

Gartner®

Gartner Enterprise Risk, Audit & Compliance Conference

15 – 16 September 2026 | Grapevine, TX

28 – 29 September 2026 | London, U.K.

Key insights from top sessions



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Missed the 2026 conference?

Visit our website to learn more about the key insights and takeaways from this unique gathering of risk, audit and compliance leaders.

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Tracks at a Glance

Attendees participated in 70+ insights-backed sessions designed to empower assurance leaders to help management build sharper risk reflexes to address fast-evolving, volatile risks. Each track focused on using innovative technology, analytics and communication to turn risk insights into action, drive accountability and boost engagement in today's complex risk landscape.

Track A: Realizing Value From Technology and Analytics

Realizing the promise of risk technology and analytics requires assurance leaders to make focused investments in high-impact, scaled use cases supported by process and governance designed to ensure adoption and successful execution. This track helps enterprise risk, audit and compliance executives discover the best use cases, market analysis and proven approaches to accelerate and expand the application of advanced analytics and technology in their organizations.

Track B: Accelerating Response to Emerging Risks

Rapid proliferation of emerging and newly emerged risks challenges assurance executives and their teams to quickly spot and assess them, and guide business leadership to an efficient response that enables risk-balanced growth. This track helps enterprise risk, audit and compliance executives gain fresh insights into key risk trends and the strategies that leading organizations are relying on to respond rapidly to these new risks.

Track C: Transforming Functional Effectiveness

Heightened expectations for productivity, driven by the need for more real-time assurance and the promise of GenAI, will compel assurance leaders to reimagine how their teams deliver value and the processes, competencies and resources they require. This track helps enterprise risk, audit and compliance executives build, evolve and adapt successful strategies, models and tactics to drive continued functional transformation and more effective risk management across their organizations.

Track D: Delivering Business Impact

As assurance leaders advance their teams' ability to surface novel risk insights, they must equally advance their ability to help business partners see the value of these ideas, embed them into their thinking and quickly take action. This track helps enterprise risk, audit and compliance executives design and deliver more effective risk communications, reporting and tools that both clarify the business value of risk insights and make it easier to act on them.

Track E: Enhancing Executive Leadership and Influence

Advancing accountability for effective risk management, deepening risk ownership and evolving the organization's risk culture require assurance leaders to exhibit considerable influence in make-or-break interactions with executive leadership. This track helps enterprise risk, audit and compliance leaders architect high-impact executive leadership interactions that advance support for their functional and organizational objectives and increase their personal influence within the business.

Gartner Enterprise Risk, Audit & Compliance Conference: From Risk Insights to Action

As assurance leaders race to surface novel risk insights, they face the equally urgent task of enabling business management to act quickly and effectively on rapidly evolving risks. CEOs expect sharper risk reflexes to keep pace with volatile threats and are looking to assurance leaders for guidance. Coaching the business now means more than delivering insights — it requires navigating complex, fast-moving risks, aligning uneven business impacts, meeting higher expectations for risk management ROI and closing know-how gaps among leaders. Progressive risk, audit and compliance executives are translating insights into action by targeting technology and analytics investments, adapting processes and reimagining executive interactions to drive accountability.

Gartner Enterprise Risk, Audit & Compliance Conference 2026 explored key innovations for executives to help them engage management, strengthen risk management capabilities and elevate their teams' profiles in a rapidly changing risk landscape.

“Insightful sharing among peers and analysts provided valuable opportunities. Having dedicated time to explore complex and challenging topics, guided by excellent conversation prompts, was invaluable.”

Rachel Gardezi
Head of ERM, Tradeweb

Audit 2030: Key Forces Shaping the Future of Internal Audit



Stephen Osborne
Senior Director Analyst

Session summary

By 2030, forces within and beyond audit will reshape how audit operates and delivers value. With relentless technological innovation, evolving skill needs and heightened regulatory scrutiny, the risk environment is changing faster than ever before, and internal audit must change with it.

This session covered what the future of internal audit will bring and how to bridge the gaps to get there.

Key actions for audit leaders:

- **Adapt assurance to local realities:** Tailor audit coverage and expertise to increasingly localized operating environments, while providing confidence that jurisdiction-specific differences are intentional, understood and aligned with enterprise objectives.
- **Assess workforce readiness for human-AI collaboration:** Evaluate whether the organization has the talent, governance and oversight capabilities needed to effectively operate, govern and oversee a hybrid human and AI workforce.
- **Evaluate AI value realization:** Assess whether AI investments are strategically aligned, delivering intended business outcomes and operating reliably to help the organization accelerate AI adoption with confidence.



