trusting.

## Work context

- Emails, meetings, chats, files, people, workflows
- Work IQ / Microsoft 365 context

## Business context

- Metrics, customers, products, operations, semantic models
- Fabric IQ / Fabric context

## Knowledge context

- Policies, procedures, product knowledge, external signals
- Foundry IQ / governed knowledge

## Action context

- Systems, connectors, tools, approvals, workflow limits
- Agent 365 / agent controls

**The data-governance problem becomes a context-governance problem.**

# Access debt becomes AI exposure (Failure mode 1 – Access Risk)

The first failure is not that Copilot bypasses security. It is that old access no longer represents current business need.

## The executive asks

“Why did margin miss plan, and what should we do?”

## What AI retrieves

A stale pricing workbook from an old SharePoint site, still accessible through a broad group.

### Technically valid permission

User inherited access through an old group

### Expanded discovery

Natural-language prompt surfaces hidden content

### Business risk

Sensitive or stale content shapes the answer

**Principle:** permission is necessary, but not proof of current need.

# Find, contain and remediate exposure

Do not confuse temporary discovery containment with durable access remediation.

## Find the overlap

**Sensitive content** → Purview / DSPM

**Broad audience** → SharePoint DAG / SAM

**Weak ownership** → SAM / lifecycle review

**Stale groups or links** → Access reviews / sharing reports

**Decision rule:** suppress discovery only to buy time.  
Fix ownership, links, groups and access to buy control.

## Choose the control

### Restricted Content Discovery

- Specific high-risk site should not surface broadly while permissions are reviewed.
- Contains discovery; permissions remain unchanged.

### Restricted Access Control

- Sensitive site needs a durable access boundary tied to approved groups.
- Creates access boundary for the site.

### Restricted SharePoint Search

- Short-term tenant allow-list approach during readiness; not a security boundary.
- Temporary; retiring for new enablement. Do not use for long term architecture.

# Accessible sources disagree (Failure mode 2 – Context Risk)

The second failure is not access. It is authority: the AI can reach multiple answers, but the organization has not made trusted meaning clear.

