

DAN MERCEDE

Founder & Systems Architect | Governed AI Operating Systems

Biography

Dan Mercede is the architect of the Runtime Governance Control Plane — a new architectural category for enterprise AI that enforces governance at runtime, before state mutation, in a fail-closed configuration. He is the founder of Cosmocrat, a Governed AI Operating System that enforces auditability, policy control, and human oversight across AI memory, decisioning, and execution. He also leads Orion Intelligence Agency, an enterprise AI reliability engineering firm that hardens governed AI systems in production. His background includes P&L; leadership across operational systems, bringing disciplined execution to an industry defined by capability without control. Dan's work is grounded in a core thesis: enterprise AI does not fail on capability — it fails on control.

Talk Topics

Runtime Governance vs. Policy Governance

Why frameworks, policies, and post-hoc audits are structurally insufficient for agentic AI.

Fail-Closed Design for Agentic Systems

Designing AI execution paths that halt when governance cannot be evaluated.

The Four-Layer Enforcement Stack

Authority Gate, Immutable Receipts, Drift Guard, and Gated Substrate as deterministic cascade.

Cost Per Successful Task: The ROI Metric for AI Agents

Measuring enterprise AI value through enforcement economics, not capability benchmarks.

From Demo to Production in 30/60/90 Days

A hardening roadmap for moving agentic AI from experiment to governed production.

Ideal Audience

CIOs, CTOs, CISOs, Heads of AI/Platform/SRE, GRC and compliance leaders, enterprise architects, and senior engineering teams in regulated industries (finance, healthcare, insurance, fintech, defense-adjacent, enterprise SaaS).

Format & Logistics

Keynote	30–45 min + Q&A;
Workshop	90 min (hands-on enforcement mapping)
Panel	Available as moderator or panelist
Webinar / Podcast	Remote, any duration

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Contact & Booking

Readiness Scan: orionintelligenceagency.com/book

Email: dan@orionapexcapital.com

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/danmercede

Web: danmercede.com

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