

# AI-Ready Data Breakthrough of the Year



The AI-Ready Data Breakthrough of the Year Award recognizes finance-led teams that have fundamentally strengthened their data foundations (across finance and the enterprise) to enable the next generation of AI-driven finance capabilities. This category celebrates breakthroughs where deliberate, focused data work made advanced analytics, automation and AI-assisted decision making possible at scale.

Recipients are recognized for strong judgment and leadership in preparing, curating and governing finance or enterprise data so it can be reliably used by AI (often unlocking new capabilities in forecasting, scenario modeling, performance management, close and consolidation, or insight generation). These breakthroughs are defined not by experimentation alone, but by forward-looking impact — positioning the finance function to operate faster and smarter and scale with greater confidence in an AI-enabled future.

### Winning entries may highlight breakthroughs such as:

- ✓ Preparing core finance and operational data to support AI-driven forecasting, planning or decision support
- ✓ Aligning data standards, metadata and governance to enable responsible and scalable AI use
- ✓ Modernizing finance data models or ERP-adjacent data to improve AI and analytics outcomes
- ✓ Establishing finance-led data foundations that position the organization for future AI capabilities
- ✓ Creating reusable, trusted data assets that will continue to power AI adoption over time
- ✓ Embedding governance that enables innovation rather than constrains it



# Finance AI Capability of the Year



The Finance AI Capability of the Year Award recognizes a revolutionary application of AI that has significantly transformed finance operations within a company. This award celebrates a capability that demonstrates the profound impact of AI in solving complex financial challenges, optimizing processes and driving strategic growth.

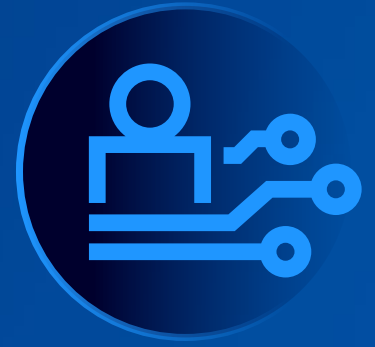
Recipients of this award are distinguished by their innovative approach, scalability and tangible outcomes, showcasing clear improvements in efficiency, accuracy and decision-making capabilities. This accolade not only honors technical excellence but also emphasizes the strategic benefits of AI in finance, paving the way for future advancements in the finance function.

### Winning entries may include approaches that demonstrate:

- ✓ Applying AI in finance has moved beyond a single use case or business problem to a broader portfolio of use cases that work together as part of an orchestrated workflow
- ✓ Leveraging AI to scale organizational decision support without increasing finance headcount
- ✓ Using a combination of AI techniques to autonomously manage multistep processes or multifaceted problems in finance to allow staff to spend time on higher-value work
- ✓ Creating AI models to assess and predict risks to enable the company to make better decisions in a volatile environment
- ✓ Using AI to proactively monitor large amounts of data in real time to identify unusual patterns and detect fraudulent activities more accurately and quickly than traditional methods



# AI-Ready People Breakthrough of the Year



The AI-Ready People Breakthrough of the Year Award celebrates finance leaders who have revolutionized the skills, roles and structure of their finance teams to accelerate AI adoption and fully realize the benefits of AI in finance operations. This award recognizes finance leaders who have pioneered new organizational models and talent strategies, enabling their firms to operate at the forefront of AI-enabled finance.

Recipients of this award are distinguished by their innovative restructuring of the finance function, including the creation of new AI roles, such as context engineers; new teams, such as dedicated product groups; and new talent acquisition and development strategies, such as the creation of new AI learning opportunities for staff. These innovations must have led to measurable business results generated at an organizational, team or individual level.

### Winning entries may include approaches that demonstrate:

- ✓ Creating and implementing a roadmap for how to evolve finance staff composition and finance organizational structure to accelerate AI innovation
- ✓ Establishing new performance objectives, learning and development channels, or career pathing opportunities created to generate engagement and enable growth among digital finance talent communities as their responsibilities continue to evolve and expand
- ✓ Building new talent pipelines focused on specific digital skills profiles, ranging from GenAI to data science
- ✓ Introducing specialized teams to accelerate AI development, ensure data quality or govern AI-driven innovation initiatives
- ✓ Enabling new ways of working within and across finance teams to remove functional silos and rapidly align specialty skill sets to critical AI innovation priorities/opportunities
- ✓ Rewriting traditional finance job descriptions to explicitly include digital responsibilities (i.e., proof of shifting roles and responsibilities outside pure new technology roles)



# Enterprise AI Breakthrough of the Year



The Enterprise AI Breakthrough of the Year Award recognizes a finance team that has demonstrated exceptional leadership and innovation in integrating AI into their enterprise's business and operating models. This prestigious award celebrates a finance team that has led the impactful application of AI to elevate or transform enterprise performance and competitiveness safely and ethically.

Recipients of this award are distinguished by their deep understanding of the opportunities and risks created by AI tools, innovative AI strategies and tactics, and the enterprisewide lens they apply. These teams have made a material difference in their enterprise's ability to grow and operate at scale in an AI-shaped economy.

### Winning entries may include approaches that demonstrate:

- ✓ Developing new capabilities with enterprise scale that were made possible by AI beyond isolated pilots, functional automations or single-use analytics deployments
- ✓ Delivering durable enterprise capabilities, material financial impact and operating-model change led or orchestrated by the CFO or finance function, not merely sponsoring technology deployment
- ✓ Redesigning financial strategy and resource allocation workflows to measure returns and prioritize investments in or related to AI
- ✓ Creating AI governance models that empower leaders across the enterprise to more confidently pursue the business opportunities made possible through AI
- ✓ Rearchitecting tech stacks across the enterprise to take advantage of the opportunities created by AI
- ✓ Achieving balanced stakeholder, environmental, community and societal outcomes through the development and deployment of AI

