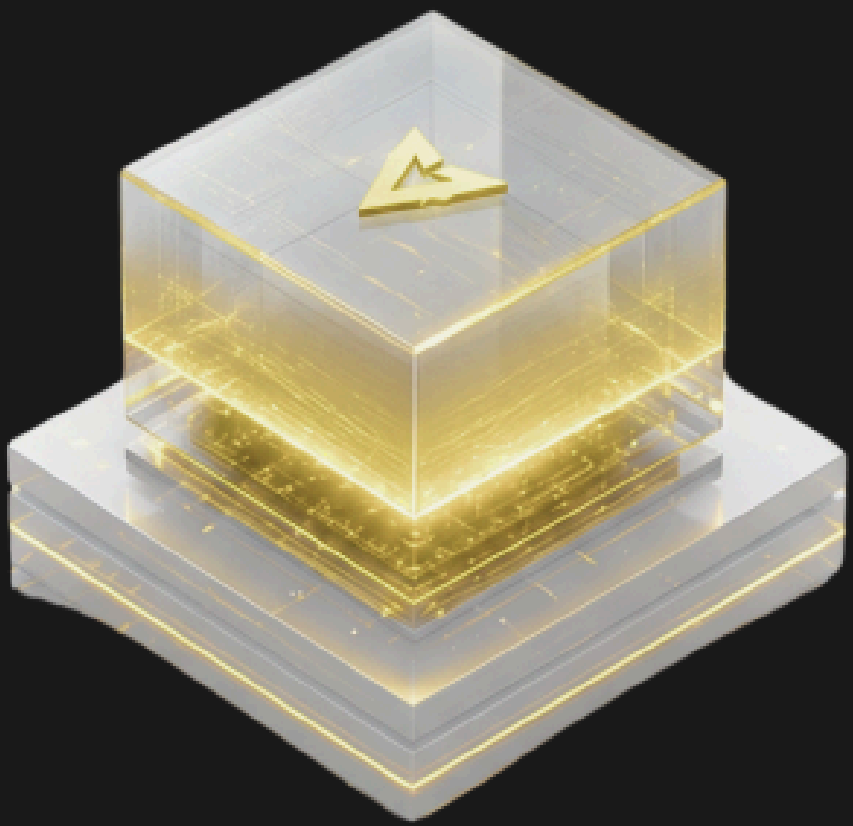
VAULT
Australia's National Hyperscale Cloud

EXECUTIVE GUIDE

DEPLOY AI WITH CONFIDENCE

A practical guide to turning AI opportunities into action

From identifying where to start to building a foundation for secure, scalable AI



AI HAS POTENTIAL.
THE PATH FORWARD ISN'T ALWAYS CLEAR.

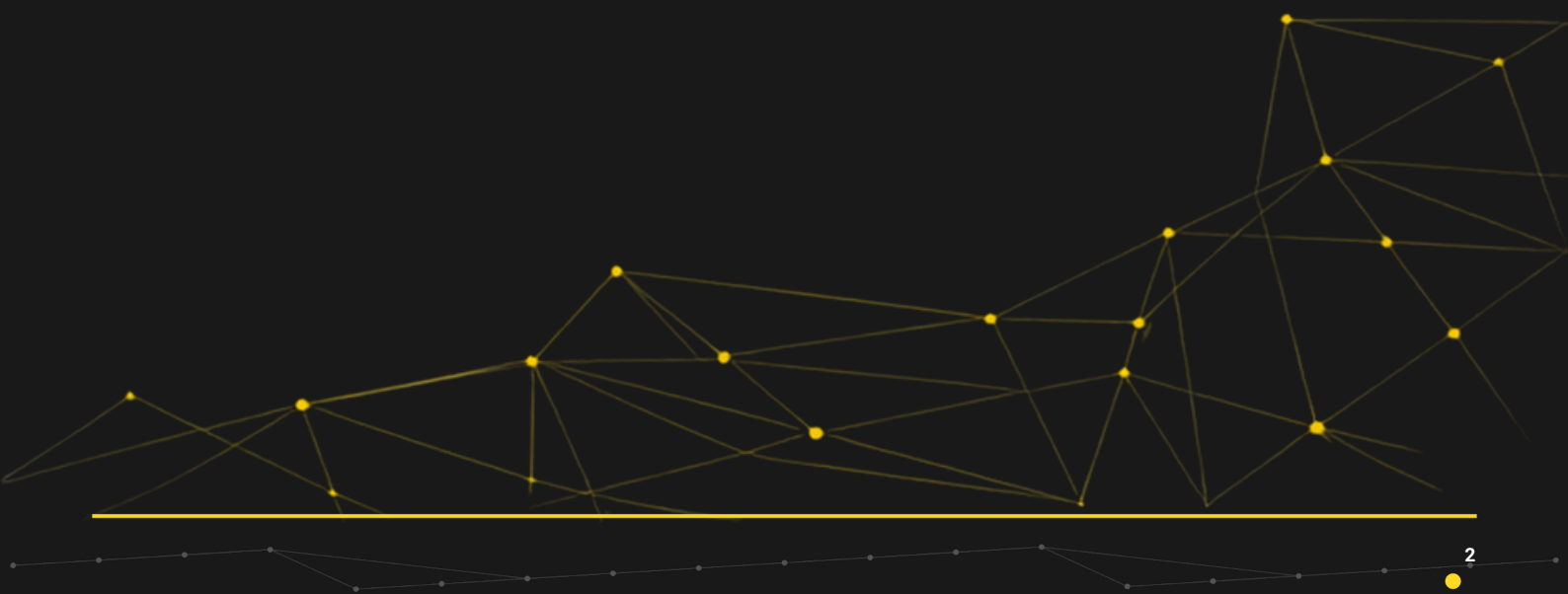
AI has the potential to transform how organisations operate, make decisions, deliver services and create new capabilities.

