Gartner

Secure Your Edge in the 2026 AI Vendor Race

Develop a scalable, secure AI tech stack.

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2026 is a “prove it to me” year for AI. Chief product officers (CPOs) need to show real business outcomes and revenue from their AI investments.

56% of revenue is expected to come from AI-capable products, and three out of four CPOs are already planning to invest in agentic AI.

The only way to succeed in AI without stacking technical debt and falling behind is to create a composable stack that meets the ever-changing needs of the customer.

To win the 2026 AI race, CPOs must act now:

- → Advance agentic and AI model (LLMs, DSLMs and smaller models) capabilities to shift from hype to real, scalable outcomes.
- → Drive a preemptive security posture to protect your architecture and navigate risks.
- → Optimize your product portfolio to drive strategic AI investments and beat competitors.
- → Develop a composable architecture.

62% of CPOs who haven’t integrated AI are still evaluating use cases and results. Stop evaluating and start scaling. Build the AI-driven product organization of tomorrow with proven Gartner insights.



John Barber
Group Vice President

Your roadmap to success

The only way to succeed in AI without stacking technical debt and falling behind is to create a composable stack that meets the ever-changing needs of the customer.

How CPOs achieve this priority with Gartner: CPOs can successfully navigate 2026 as a pivotal “prove it to me” year for AI. Rather than getting stuck evaluating use cases, leaders can transition to demonstrate real, measurable business outcomes by differentiating offerings, reducing risks and investing in high-value anchor bets to capture expected AI-driven revenue growth.

1. **Advance your agentic and LLM-enabled capabilities.**
2. Drive a preemptive security posture in your stack.
3. Develop a composable AI architecture.
4. Optimize your portfolio to drive AI investment.

4 key outcomes to consider in Step 1

Align AI capabilities directly with customer needs to evaluate and prioritize the use cases that will deliver the highest business impact and feasibility.

Scale AI responsibly and deliver tailored customer experiences by leveraging modular LLM designs, agent frameworks and defined operating models.

Accelerate your time-to-value and drive operational efficiency by consolidating your stack into an autonomous, collaborative AI agent ecosystem.

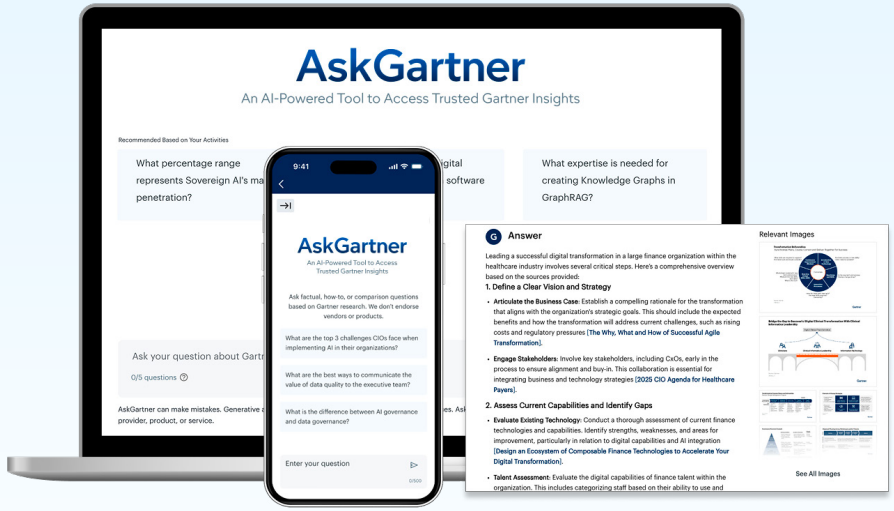
Maximize ROI and minimize risk by connecting your roadmap’s AI implementation strategies directly to tangible business revenue.

Key questions your CPO peers are asking Gartner

Gartner clients can click to explore answers.

How do I set the AI enterprise strategy?	Explore Answer ↗
What successful AI use cases can I use for my product strategy?	Explore Answer ↗
How do I build an AI platform strategy that scales our value?	Explore Answer ↗
How do I make data my greatest source of value in the AI vendor race?	Explore Answer ↗
What foundational technologies are necessary for successful AI adoption?	Explore Answer ↗

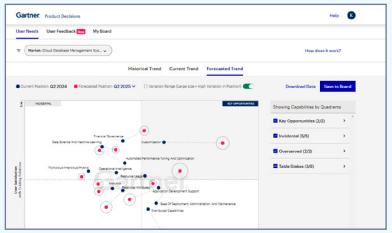
Your peers use AskGartner to answer these questions in minutes.



Learn More

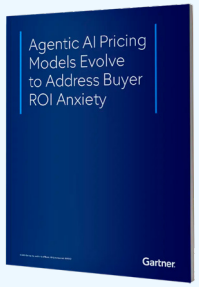
Gartner resources turn your priorities into plans and actions

Advance your agentic and LLM-enabled capabilities.



Winning the AI Vendor Race: A CPO Strategy Guide ↗

Drive a preemptive security posture in your stack.



Strategic Agentic AI Pricing for Product Leaders ↗

Develop a composable AI architecture.



Winning in 2026 — Strategic Priorities for Tech CPOs ↗

Optimize your portfolio to drive AI investment.



Create a Defensible Position in the $4.7T AI Market ↗

Engage with Gartner

- Evaluate and prioritize use cases for impact, feasibility and alignment to business outcomes.
- Define operating model, ownership and responsible AI principles for scaling AI.

Expected outcomes

- Integrate AI technologies into your product portfolios, ensuring alignment with current customer needs.
- Connect AI implementation strategies to tangible business results, minimizing risk and maximizing ROI.

Client Story

Kyndryl Reinvents Go-to-Market Strategy

Mission-critical priority

Kyndryl sought Gartner support to transform its infrastructure, integration, implementation and operation capabilities into cutting-edge digital experiences for its customers.

How Kyndryl leveraged Gartner resources

By leveraging Gartner insights, along with expert-led General Manager Working Sessions, the client confidently refined its strategy, prioritized growth opportunities and made informed decisions.

Mission accomplished

The partnership resulted in a successful market repositioning and the launch of Kyndryl Bridge, an AI-powered, open-integration digital business platform, which attracted over 1,200 clients in its first year.

Watch the full story ↗

Address your other mission-critical priorities

Build the AI-driven product organization of tomorrow.

The average increase in productivity from using AI in product organizations is **35%**.

Develop a scalable, secure AI tech stack.

72% of CPOs believe their AI-integrated product performance is outperforming their competition.

Create product strategies to win the AI vendor race.

46% of CPOs believe that the main driver influencing AI integration is technological innovation and adoption.

Connect with us

Get actionable, objective business and technology insights that drive smarter decisions and stronger performance on your mission-critical priorities.

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