

ADOPTION FRAMEWORK · 2026 EDITION

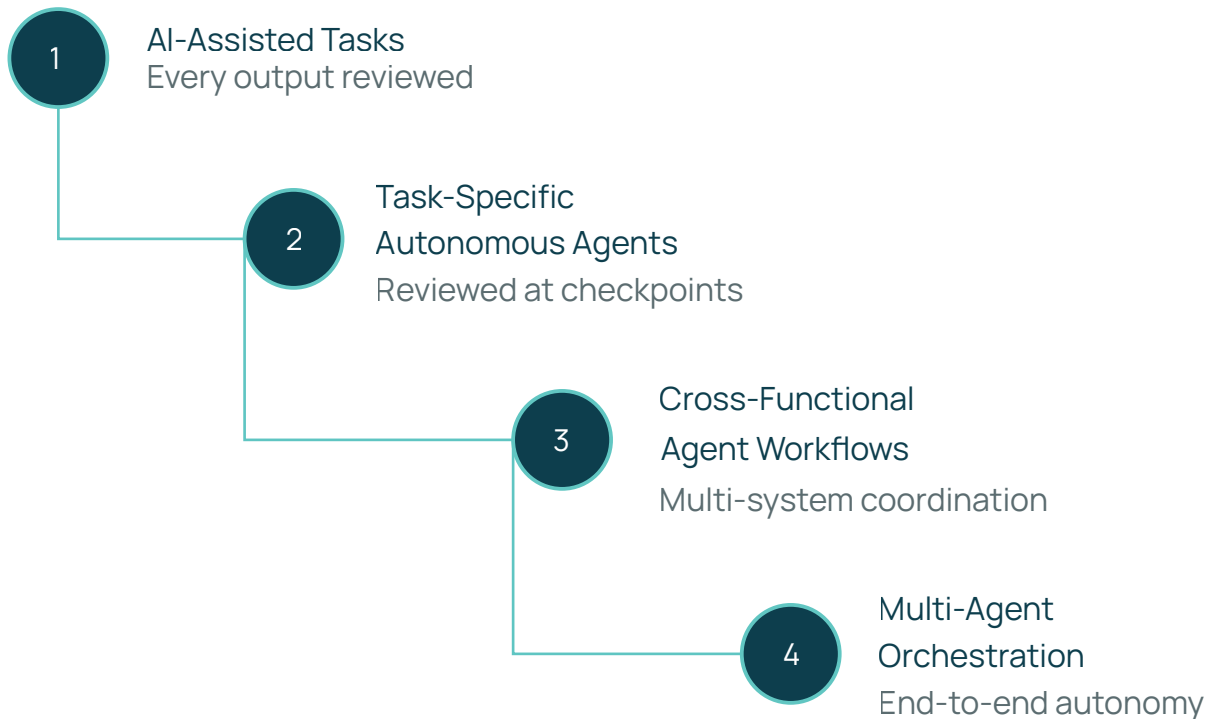
The Agentic AI Adoption Map

A Staged Framework for Multi-Agent Orchestration in 2026



The Adoption Map

Use this map to identify where your organization currently sits on the agentic AI adoption curve, and what to industrialize next — guardrails, evaluation, tool access, and escalation paths — before adoption accelerates industry-wide.



How to use this map

Identify which stage best describes your current AI initiatives.

Most organizations have a mix — some processes at Stage 1, others further along.

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The goal isn't to reach Stage 4 everywhere; it's to industrialize the right controls at your current stage before advancing to the next.

STAGE 1 OF 4

Stage 1: AI-Assisted Tasks

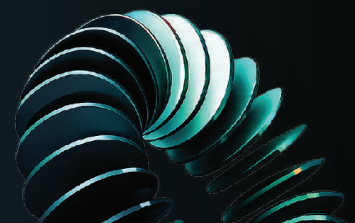
Single-purpose AI tools assist individual tasks with a human reviewing every output. No autonomous action is taken; AI suggests, humans decide.

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Establish basic evaluation criteria and usage guidelines before expanding scope.