For organisations operating in regulated or high-assurance environments, the challenge is knowing what to do next — where value exists, which opportunities are worth pursuing, what risks they introduce and what needs to be in place before deployment.

This guide provides a practical framework for moving from AI opportunity to secure deployment — balancing business value with security, compliance, privacy, sovereignty, practical implementation and the ability to scale.

THE GOAL IS NOT TO ELIMINATE UNCERTAINTY

It is to make informed decisions at each stage and build confidence in the path forward.



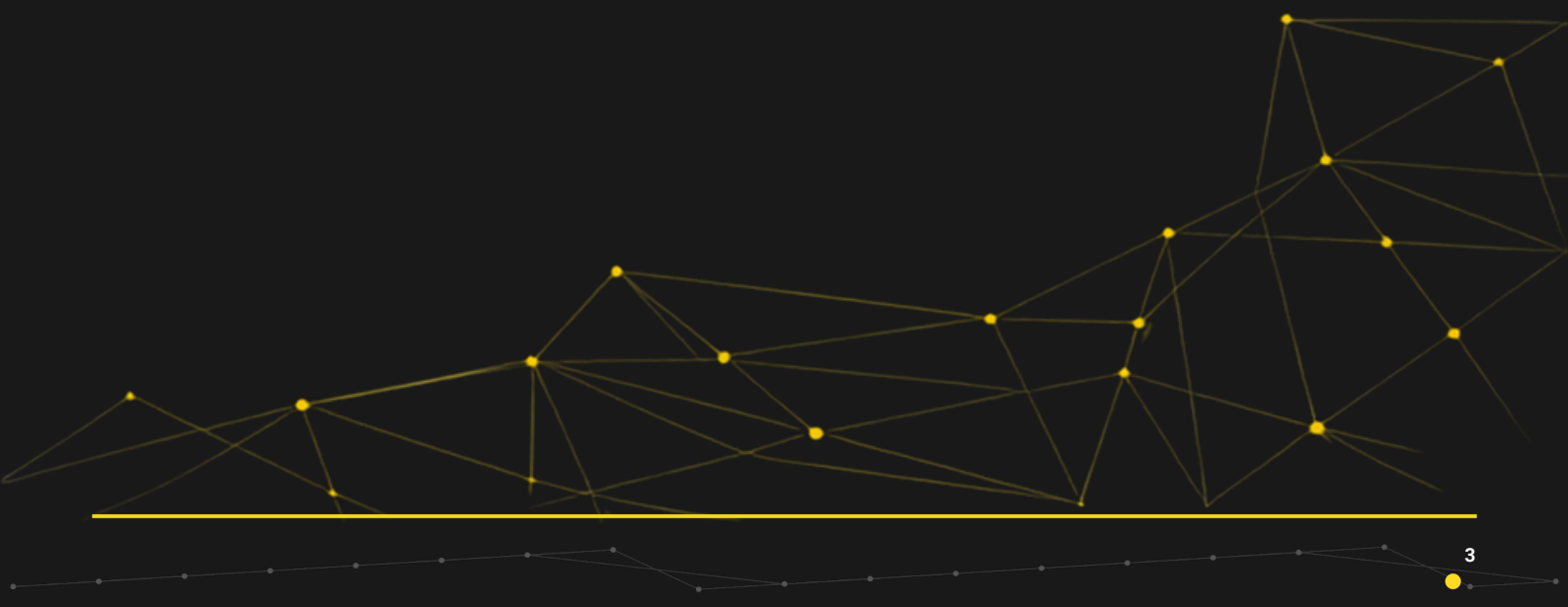
01 START WITH THE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

