How quickly could we leave?

A one-page vendor independence check

A one-page check for your leadership team. Use one row for each of your most important AI and software platforms.

For each platform, answer six questions:

1. What does it hold? Data, knowledge, workflows, AI instructions, agents.
2. If this vendor tripled its price tomorrow, how quickly could we leave? Days, weeks, months, or "we do not know".
3. What would we lose if we left?
4. Do we hold our own copy of the data and knowledge, in a format we can actually use without the vendor's permission? Yes or no.
5. Are our workflows and AI instructions written down and owned by us, so another platform could run them? Yes or no.
6. Have we tested the way out? When, and how long did it take?

Every answer of "we do not know" or "no" is a risk to fix. Circle the biggest one, give it an owner and a date, and start there.

Three things to keep true for every critical tool:

- Our data and knowledge live in places we control, in formats we can move.
- Our workflows and AI instructions are written down and owned by us.
- Every critical tool has a tested way out.

The Intelligent Organization calls this freedom Enterprise Autonomy. It does not mean building everything yourself.

Watch the episode: AI vendor lock-in: how smart companies lose control, on the TechTonic Conversations channel on YouTube.
Read the framework for free: thesummitla.com/the-intelligent-organization

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