



DAGS v1.0 Normative Standard

System Scope Definition

1. Purpose

This document defines how an AI system is scoped and bounded for the purposes of applying the Deployment AI Governance Standard (DAGS) v1.0.

Its purpose is to:

- Establish a consistent method for defining the unit of assessment
- Prevent ambiguity or manipulation of system boundaries
- Ensure that governance claims are tied to clearly defined deployed systems
- Enable defensible, system-specific interpretation of requirements

This document is normative.

2. System as the Unit of Governance

For the purposes of DAGS, the AI system is the unit of governance.

A system shall be defined as the combination of components that together produce AI-mediated outcomes in an operational environment, including:

- The deployed model or models
- Supporting software and services required for operation
- Configuration, parameters, and constraints affecting behavior

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- Interfaces through which the system receives inputs or produces outputs
- Mechanisms for update, modification, or control after deployment

System scope is determined by operational reality, not organizational charts or contractual abstractions.

3. Required System Boundary Declaration

For a system to be evaluated under DAGS, its boundary shall be explicitly declared.

At a minimum, the system boundary shall specify:

- The purpose and intended use of the system
- The operational environment in which it is deployed
- The interfaces through which it interacts with users, data, or other systems
- The entities responsible for operating, modifying, or governing the system

An undeclared or ambiguous system boundary invalidates claims of alignment.

4. Inclusion Rules

The following shall be included within the system scope where they materially affect deployed behavior:

- Third-party models or services integrated into operation
- Post-deployment updates, patches, or behavioral modifications
- Automated or human-in-the-loop decision mechanisms
- External dependencies that influence outputs or actions



Outsourcing or vendor involvement does not remove components from scope.

5. Exclusion Rules

The following shall not be included within system scope unless they directly affect deployed behavior:

- Research artifacts or experimental models not deployed
- Historical training data or training infrastructure
- Internal development tooling not connected to deployment
- Organizational processes unrelated to system operation

Exclusions shall not be used to obscure accountability.

6. Multi-System Environments

Where multiple AI systems operate together:

- Each system shall be scoped independently
- Shared components may be referenced across scopes
- Governance shall not be diluted by aggregation

Claims of alignment shall specify the system or systems to which they apply.

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7. Change in System Scope

If the operational boundary of a system changes materially:

- The system scope shall be updated
- Governance controls shall be reassessed against the new scope
- Prior claims of alignment shall not be extended without review

Silent expansion or contraction of scope is prohibited.

8. Authority of Scope Definition

The system scope definition governs interpretation of all applicable requirements.

Where disputes arise regarding applicability, evidence, or accountability, the declared system boundary is authoritative.

9. Status

This System Scope Definition is normative.

It is binding for DAGS v1.0 and all derivative artifacts unless explicitly superseded.



10. License & Authority

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