AI should solve a problem — not become the problem.

The strongest starting point is not the technology. It is the outcome you want to improve. Identify where AI could create meaningful business or operational value, then determine whether AI is the right way to achieve it.

- What business problem are we trying to solve?
- What would a better outcome look like, and how will we measure it?
- Is AI genuinely capable of improving that outcome?
- What data, people and processes would the solution need to access?
- What level of accuracy, reliability and human oversight is required?

PRINCIPLE
Start with the outcome. Then determine whether AI is the right way to achieve it.



02 PRIORITISE THE RIGHT USE CASES

Not every AI opportunity should become an AI project. Evaluate potential use cases across value, risk and readiness before committing resources.

VALUE

Potential productivity, service, decision-making, cost, strategic or mission outcomes.

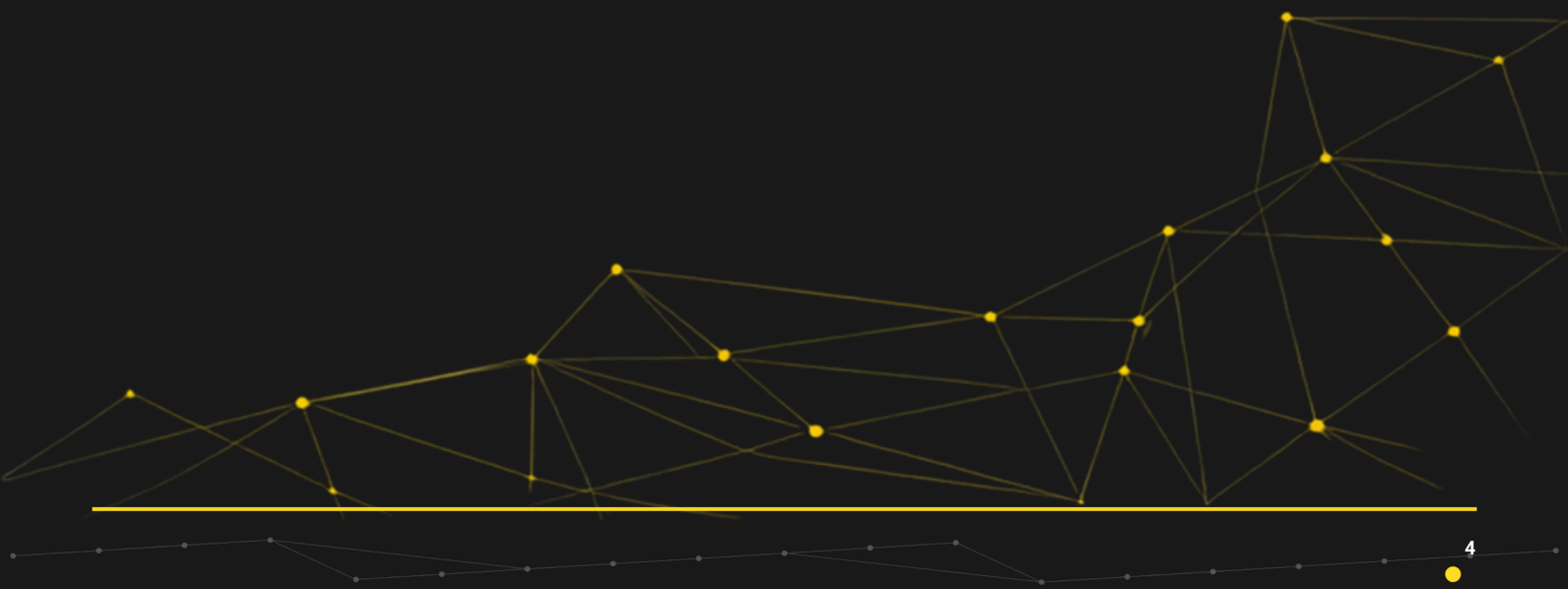
RISK

Data sensitivity, privacy, security, regulation, intellectual property and the impact of incorrect outputs.

