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Daily brief · 2025-12-19

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3 deep-dives you should really read

[Anthropic launches enterprise 'Agent Skills' and opens the standard, challenging OpenAI in workplace AI](#)

VentureBeat - AI · Topic: AI/Cloud/Quantum

- **What it is:** Anthropic has launched "Agent Skills," an open standard technology consisting of reusable modules that enable AI assistants to perform specialized, consistent, and organization-specific tasks.
- **Who:** Anthropic leads this initiative, partnering with enterprise software giants like Atlassian, Figma, Stripe, and Zapier to enhance AI assistant capabilities for businesses.
- **What it does:** Agent Skills allow enterprises to deploy extensive libraries of procedural knowledge, enabling AI assistants to perform specialized tasks efficiently without overwhelming their working memory.
- **Why it matters:** This approach standardizes AI skill deployment, allowing businesses to personalize AI assistants with specific procedural knowledge for diverse functions like legal or finance at no extra cost.
- **Strategic view:** Anthropic's open standard strategy challenges competitors like OpenAI by fostering a cross-platform ecosystem for AI skills, aiming for widespread adoption and reducing enterprise vendor lock-in.

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[Palona goes vertical, launching Vision, Workflow features: 4 key lessons for AI builders](#)

VentureBeat - AI · Topic: AI/Cloud/Quantum

- **What it is:** Palona AI has launched Vision and Workflow features, pivoting its multimodal agent suite into a real-time operating system specifically designed for restaurant and hospitality operations.
- **Who:** Palona AI is a Palo Alto-based startup led by former Google and Meta engineering veterans, which initially raised \$10 million in seed funding for broad D2C enterprise agents.
- **What it does:** Palona Vision analyzes in-store cameras for operational signals like queue lengths and prep bottlenecks, while Palona Workflow automates multi-step processes by correlating video with POS data.
- **Why it matters:** Palona's vertical pivot into restaurants highlights that deep domain expertise, proprietary data, and custom AI architecture are crucial for building reliable, high-impact solutions beyond generic wrappers.
- **Strategic view:** TMT executives should note Palona's success in specialized AI by building proprietary orchestration layers and custom memory architecture, proving that deep vertical solutions outperform broad, generic AI offerings in reliability and impact.

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[OpenAI now accepting ChatGPT app submissions from third-party devs, launches App Directory](#)

VentureBeat - AI · Topic: AI/Cloud/Quantum

- **What it is:** OpenAI has opened its ChatGPT platform to third-party developers for app submissions, launching a new App Directory to distribute interactive, feature-rich applications directly within the chatbot interface.
- **Who:** OpenAI is empowering external developers—from individuals to large enterprises—to create and submit innovative, interactive applications for ChatGPT's vast user base.
- **What it does:** It enables ChatGPT users to seamlessly discover, install, and interact with specialized third-party applications, integrating diverse functionalities, real-time data, and rich user interfaces directly into their conversations.
- **Why it matters:** This initiative fundamentally transforms ChatGPT into a powerful application distribution platform, providing developers access to a massive user base and significantly expanding the chatbot's utility and ecosystem capabilities.
- **Strategic view:** This cements generative AI models as emerging application platforms, compelling TMT firms to strategize on ecosystem integration, AI-native service development, and navigating new monetization, data privacy, and competitive dynamics.

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