Gartner Enterprise Risk, Audit & Compliance Conference

28 - 29 September 2026
London, U.K.

2026 Executive Summary

Thank you, from the Conference Chair

Thank you for joining us at Gartner Enterprise Risk, Audit & Compliance Conference 2026. What an incredible experience to be together in London.

From connecting with your peers, discovering the latest insights from Gartner Analysts, and hearing from visionary leaders, we hope you feel empowered to navigate today's complex risk landscape and strengthen your organization's ability to respond to fast-evolving and volatile risks.

As the demands of your role continue to evolve, apply the guidance you gained by leveraging innovative technology, analytics, and communication to turn risk insights into action and drive accountability.

Thank you again for your time. Your participation means so much to us. We look forward to seeing you at Gartner Enterprise Risk, Audit & Compliance Conference 2027.

Sincerely,



Justine van Huyssteen
Conference Chair and Practice Vice President,
Gartner

Top takeaways

1

Advance risk ownership by building business leader risk management know-how at scale

Enable business leaders to quickly adapt risk oversight, independently spotting and closing gaps before risks materialize, by elevating their risk management know-how. To make this feasible at scale, design know-how as a service, improve know-how with AI, and scale know-how by partnering with peers in audit, compliance, and ERM.

Building a Business-Led Compliance Operating System

Audit's Role in Elevating Management Risk Ownership

Building Business-Driven, Actionable Compliance KRIs

Connector ERM: Elevating Risk Owner Performance

"Today's environment demands that we transform how we deliver value. Not by doing more of what we've always done, but by supporting the business differently."

Tegan Gebert,
VP Analyst,
Gartner

Nancy Queally,
Managing Vice President,
Gartner

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2

Build on existing governance structures to lead your organization through the AI era

The AI era presents a significant leadership opportunity for legal, risk, and compliance leaders. Assurance leaders can leverage their enterprise-wide visibility to bring alignment, accountability, and oversight to governance efforts while supporting responsible adoption. Beyond defining AI principles, ensure they're operationalized through codes of conduct, policies, and practical guidance to help employees make consistent, defensible decisions when confronted with emerging ethical dilemmas.

[The Executive Guide to AI Governance for Assurance Leaders]

"The question is no longer whether employees will encounter AI-driven ethical dilemmas, but whether we've prepared them to navigate those dilemmas confidently and consistently."

Kelly Larmon,
Director Analyst,
Gartner

3

Position assurance functions as enablers of your organization's AI ambitions

As AI is integrated into everyday business operations, assurance leaders must help their organization achieve its AI objectives through smart, strategic risk-taking. To help your organization deploy AI in a governed, risk-aware manner, focus on three key attributes: strategic alignment of AI investments, measurable achievement of expected outcomes, and reliable performance of AI systems.

[Audit 2030: Key Forces Shaping the Future of Internal Audit]

[Hot Spots Deep Dive: Autonomous AI Systems]

[Building Smart Data Governance for an AI-Driven Enterprise]

[The Executive Guide to AI Governance for Assurance Leaders]

"Our job isn't to be a roadblock. It's to help our organizations accelerate – with confidence."

Stephen Osborne,
Sr Director Analyst,
Gartner

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Adopt dynamic oversight to track and manage AI-driven changes to new and existing risks

Autonomous AI systems create new and evolving risk exposures by making decisions, taking actions, and interacting with other systems with limited human intervention. Identify AI-driven risks across existing risk domains rather than treating AI as a standalone risk category; and classify, document, and assess these impacts across the enterprise risk register. Recognize that traditional, point-in-time assurance approaches are insufficient for continuously learning and adapting AI systems; adopt more dynamic oversight strategies.

[From One to Many: Mapping AIs Impact Across the Risk Register]

[Building Smart Data Governance for an AI-Driven Enterprise]

[Hot Spots Deep Dive: Autonomous AI Systems]

[Auditing AI: Principles and Approaches]

"AI doesn't add a new risk. It amplifies the ones you already have."