READINESS

Data quality, skills, governance, stakeholder support, services, operating environment, economics and scale.

The best early opportunity is often the one where meaningful value can be demonstrated while risks remain understood and manageable.



03 NAVIGATE THE JOURNEY

AI adoption is not a single technology decision. It is a journey involving business, technology, security, risk, compliance and operational considerations.

01 OPPORTUNITY
Identify a business problem or opportunity where AI could create value

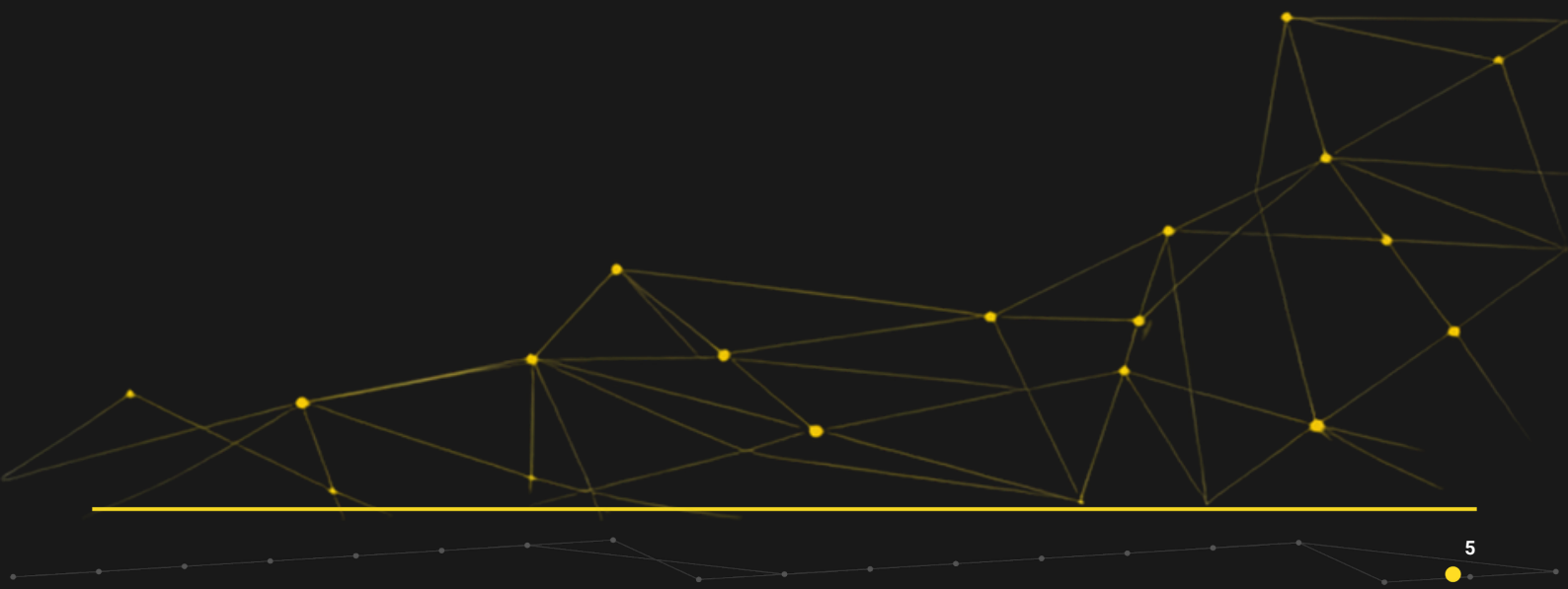
02 ASSESSMENT
Evaluate value, feasibility, risk and organisational readiness.