Only 11% of CFOs report financial value from AI, yet 91% of board members expect it to drive shareholder value.

How to get started

- › Learn how to effectively develop and communicate an **internal audit department transformation strategy**.
- › Discover **strategic priorities for CAEs** to drive greater impact in an AI-enabled business environment (complimentary virtual briefing).

How to Scale AI Use in Audit



Eren Fry
Senior Director Analyst

Session summary

Enterprise AI tools are here, and audit departments are actively experimenting with tools and piloting use cases. But many struggle to take their use cases out of the pilot stage and embed them in audit methodology, resulting in limited impacts on departmental efficiency.

This session covered the strategies that leading audit departments have used to scale audit's use of AI tools to the next level.

Key actions for audit leaders:

- **Prioritize high-value, scalable AI use cases:** Break audit workflows into discrete tasks, identify where AI can create the most value and prioritize use cases based on both business impact and implementation feasibility.
- **Drive team adoption through structured enablement:** Build AI fluency through clear expectations, training, accountability and recognition programs that encourage consistent use of AI across audit teams rather than limiting adoption to a few power users.
- **Embed governance and validation into workflows:** Scale AI responsibly by incorporating validation, documentation and audit-trail requirements directly into audit processes, ensuring AI outputs are reliable, repeatable and trusted by stakeholders.



Despite widespread progress in AI adoption in audit, only 15% of audit teams have formal, structured use cases.

How to get started

- › Explore the [top AI insights for CAEs](#) to strengthen audit effectiveness, AI governance and assurance over emerging AI risks (complimentary report).
- › Discover [benchmarks on audit's use of AI](#) to understand common use cases and barriers to realizing value.

The Executive Guide to AI Governance for Assurance Leaders



Jaiman Patel
Director Analyst

Session summary

Effective AI governance requires a strong operating model, clear policies, strict controls and enabling technologies. Organizations must balance AI's significant value with the risks of its growing criticality, scalability and democratization.

This session, which leverages the Gartner AI Governance Playbook, covered how to understand and execute your governance role to ensure AI systems are developed and deployed in a compliant, ethical, trustworthy and responsible manner.

Key actions for assurance leaders:

- **Establish AI governance:** Define AI principles, decision rights, governance structures and accountability mechanisms that extend existing frameworks, making governance feel more familiar and less intimidating.
- **Clarify assurance's role in AI governance:** Bring together assurance functions to define responsibilities, create standards and guidelines, and align governance activities with organizational values, culture and risk tolerance.
- **Monitor governance effectiveness and trigger reviews:** Develop metrics that track AI risks, control implementation and program performance, while establishing objective review triggers to ensure governance evolves alongside changes in technology, regulation and business strategy.



Only 33% of organizations have established organization-level AI governance, development and deployment processes and frameworks.

How to get started

- › Discover how to **establish AI oversight and governance** to enable responsible AI adoption and manage emerging enterprise risks.
- › Explore how to **extend governance to include AI-specific considerations** like trust, transparency and diversity.

How to Scale Aligned Assurance for an Interconnected Landscape



Brian Andersen
Senior Director Analyst

Session summary

With rising geopolitical uncertainty, rapid technological change and evolving cyber risks, today's risk leaders face a complex, interconnected landscape requiring ongoing, dynamic alignment across assurance functions.

This session covered how to deepen collaboration across functions through improving information flows to leverage assurance outcomes while preserving core responsibilities.

Key actions for assurance leaders:

- **Identify trusted assurance partners:** Determine which assurance functions can serve as key assurance partners, and build transparency, communication and trust to support greater reliance on each other's work and outcomes.
- **Translate risk languages:** Develop a common approach for translating findings and assurance results across functions without requiring every assurance provider to adopt the same methodology.
- **Create a dynamic assurance map:** Build a scalable view of assurance activities and outcomes that enables continuous visibility into risk coverage, supports more targeted assurance efforts and provides leadership with a holistic view of enterprise risk.



Only 37% of board members agree the information they receive from risk and assurance functions is consistent.

How to get started

- › Discover how to start building an **aligned assurance program** that improves coordination, risk coverage and communication across assurance functions.
- › **Use this tool** to help assurance functions align on risk assessment, mitigation, monitoring and reporting activities.

How to More Accurately Assess Your Compliance Program's Effectiveness



Kelly Larmon
Director Analyst

Session summary

Only 37% of compliance leaders feel fully confident assessing their compliance program's effectiveness. Many rely on reactive methods, while those who are more confident tend to test program elements and employee activities against defined quality standards.

