GUIDANCE as of 19-Apr-2024

Use of WCA@IBM for all use cases (code generation, testing, internal documentation, and limited external documentation) is now approved. This guidance does not cover use of third-party generative AI tools or cover contributions to open-source projects.

WCA@IBM GenAI Use Overview

- *Permitted GenAI use cases: code generation, testing, documentation, and explanation.*
- *Permitted languages for code generation: C, C++, Go, Java, JavaScript, Python and TypeScript.*
- *GenAI output is considered IBM confidential.*
- *GenAI output must be tagged when incorporated into your work.*
- *Review GenAI output and follow best practices when incorporating output into your work.*
- *If seeking copyright registration, you must disclaim GenAI output in your work.*

Confidentiality / Trade Secret

All AI-generated output that is used for IBM software development is considered IBM confidential and trade secret.

Tagging

All output from WCA@IBM must be tagged when incorporated into IBM products and documents as specified in the table below. This applies to all WCA@IBM outputs whether the use case is code generation, tests, documentation, refactoring, translation, or any other use case. WCA@IBM will automatically create these tags, but it is the developer's responsibility to review the tool's suggestion, correct it as necessary, and include the tag. The developer must also ensure that tags are not deleted over time.

Tagging code is important. IBMers are the stewards of responsible AI at IBM, and it is the responsibility of all of us to uphold this tagging approach and reinforce within IBM. Examples of tags to be included with the AI-generated output are provided below. In cases of multiple AI-generated output contributions, please indicate the first use as well as the most recent use.

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// First GenAI contribution: Version 2, Granite-20B-Instruct-v1 model

Copyright

Copyright registration requirements: If you have incorporated AI-generated output in your work, then when you complete the release requirement related to copyright registration, you must include a disclaimer in the registration application. Note, if you have made modifications to the AI-generated output, then this modified output must still be tagged (see use case chart below). Please indicate so in the IBM Software Copyright Submission Form to ensure a proper disclaimer is captured in the registration application (reach out to Ken Seibert or cpyright@us.ibm.com for any questions about registration).

Output Review

WCA@IBM is now enabled with automated code similarity checking functionality. All AI-generated code in the permitted languages is run through the similarity tool before it is presented to users so that it can be used and incorporated into IBM products and offerings. WCA@IBM users will be notified when the AI-generated code did not meet IBM's similarity threshold and in these cases no code will be presented to user. In addition to the code similarity tool, teams should continue to follow best practices and review all GenAI output looking for any indicators or third party-preexisting content (including OSS) and use any existing tools currently available to the developers to assist with an AI-generated code review. If during the review any AI-generated output is identified as third-party preexisting code (including OSS), teams must ensure they comply with the license requirements (including notices requirements) or alternatively, not use the AI-generated output. If needed, consult your responsible attorney for additional guidance.

GenAI and Documentation

External documentation may include formatting and summarization of IBM artifacts/products (functional specifications, epics, user stories or equivalent artifacts/documents) generated or assisted by WCA@IBM. By way of example, external documentation would be documentation that is distributed to end-users or visible to end-user such as release notes, Reference information, How-To's, About Info or other IBM product documentation. External documentation should include an end user notice that "Portions of the Content may be generated with the assistance of WCA@IBM". Use of WCA@IBM to generate or summarize documentation directed (in part or in whole) to non-IBM artifacts/products (3rd party products, services, or OSS including Red Hat) for use in external documentation is currently not permitted.

Use of WCA@IBM for Internal documentation is permitted. Internal documentation would be in-line code comments, code explanation, summarization, functional specification, developer notes or other internal documents outlining processes, guidelines, procedures, and best practices (documentation non-visible to end users or those external to IBM).

For both internal and external documentation internal tagging of the AI-generated content is required.

GenAI and Code Generation

Use of WCA@IBM for code generation and incorporation of such code into IBM products and offerings is now permitted. This includes AI-generated code, refactored code, or translated code. Currently, code generation is only allowed in IBM product code for the following languages: C, C++, Go, Java, JavaScript, Python and TypeScript. At this time GenAI code is not permitted to be incorporated into open-source software where contribution to an open-source project is

required. WCA@IBM is enabled with a code similarity checking tool. AI-generated code presented to WCA@IBM users will have been run through the tool and the resulting code is therefore permitted to be included in IBM products and offerings.

Use Case Guidance

The below notices and tagging requirements are intended to supplement the existing IBM Copyright and Confidentiality Notice policy.

USE CASE	Notices / Tags	Considerations and Guidance

Code Generation
Examples:
1. Generating basic foundational code.
2. Generating SQL queries.
 	