03 PLANNING
Define requirements, stakeholders, governance and implementation approach.

04 VALIDATION
Test the approach, validate outcomes and understand practical implications.

05 DEPLOYMENT
Move into an appropriate operating environment with required security and controls.

06 SCALE
Expand the capability as value is demonstrated and requirements evolve.

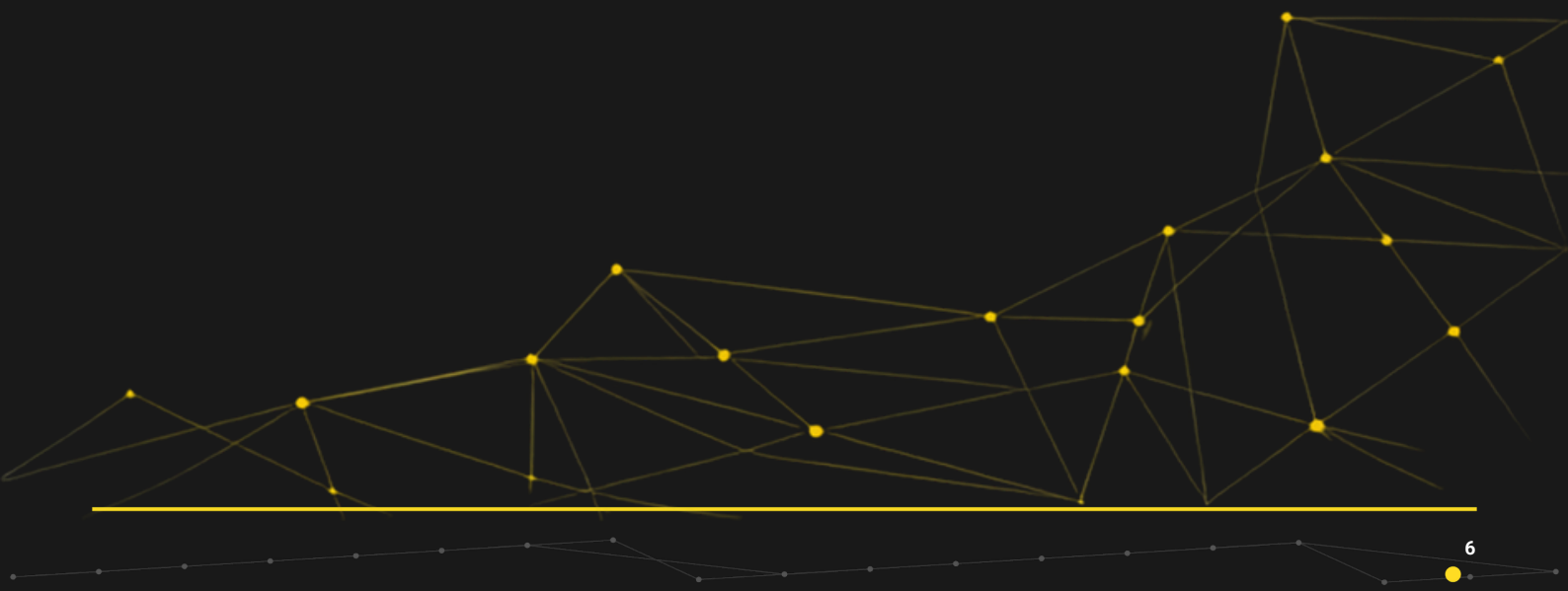


04 BRING THE RIGHT PEOPLE INTO THE CONVERSATION

AI initiatives can affect more than the team responsible for implementing them. Different stakeholders will have different questions — and those questions are easier to address when they are considered early.

- Business & Operations
- IT & Architecture
- Security
- Risk & Compliance
- Legal & Privacy
- Data
- Procurement & Finance
- Executive Leadership
- End Users

PRINCIPLE The goal is not more approval steps. It is better-informed decisions earlier in the journey.



05 BUILD SECURITY, COMPLIANCE AND CONTROL IN

For regulated and high-assurance organisations, security and compliance can determine whether an AI initiative can move forward. These considerations should inform decisions from the beginning — not become a final check before deployment.

DATA

What data will the AI system use, and how sensitive is it?

PRIVACY

What personal or sensitive information is involved?

SECURITY

What controls are required to protect data, systems and users?

COMPLIANCE

What regulatory, contractual or organisational requirements apply?