This session covered the nine Gartner quality standards and how they can be leveraged to better assess the effectiveness of your compliance program.

Key actions for compliance leaders:

- **Review metrics for outcome gaps:** Assess current program metrics to identify where there are gaps in measuring the effectiveness and outcomes of program activities.
- **Identify quality standards to measure:** Select and document the quality standards that are most relevant to your compliance activities, focusing on those that promote understanding, reduce effort to comply and reinforce the personal value of compliance.
- **Assess employee-facing activities using quality standards:** Evaluate training, policies, communications and other employee-facing program elements through surveys and business touchpoints to measure whether they are driving the intended compliance outcomes.



When quality standards are present, employees are 139% more likely to understand and prioritize compliance.

How to get started

- › Explore how to **adapt your compliance program** to stay ahead in an expanding risk environment (complimentary report).
- › Discover **three best practices** to help compliance leaders create effective training programs.

Innovations in Risk Reporting



Elliott Long
Director Analyst

Session summary

The Gartner Head of ERM Agenda Poll shows risk reporting is the No. 2 priority for ERM leaders this year.

This session covered three innovations from leading ERM teams pertaining to risk reporting:

1. **AI-generated risk insights** to better understand the risk and control environment and recommend actions
2. **Real-time risk insights** to keep up with the pace of business decisions
3. **Quantified risk insights** to express risk exposures in the language of the business

Key actions for enterprise risk leaders:

- **Use AI to generate new risk insights:** Apply AI beyond efficiency gains by using it to detect trends, uncover risk dependencies and recommend risk responses that add new, decision-useful insights to recurring risk reports.
- **Make risk reporting more timely:** Identify one opportunity to move from ad hoc or retrospective risk reporting toward more predictive, real-time risk updates that keep pace with business decisions.
- **Pilot risk quantification for a high-priority business decision:** Start your risk quantification journey with one upcoming business decision (e.g., a strategic initiative) and express risk exposure in monetary terms to help improve executives' decision making.



Only 10% of ERM leaders express confidence in leveraging AI for deeper insights.

How to get started

- › Discover how to **engineer reflexive risk ownership** across the business to accelerate risk response and strengthen enterprise resilience (complimentary report).
- › Learn how to **enhance ERM risk analysis** with GenAI to uncover deeper insights and improve decision making.

Gartner for Legal, Risk & Compliance

Everything you need in a single solution to:

Accelerate technology investments • Increase functional productivity • Modernize risk management approaches



Analyst insights and interactions

- Tap into latest insights on functional improvement and personal effectiveness, as well as emerging topics like generative AI.
- Get direct access to our global team of business and technology insights analysts.



Service delivery support

- Available in the self-directed delivery model with the support of a service associate.



Peer experiences

- Quickly solve urgent challenges. Connect with a community of business and tech peers.
- Engage in forums, 1:1 chats, polls and product ratings and reviews from verified peers.



Must-attend events

- In-person and virtual events arm you with actionable plans.
- Be inspired by world-class speakers, thought leaders, experts, demos and peers.



Workflow and benchmark tools

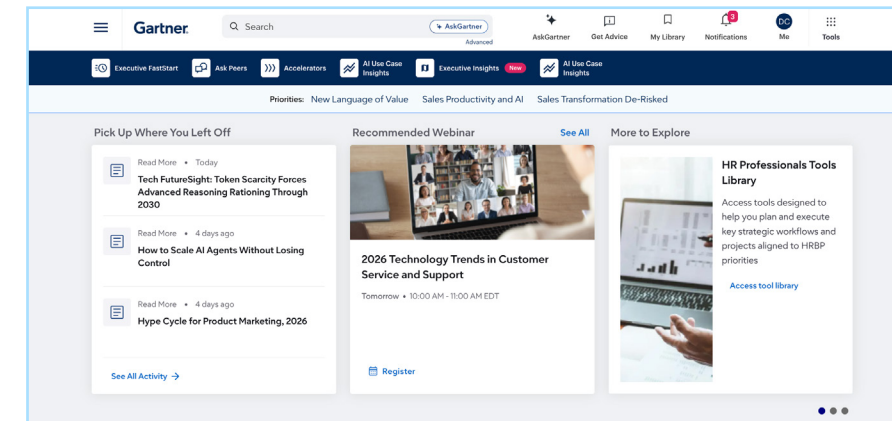
Practical tools and benchmarks to turn strategy into action by helping accelerate key initiatives and drive better business outcomes, including:

- Functional maturity assessments
- Risk assessments
- Budget and efficiency benchmarking



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