Jim Mello,
Sr Director Analyst,
Gartner

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Drive better coordination to manage fast-moving, interconnected risks

Assurance teams must quickly spot, assess, and guide business leaders to an efficient response as emerging risks continue to proliferate. Shift ERM from standardized risk responses to coordination that surfaces misaligned responses, enables collaboration, and guides targeted actions. Strengthen compliance risk oversight by making it easier for business leaders to partner with compliance to develop actionable KRIs using operational data.

Managing Newly Emerged, Highly Interdependent Risks

Building Business-Driven, Actionable Compliance KRIs

"74% of risk leaders worry that important risk management activities are falling through the cracks today."

Jim Mello,
Sr Director Analyst,
Gartner

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Operationalize risk guardrails directly into business leader workflows

Amid the pace of today's organizational decision-making, risk oversight that operates as a lagging checkpoint guarantees friction. Traditional risk appetite statements, compliance policies, and annual audit plans gather dust as they're defensive and detached from day-to-day decisions. Assurance leaders must embed actionable "dos" and tolerances directly into business leader workflows, deploying flexible guardrails that enable business leader decision-making.

From Risk Appetite to Cost Decisions: How ERM Enables Resilience That Gets Executed

Audit at the Speed of Business: Strategies to Enable Audit's Timely Involvement in Transformation Initiatives

Real-Time Risk Management

"The business is transforming faster than ever. If audit arrives after the fact, we aren't protecting the business, we're just documenting the damage."

Stephen Osborne,
Sr Director Analyst,
Gartner

7

Select technology based on must-achieve outcomes, not feature checklists

Start by identifying your organization's most critical objectives and operational challenges, then evaluate solutions against their ability to deliver measurable value in those areas. Treat technology selection as a strategic business decision that enables transformation and competitive advantage rather than as a procurement exercise.

Magic Quadrant for TPRM Solutions: Assurance Leaders

Key Market Insights: Magic Quadrant for Governance, Risk and Compliance Tools

"The shocking reality is that despite spending trillions on technology annually, 4 out of 5 organizations still have unmet automation needs and feel buyer's remorse."

Jie Zhang,
VP Analyst,
Gartner

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Improve AI ROI in your function through scalable deployment

Although AI usage is now nearly universal among assurance teams, many leaders struggle to achieve meaningful impact or measurable ROI. To mature your AI usage and drive scalable deployment, follow Gartner's three-part framework: first, prioritize use case opportunities for scalability; second, drive adoption within your team by making AI both easy-to-use and hard-to-avoid; and third, embed governance and validation steps directly into AI workflows.

How to Scale AI Use in Audit

Designing an Effective AI Upskilling Program for Audit, Risk and Compliance

Ready Your Data for AI

No Plan, No Payoff: AI Business Impact Demands a Clear Strategy

"Scale for AI adoption is the ability to move AI from isolated pilots into repeatable, governed production, so use cases require less marginal effort, cost, and risk to operate and support."

Eren Frey,
Sr Director Analyst,
Gartner

9

Curate risk insights to drive effective board and committee interactions and build strategic influence

Board and executive risk committees need information that helps them fulfill oversight duties and drive decision-making and action. As risk information continues to proliferate, assurance leaders must play a "curatorial" role and build focused agendas for each of their committee interactions to help stakeholders fulfill their responsibilities.

How to Prepare for High-Impact Audit Committee Interactions

Elevating the Impact of the Executive Risk Committee

"The executive risk committee doesn't need more information – they need better curation."

Matt Hoyles,
Director Analyst,
Gartner

You can replay all of these sessions — and many more — over the next few months on Conference Navigator.

Save the date!

Join us 27-28 September 2027 in London, U.K. for Gartner Enterprise Risk, Audit & Compliance Conference, and don't miss the added value of attending with your team.

You can also take a look at our calendar to explore the range of conferences we hold to find those most relevant to you and your organization.

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