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

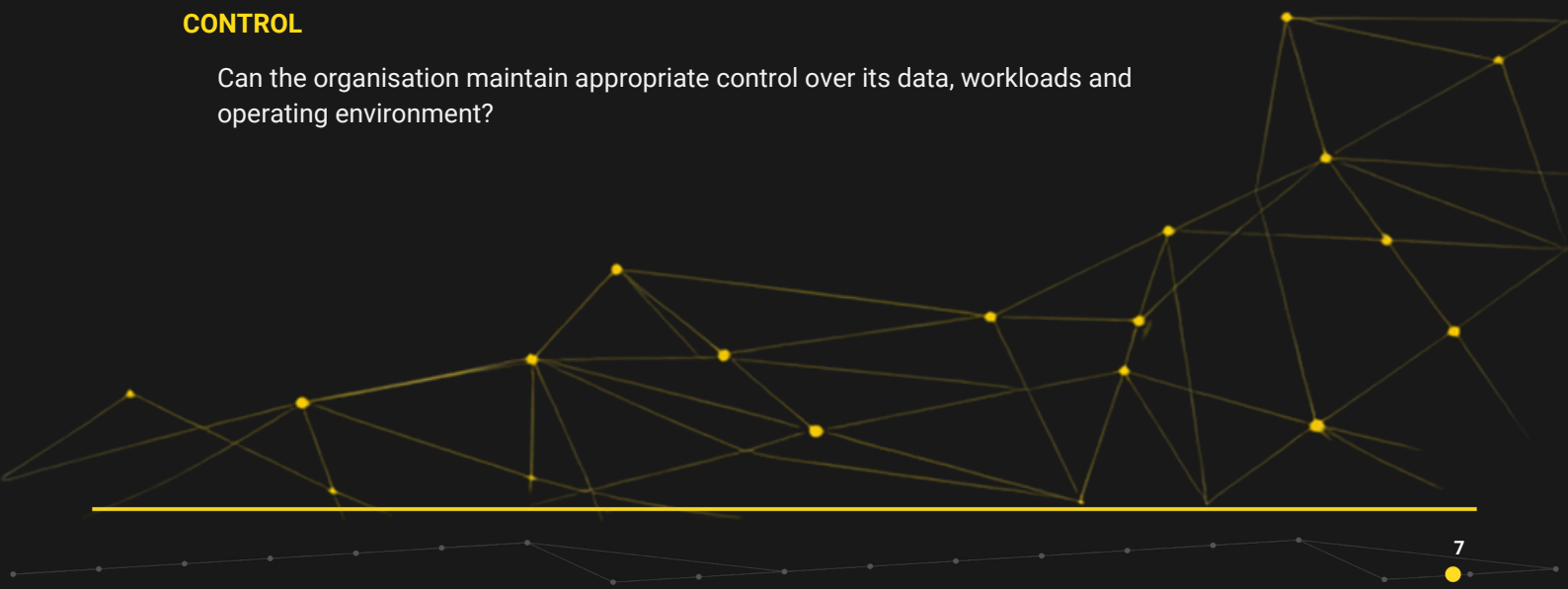
How will proprietary information, models, content and outputs be protected?

GOVERNANCE

Who is accountable for the AI system, its use and its outputs?

CONTROL

Can the organisation maintain appropriate control over its data, workloads and operating environment?



06 CONSIDER SOVEREIGNTY AND CONTROLS

For organisations operating in Australia, where data and workloads reside — and who operates the environment in which they reside — can be an important part of the AI decision.

Sovereignty extends beyond simply identifying a physical location. It can involve data residency, operational access, control of the environment and the legal and jurisdictional context in which services operate.

- Where is data stored and processed?
- Where do workloads operate?
- Who has operational access?
- Who controls the environment?
- What Australian legal and jurisdictional considerations apply?
- Does the operating model align with organisational requirements?

Principle:

Sovereignty is not simply a hosting decision. It is a consideration of residency, control, operations and risk.

07 CHOOSE SERVICES AROUND THE REQUIREMENT

Once the opportunity, requirements and risks are understood, organisations can make better decisions about the services and operating environment required to support deployment.

- What cloud services are required to support the workload?
- How will the solution integrate with existing systems and processes?
- What security, access, monitoring and operational capabilities are required?
- What are the expected costs at pilot and production scale?
- How could data, usage and service requirements change over time?