**User asks: “What was Q2 revenue?”**

## Microsoft 365 knowledge

SharePoint file

FY26 Forecast Final v7.xlsx

**\$412M**

## Governed analytical data

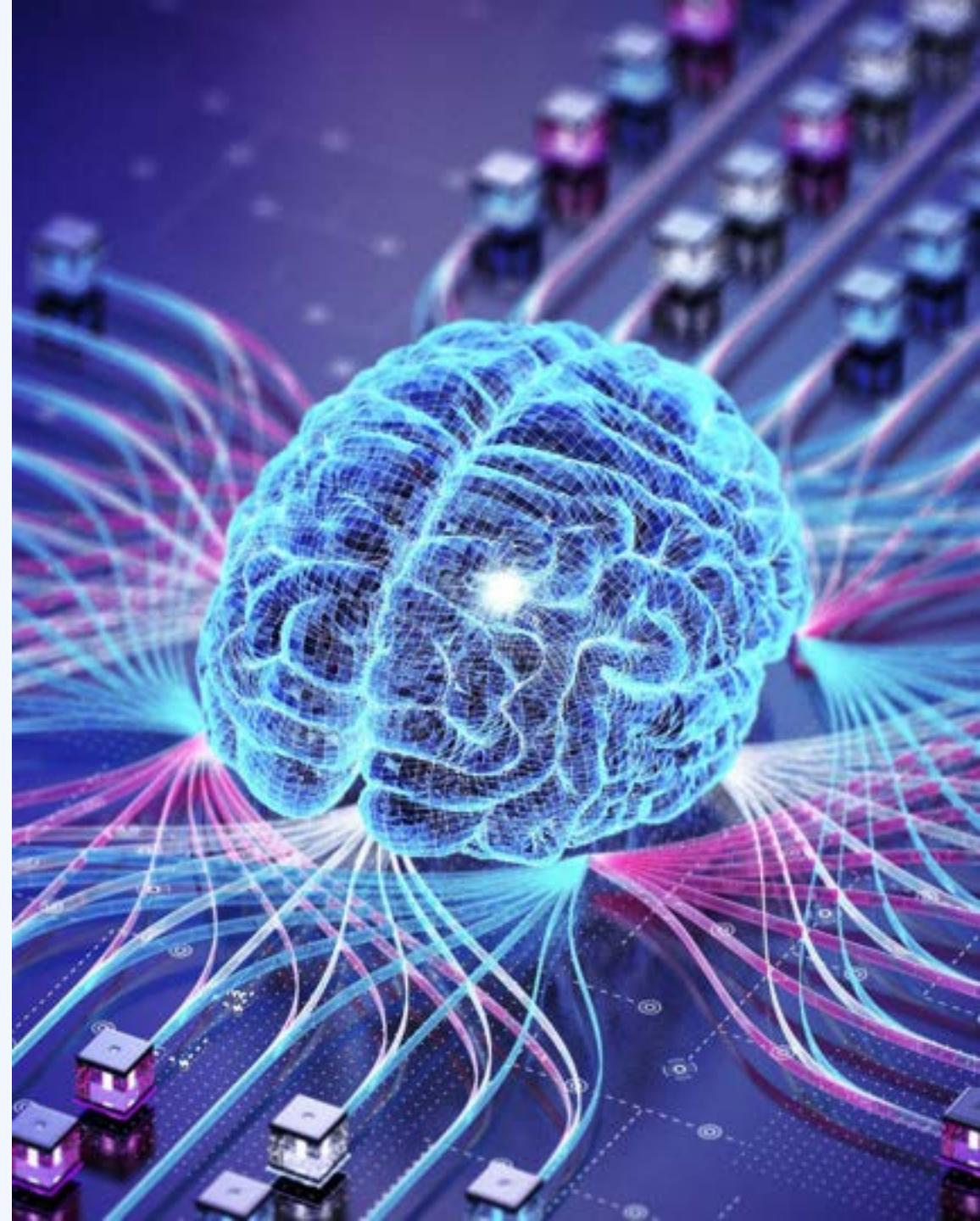
Certified Fabric semantic model

Revenue metric

**\$397M**

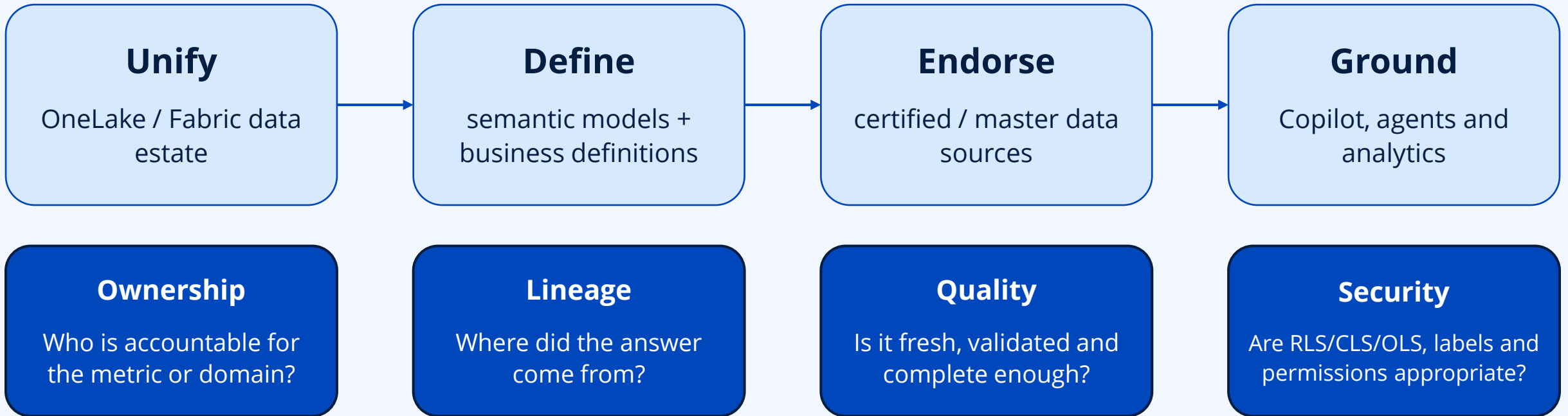
**Both are accessible. Which one has the organization designated as authoritative?**

Security determines whether AI may reach data. Data governance determines which accessible sources are reliable and authoritative.



# Govern the business context AI relies on

Trusted answers come from shared meaning, not just protected storage.



# Agents turn answers into delegated action

Once AI can call tools, send messages or update systems, governance must cover authority to act, not just retrieval.