Note: Code generation is only allowed in IBM product code for the following languages: C, C++, Go, Java, JavaScript, Python and TypeScript.
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	IBM Product may contain portions, enhancements or translations generated or assisted by WCA for GP
	
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		All AI Generated Source Code that is used for IBM software development is considered IBM confidential and a Trade Secret. **The AI Generated Code must be marked "IBM Confidential"** in the Notice Section. The IBM confidential statement is sufficient for trade secrets.
		
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		End user Notices should include a statement notifying customers that the IBM Software product may contain portions generated or enhanced by AI generated code or documentation. End user Notices for IBM products should still include IBM Copyright and Confidentiality statements as per our standard practice.
		
		If Source Code is visible to end-user, then add "Internal Use Only "or "Do Not Distribute."
		
		--- 	
		All AI Generated Source Code within code base must be tagged as AI generated code. Include the WCA for GP version number.
		
		--- 	
		If AI Generated Source Code mixed with existing IBM code, include both the IBM copyright notice as per IBM's standard

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		practice along with AI generated tags on applicable AI generated portions within the code base.

Testing
Examples:
1. Autogenerate new unit tests and testing scripts.
2. Enhance existing unit tests (e.g., edge cases, error handling)
3. Generate intelligent test data
Generate SQL queries for internal testing workflows (not for distribution)
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		All AI-generated Test Code that is used in IBM development is considered IBM confidential and a Trade Secret. **The AI-generated Test Code must be marked "IBM Confidential"**. The IBM confidential statement is sufficient for trade secrets.
		
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		All AI-generated Test Code must be tagged as AI-generated.
		
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		If AI-generated Test Code is enhancing existing IBM test code include both the IBM copyright notice with AI-generated Tags on AI-generated enhancements.

Internal Documentation (not visible to end users) Examples: 1. In-line documentation	IBM Confidential	All AI-generated Documentation (not intended for end users) is considered IBM confidential and a Trade Secret. **The AI-**

2. Code-explanation
3. Summarization
4. Functional specification
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		generated documentation must be marked "IBM Confidential". The IBM confidential statement is sufficient for trade secrets.
		
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		All AI-generated Documentation must be tagged as AI-generated. Include the WCA@IBM version number.
		
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		If AI-generated Documentation is mixed with existing IBM code documentation include both the IBM copyright notice with AI-generated tags on applicable AI-generated portions.

External Documentation (visible to end users)
Examples:
End-user documentation including GenAI summarization and formatting
	Portions of the Content may be generated with the assistance of WCA@IBM
	
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		No confidentiality required due to the public use of the documentation; however, teams should include a notice that WCA@IBM assisted with the generation of content.
		
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		All AI-generated Documentation must be tagged as AI-generated. Include the WCA@IBM version number. Note - This should be an IBM internal only tag.

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		If AI-generated Documentation is mixed with existing IBM documentation include both IBM copyright with AI-generated tags on applicable AI-generated portions.

Code Refactoring
Examples:
1. Modularize existing code for better readability, etc.
Optimize existing code for better performance.
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		All AI Generated Refactored Source Code used in IBM software development is considered IBM confidential and a Trade Secret. **The AI Generated Refactored Code must be marked "IBM Confidential"**. The IBM confidential statement is sufficient for trade secrets.
		
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		All AI generated/assisted Refactored Code must be tagged as AI generated code or AI assisted. Include the WCA for GP version number. If Human involvement required in the refactoring or optimization of the code, then AI assisted would be the applicable tag.
		
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		If original/underlying code is IBM copyrightable works, then include original copyright date of code with AI applicable tags indicating the refactoring or optimization was AI generated. Include the WCA for GP version number.

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Code Translation
Examples:
1. Update language version
2. Shift to new framework
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		All AI Generated Source Code Translation used in IBM Software Development is considered IBM confidential and a Trade Secret. **The AI Generated Refactored Code must be marked "IBM Confidential"**. The IBM confidential statement is sufficient for trade secrets.
		
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		All AI generated/assisted Code Translation must be tagged as AI generated or AI assisted. Include the WCA for GP version number. If human involvement is required for code translation, then AI assisted tag is appropriate.
		
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		If original/underlying code is IBM copyrightable, then include original copyright date of code along with the applicable AI generated/assisted tag. Include the WCA for GP version number.

Additional Resources

For questions regarding the use of WCA@IBM please check out the following resources:

Your Learning self-paced course: https://yourlearning.ibm.com/activity/PLAN-C2D21AFFEE66

Bi-weekly Insight Hour Series: https://ec.yourlearning.ibm.com/w3/meeting/10422674

General Slack Channel: #wca-at-ibm-users

Slack Channel for Policy Questions: #wca-at-ibm-genaipolicy