PRINCIPLE Start with the workload and business requirement. Avoid selecting technology or infrastructure before the need is understood.

08 PLAN FOR WHAT COMES NEXT

A successful AI pilot creates a new question: what happens next? As adoption increases, requirements can change — and the economics of AI can change with them.

USAGE

How will user numbers, workload volumes and data grow?

OPERATIONS

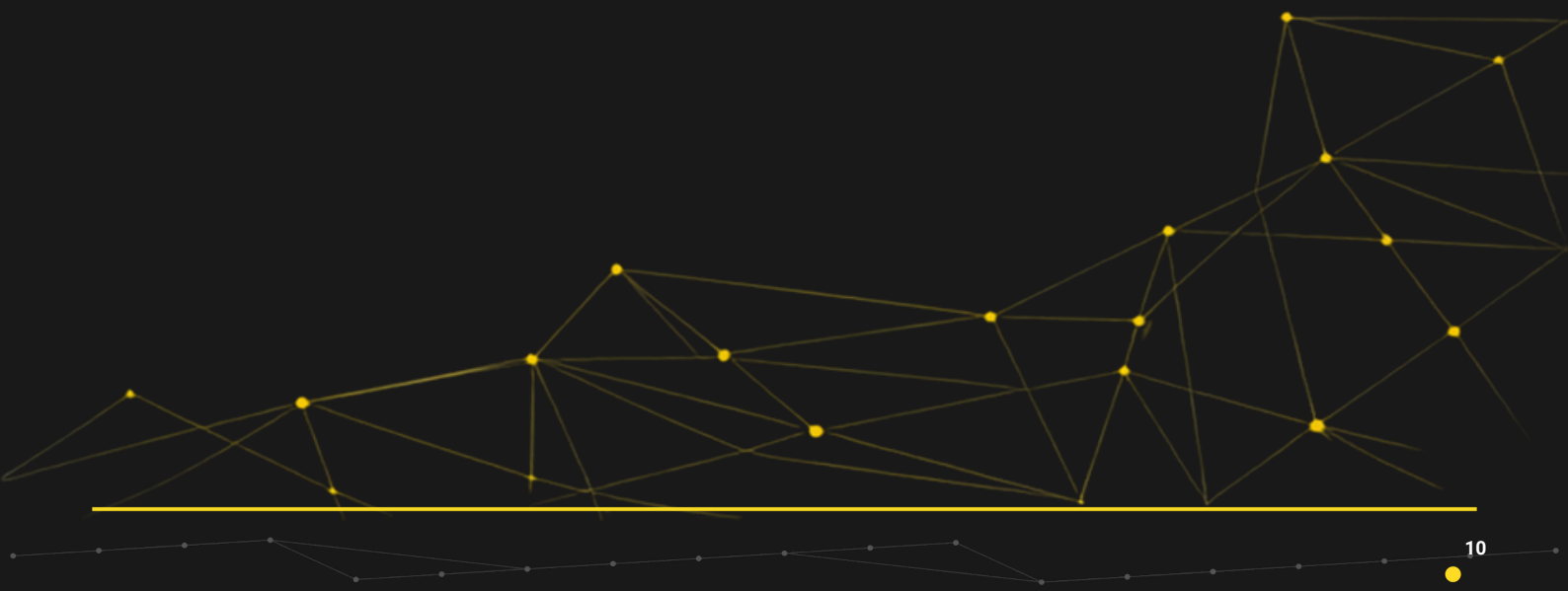
How will security, governance, support and monitoring evolve?

ECONOMICS

How will service and operating costs change at production scale?

Planning for scale does not mean predicting the future perfectly. It means avoiding decisions today that unnecessarily constrain tomorrow's options.

Build a foundation that can evolve as AI initiatives move from initial opportunities to broader production requirements.



03 HOW VAULT CLOUD HELPS ORGANISATIONS MOVE AI FORWARD

Moving AI forward requires more than technology. Organisations need to understand where AI can create value, what risks need to be addressed, what decisions need to be made and what it will take to implement and operate the resulting capability.

01

THE EXPERTISE

Practical knowledge to help organisations understand where to start, identify opportunities and navigate the challenges and key considerations of their AI journey.

02

THE GUIDANCE

A practical approach to help organisations understand what comes next — from opportunity and planning through to implementation and deployment.