PROGRESS ● ○ ○ ○



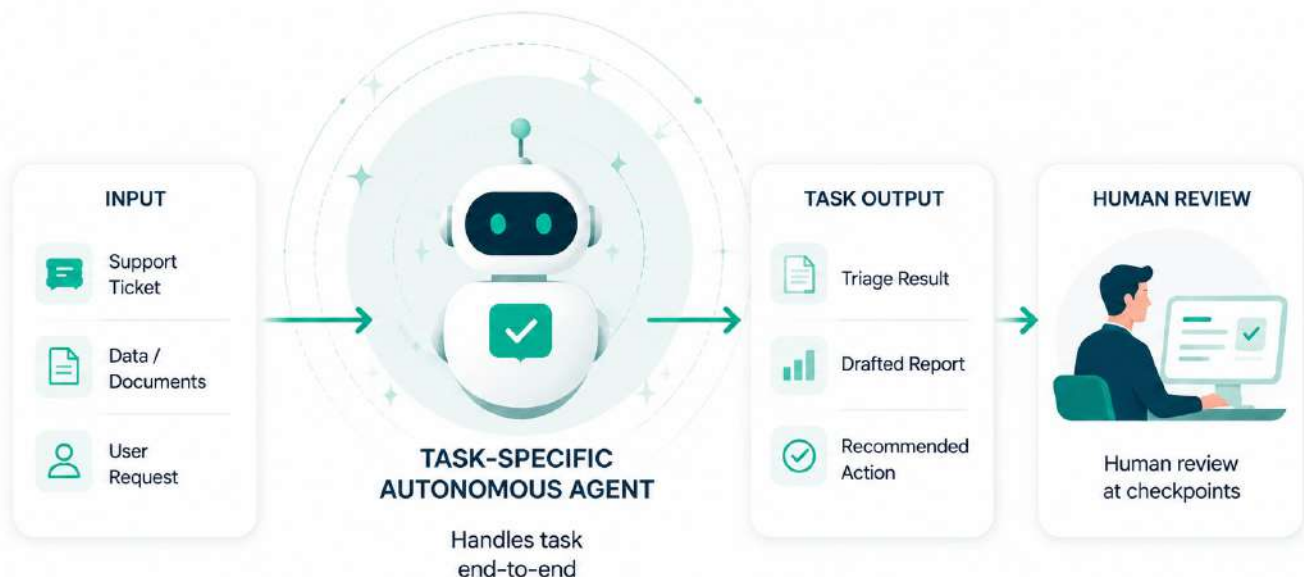
STAGE 2 OF 4

Stage 2: Task-Specific Autonomous Agents

Agents handle a defined, narrow task end-to-end (e.g., triaging support tickets, drafting reports) with human review at checkpoints rather than every step

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Build escalation paths for edge cases and define what triggers human handoff



PROGRESS ● ● ○ ○

STAGE 3 OF 4

Stage 3: Cross-Functional Agent Workflows

Agents coordinate across multiple tools and systems to complete a broader workflow (e.g., lead qualification through to CRM update and follow-up scheduling), with reduced but still present human oversight.

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Formalize tool access permissions and audit logging across systems the agent touches.



PROGRESS ● ● ● ○

STAGE 4 OF 4

Stage 4: Multi-Agent Orchestration

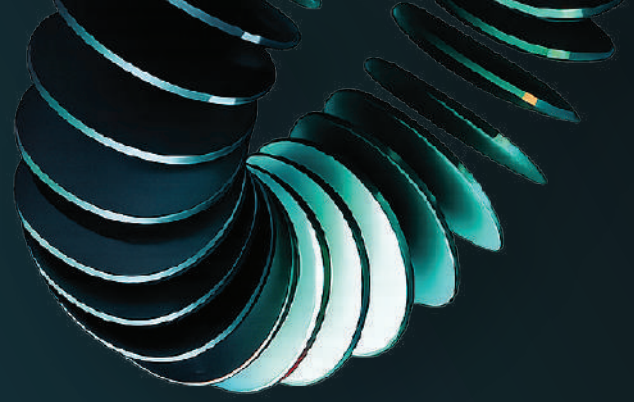
Multiple specialized agents collaborate, hand off tasks to one another, and operate with defined autonomy across an end-to-end business process. A staged model aligned to where the market is headed — IDC's FutureScape outlook points to agentic AI as a near-term enterprise priority, with meaningful adoption expected by 2027.

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Industrialize guardrails, evaluation frameworks, tool access controls, and escalation paths before scaling orchestration further..



PROGRESS ● ● ● ●



Where next?

OptimEdge helps enterprise leaders map their current agentic AI footprint against this framework, then industrialize the guardrails, evaluation, and access controls needed to advance a stage safely.

[Request a stage assessment](#)