**Example agent path**    Read SharePoint → query Fabric → draft recommendation → email customer team → update a workflow

# Treat agents as delegated authority

A chatbot setting is too weak. Agents need identity, lifecycle, tool governance, approvals and auditability.

## Identity

Which identity does the agent use?

## Data

Which sources may it retrieve from?

## Tools

Which connectors or systems can it call?

## Approval

Which actions require human approval?

## Evidence

Can we observe and investigate it?

## Exit

Who owns, monitors and retires it?

### Agent 365 control pattern

inventory • lifecycle • least-privilege tool access • sensitive-data protection •  
human approvals • audit trail • kill switch

**Bottom line:** an agent's permissions are delegated authority — not a productivity preference.

# Control identity, entitlement, context, action and evidence

From 2 trusts to 6 control levers: This is the practical translation of Zero Trust for Copilot, Microsoft IQ and agents.

## Identity

**Who or what is asking?**

Entra · MFA · Conditional Access

## Entitlement

**What may it reach now?**

SharePoint · Teams · OneDrive · access reviews

## Context

**What should it trust?**

Fabric IQ · semantic models · endorsement

## Interaction

**What may AI process or produce?**

Purview labels · DLP · retention

## Action

**What may an agent do?**

Agent 365 · connectors · approval gates

## Evidence

**Can we explain and revoke?**

Audit · eDiscovery · Defender · lifecycle

**A single AI answer may touch every control surface. The operating model must connect them.**

# Move from exposure to trusted AI context

The goal is not a perfect estate. It is a verified path from one priority business scenario to governed context and safe action.

## 0–30 days

### Discover exposure + context

- Inventory Copilot/agent use cases
- Find sensitive, broad or ownerless data
- Identify authoritative metrics and semantic models
- Review current agents and connectors

**Deliverable:** exposure inventory + context map

## 31–60 days

### Govern + connect

- Remediate access and ownership
- Apply labels, DLP and secure defaults
- Certify or endorse authoritative data
- Define agent privileges and approval gates

**Deliverable:** protected context architecture

## 61–90 days

### Activate + scale

- Pilot one trusted business scenario
- Measure quality, traceability and adoption
- Monitor sensitive interactions and agent actions
- Package expansion backlog

**Deliverable:** governed use case + scale plan

**Checkpoint:** do not expand a use case until required access, protection, authoritative context and monitoring are verified.

# From a business question to trusted AI at scale

Start with the decision the business needs to make, then make sure AI has the right context, controls and authority to support it.

## Start with the decision

- Pick one high-value business question
- Define the outcome and decision owner

## Map the context

- Identify the work, data and knowledge AI needs
- Determine which sources are authoritative

## Close the trust gaps

- Fix access, ownership, quality and protection gaps
- Define agent/tool permissions and human approvals

## Activate safely

- Pilot with approved grounding and controls
- Measure answer quality, usefulness and risk

## Scale what works

- Expand to more domains and agents
- Monitor access, quality, drift and usage continuously

**What you leave with:** Prioritized use case • Trusted-context map • Governance gaps • Pilot plan • Scale criteria

# Eight questions before you scale Copilot or agents

These questions expose whether you have a trusted-context architecture or only a productivity pilot.

- 
- 1 Can we find high-risk data before users or agents do?
  - 2 Can we suppress discovery without pretending it is security?
  - 3 Can we stop sensitive prompts, sources or outputs where required?
  - 4 Can we inventory agents, tools, owners and actions?
  - 5 Can we explain why a user or agent had access?
  - 6 Can we identify the authoritative answer when sources conflict?
  - 7 Can we prove which sources grounded an answer?
  - 8 Can we revoke access or action rights fast enough?

**If the answer is “not yet,” keep the use case narrow and close the control gap before scaling.**

# The winning posture is trusted context, not locked-down data

Customers will move faster when they know what AI can access, what it should trust and what it can safely do.

1

## Copilot readiness is context readiness

Access, classification, lifecycle, ownership and authoritative sources determine trust.

2

## Permission is not proof of current need

AI exposes stale and excessive access faster than humans ever could.

3

## Agents make governance continuous

Once AI can act, identity, tools, approvals and evidence become operational requirements.

**A practical customer conversation starts with three questions:**

What can AI reach? • Which sources should AI trust? •  
What actions may an agent take?

The goal is not to minimize the data AI can use. The goal is to maximize the trusted context AI can use safely.

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