



DAGS v1.0 Normative Standard

D1 — Governance and Accountability

Evidence Principles

1. Purpose

This document defines the evidence principles applicable to the Governance and Accountability domain (D1) of the Deployment AI Governance Standard (DAGS) v1.0.

Its purpose is to:

- Specify the nature and category of evidence required to demonstrate satisfaction of D1 requirements
- Ensure evidence is deployment-layer, durable, and auditable
- Prevent substitution of narrative assertions or intent statements for governance controls

This document is normative.

2. General Evidence Standard

Evidence for D1 requirements shall demonstrate that governance and accountability exist in practice, not merely in intent.

Evidence shall be:

- Documented and durable

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- Attributable to the declared system scope
- Traceable to identifiable roles or functions
- Current with respect to the deployed system

Assertions without documentary support are not sufficient.

3. Ownership and Authority Evidence

Evidence demonstrating system ownership and authority shall establish:

- The identity of the designated system owner
- The scope of authority assigned to that role
- The relationship between ownership and decision-making power

Acceptable evidence categories include:

- Formal role designations or charters
- System ownership records
- Governance assignment documentation

Ownership shall not be inferred from job titles or organizational proximity.

4. Accountability Evidence

Evidence of accountability shall demonstrate:

- Clear assignment of responsibility for system outcomes
- Persistence of accountability across operational changes
- Lack of ambiguity or diffusion of responsibility



Acceptable evidence categories include:

- Accountability matrices or responsibility assignments
- Governance documentation linking roles to system outcomes
- Records demonstrating continuity of accountability

Statements of shared responsibility without definition are insufficient.

5. Governance Structure Evidence

Evidence of governance structure shall demonstrate:

- Existence of a defined governance framework for the system
- Documented decision-making and oversight arrangements
- Clear escalation and resolution mechanisms

Acceptable evidence categories include:

- Governance structure documents
- Decision authority frameworks
- Escalation path definitions

Governance structures shall be specific to the system or explicitly applicable to it.

6. Oversight and Escalation Evidence

Evidence supporting oversight and escalation shall demonstrate:

- That oversight mechanisms exist and are assigned

- That escalation paths are defined and actionable
- That governance failures can be surfaced and addressed

Acceptable evidence categories include:

- Oversight role definitions
- Escalation protocols
- Records of governance issue handling

Evidence of tooling alone is not sufficient without assigned responsibility.

7. Vendor and Third-Party Governance Evidence

Where third parties are involved, evidence shall demonstrate:

- Retained accountability by the deploying organization
- Governance authority sufficient to meet DAGS requirements
- Alignment between contractual arrangements and governance needs

Acceptable evidence categories include:

- Contractual provisions related to governance authority
- Vendor governance addenda
- Access and control rights documentation

Commercial agreements shall not negate governance accountability.

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8. Evidence Currency and Maintenance

Evidence for D1 requirements shall be maintained such that:

- It reflects the current operational state of the system
- Changes in ownership, authority, or governance are recorded
- Obsolete evidence is not relied upon

Stale or superseded documentation is not acceptable.

9. Prohibited Evidence Substitutions

The following shall not be accepted as evidence for D1 requirements:

- Statements of intent or policy without system linkage
- Organizational charts without role accountability definition
- Informal acknowledgments or verbal agreements
- Ethical principles or value statements

Such materials do not demonstrate deployment-layer governance.

10. Status

This Evidence Principles document is normative.

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

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