03

THE SERVICES

Cloud services designed to support AI workloads and evolving business requirements.

04

THE ECOSYSTEM

A broad partner ecosystem that extends our capabilities, brings together complementary expertise and technology, and helps organisations achieve greater value from their AI initiatives.

05

THE ENVIRONMENT

A secure sovereign environment designed for high-assurance organisations, helping address security, data residency, operational control and the Australian regulatory and legislative context.

06

ABILITY TO SCALE

A foundation that can evolve as AI initiatives move from initial opportunities to broader production requirements.

THE OUTCOME

Greater confidence to move AI from opportunity to operational capability — with the right decisions, environment and path to scale.

Deploy AI with Confidence

AI adoption does not require every decision to be made at once. It requires a clear path.

Start by understanding where AI can create meaningful value. Identify the opportunities worth pursuing. Understand the risks and requirements. Bring the right stakeholders into the conversation. Plan the path from opportunity to implementation. Build security, compliance and control into the approach. Consider sovereignty and the operating environment. Then create a foundation that can evolve as your capability grows.

KNOW WHERE TO START.
KNOW HOW TO MOVE FORWARD.
DEPLOY WITH CONFIDENCE.

START THE CONVERSATION

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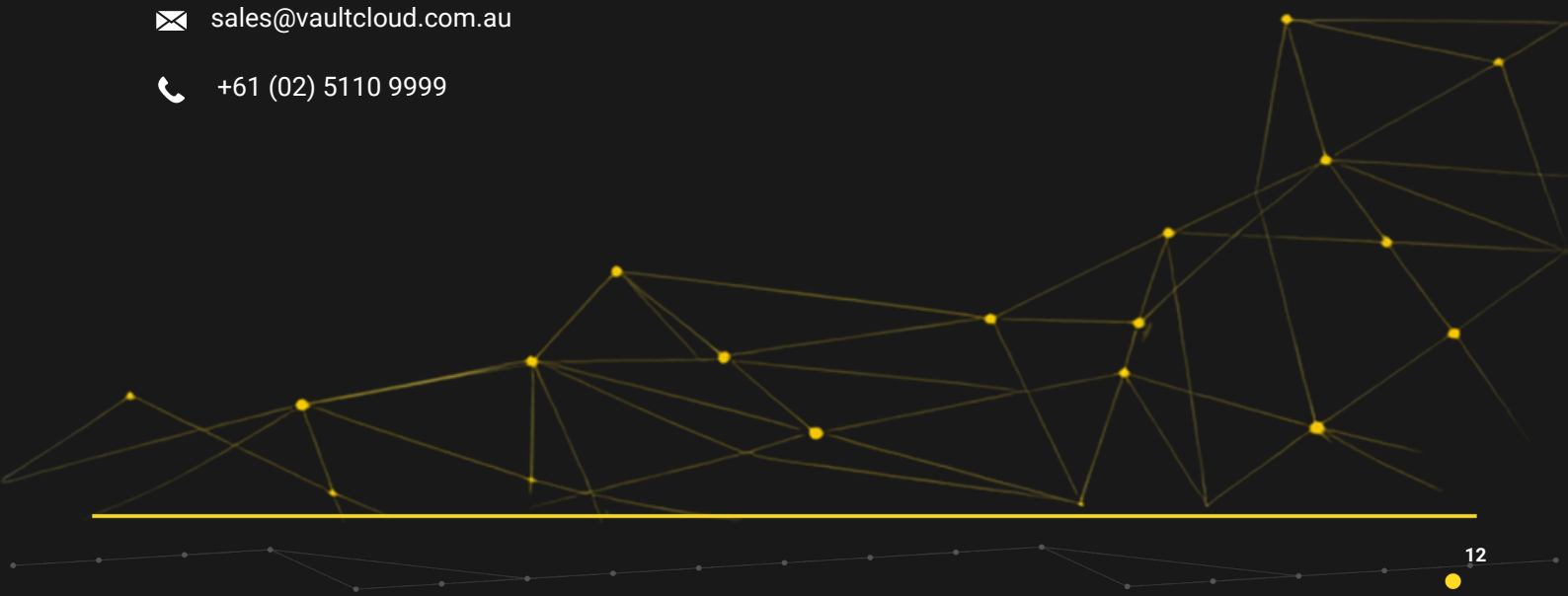
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