

DAGS

DEPLOYMENT AI GOVERNANCE STANDARD

DAGS v1.0 Normative Standard

Accountability and Ownership

1. Purpose

This document defines the cross-cutting requirements for accountability and ownership that apply across all domains of the Deployment AI Governance Standard (DAGS) v1.0.

Its purpose is to:

- Ensure every deployed AI system has clear, durable ownership
- Prevent diffusion or ambiguity of responsibility
- Establish accountability as a structural property of governance
- Support defensible attribution of decisions, actions, and outcomes

This document is normative.

2. Principle of Ownership

Each deployed AI system shall have a designated owner.

Ownership is the condition under which a specific role or function is accountable for the system as a whole, including:

- Governance compliance
- Operational behavior
- Outcomes and impacts

© DAGS Governing Body. DAGS™ is a publicly available standard. Editorial and interpretive authority is retained exclusively by the DAGS Governing Body.

Reference to or implementation of this standard does not imply certification, compliance, endorsement, or authorization unless expressly granted in writing by the DAGS Governing Body.

Version: v1.0
Status: Published

Page 1 of 6

DAGS

DEPLOYMENT AI GOVERNANCE STANDARD

- Escalation and remediation

Ownership shall not be collective, implicit, or inferred.

3. Ownership Assignment

System ownership shall be explicitly assigned and documented.

Ownership documentation shall:

- Identify the owning role or function
- Be specific to the declared system scope
- Persist across organizational or personnel changes

Reassignment of ownership shall be documented and effective immediately.

4. Accountability Requirement

Accountability shall be assigned for all governance-relevant decisions and outcomes associated with a deployed AI system.

Accountability requires that:

- A responsible role can be identified
- That role has authority commensurate with responsibility
- That role can be called upon to answer for outcomes

Accountability shall not be diluted through delegation or outsourcing.

DAGS

DEPLOYMENT AI GOVERNANCE STANDARD

5. Relationship Between Ownership and Accountability

Ownership and accountability are related but distinct:

- **Ownership** establishes responsibility for the system
- **Accountability** establishes responsibility for decisions and outcomes

Both shall exist and be documented.

Assignment of one does not imply satisfaction of the other unless explicitly defined.

6. Persistence Across Change

Ownership and accountability shall persist across:

- System updates or configuration changes
- Vendor or dependency changes
- Organizational restructuring
- Operational incidents or failures

Temporary gaps in ownership or accountability are prohibited.

7. Third-Party and Vendor Context

Use of third-party vendors shall not transfer ownership or accountability away from the deploying organization.

DAGS

DEPLOYMENT AI GOVERNANCE STANDARD

Contracts or service arrangements:

- May allocate operational responsibilities
- Shall not negate accountability for governance outcomes

The deploying organization remains accountable.

8. Escalation and Substitution

Where an accountable role is unavailable:

- A defined escalation or substitution mechanism shall exist
- Authority shall be temporarily reassigned
- Accountability shall remain continuous

Silence or vacancy does not suspend accountability.

9. Prohibited Conditions

The following conditions are explicitly prohibited:

- Deployed systems without an owner
- Shared accountability without defined roles
- Accountability assigned without corresponding authority
- Reliance on goodwill, expertise, or informal practice

Such conditions invalidate governance claims.

DAGS

DEPLOYMENT AI GOVERNANCE STANDARD

10. Authority of This Requirement

This document governs interpretation of ownership and accountability across all DAGS domains.

In the event of conflict or ambiguity, these requirements prevail.

11. Status

This Accountability and Ownership document is **normative**.

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

12. License & Authority

The Deployment AI Governance Standard (DAGS) is a publicly available governance standard made available for reference and implementation.

All intellectual property rights in DAGS, including the standard text, structure, methodology, and interpretive guidance, are retained by the DAGS Governing Body.

Public availability of this document does not grant any license or right to use DAGS for commercial, advisory, certification, assurance, or assessment purposes.

Such uses may require separate authorization or licensing from the DAGS Governing Body.

No rights are granted by implication, estoppel, or public distribution.

© DAGS Governing Body. DAGS™ is a publicly available standard. Editorial and interpretive authority is retained exclusively by the DAGS Governing Body.

Reference to or implementation of this standard does not imply certification, compliance, endorsement, or authorization unless expressly granted in writing by the DAGS Governing Body.

Version: v1.0
Status: Published

Page 5 of 6

DAGS

DEPLOYMENT AI GOVERNANCE STANDARD

Editorial, interpretive, versioning, and equivalency authority is retained exclusively by the DAGS Governing Body. No third party may issue authoritative interpretations, certifications, or compliance determinations without explicit written authorization.

Deployment AI Governance Standard (DAGS) v1.0

Status: Published

Copyright © DAGS Governing Body

All Rights Reserved

© DAGS Governing Body. DAGS™ is a publicly available standard. Editorial and interpretive authority is retained exclusively by the DAGS Governing Body.

Reference to or implementation of this standard does not imply certification, compliance, endorsement, or authorization unless expressly granted in writing by the DAGS Governing Body.

Version: v1.0
Status: Published

Page 6 of 6