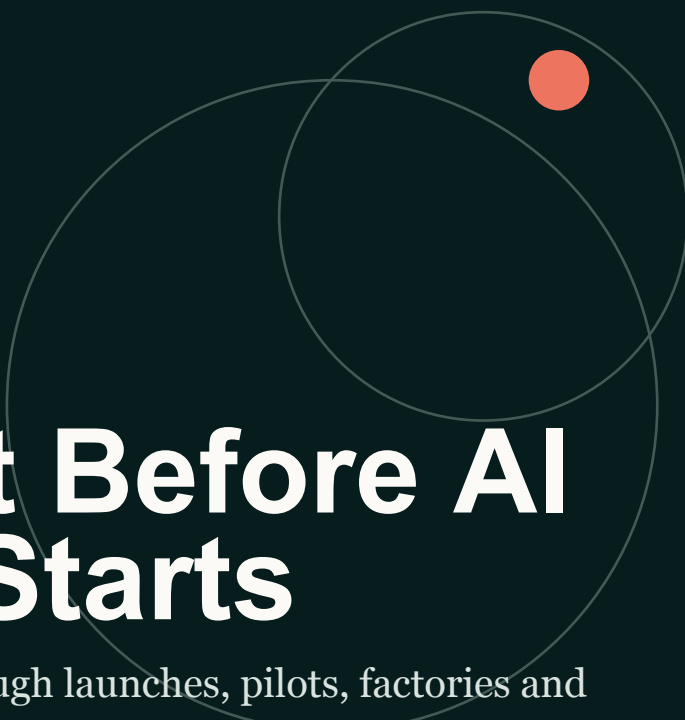


THE AI INSTITUTE / OPERATING INTELLIGENCE

EXECUTIVE AGENDA · 13 SEP / 2026



Set the Test Before AI Week Starts

Five dated moments will move AI through launches, pilots, factories and global governance. Decide what each one must prove before the headlines arrive.

Boards, C-suite and senior management

Research period: September 2026 – September 2026

First published: 13 September 2026

Current to 13 September 2026

PUBLICATION RECORD

An Institute thesis and decision framework

Set the test before the AI event begins because a launch, pilot, demonstration and governance forum belong to different executive decisions.

WHAT LEADERS SHOULD TAKE FROM THIS PAPER

- | | |
|----|--|
| 01 | Use Monday's EU pilot launch to test deployment design, not public value. |
| 02 | Use Dreamforce to revise a product shortlist only when controls, cost and customer outcomes are visible. |
| 03 | Use Wednesday's industrial programme to test one live operating metric. |
| 04 | Treat UNESCO tools and UNECE working documents according to their actual legal force. |
| 05 | End the week with bounded decisions rather than one verdict on AI momentum. |

Research method

This executive agenda compares official programmes and working documents for 14–18 September 2026 with Oracle's 10 September financial result and the newest available arXiv release batch. Scheduled events are treated as future signals, not outcomes. Vendor launches, funded pilots, practitioner demonstrations, voluntary governance tools and draft regulatory work retain their different status and decision boundaries.

First published 13 September 2026 · Updated 24 September 2026 · Research period September 2026 – September 2026 · Version 1.1 · Suggested citation: The AI Institute, *Set the Test Before AI Week Starts* (2026).

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How to use this brief

Start with the decision and use the framework to challenge the current plan. Figures retain their original populations and definitions. Institute analysis is labelled, and limitations are recorded before the references.

01

THE WEEK AHEAD

Five dates will compete to tell one story

The week of 14 September will produce product launches, public-sector pilots, factory demonstrations and global governance announcements. They will be presented as one acceleration story. For leaders, they are five different tests.

A launch tells you what a supplier wants evaluated. A pilot tells you what a programme is prepared to learn. A demonstration shows what can work under stated conditions. A forum can introduce guidance or coordination. Keep those stages separate and the week becomes useful.

Set the decision threshold before the event, not after the headline.

Ask whether public services are ready to carry the pilot

The European Commission will present three Digital Europe projects for public administration: FLOODS & DROUGHTS, EUNOMIA.AI and EuropAI. The projects began in July and are intended to help agencies develop, procure, test and deploy European generative-AI solutions. ¹

Do not ask whether the event proves public value. It cannot. Ask whether each pilot names a service owner, user group, procurement route, interoperability requirement and measure of success. Those conditions will show whether a pilot can become a public service rather than remain a funded experiment.

The lesson travels beyond Europe, but the procurement answer may not. Governments in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Middle East face different cloud access, language coverage, public-data and institutional-capacity constraints. Preserve the five operating questions; adapt the route by which each administration can answer them.

03

15–17 SEPTEMBER · SAN FRANCISCO

Make enterprise agents earn a place on the shortlist

Dreamforce is built around the “agentic enterprise,” with launches across Agentforce, Slack and Data 360, plus hundreds of sessions and customer stories.² The volume will make product momentum easy to see and operating fit harder to judge.

For every material launch, record the job, data access, permissions, human hand-off, failure path, price and measured customer result. A polished demonstration can justify evaluation. Only a complete operating case should change access, budget or workforce design.

Give one executive the comparison sheet before the keynote cycle begins. The same fields should be used for every supplier so novelty cannot erase a missing control or denominator. If a customer result is quoted, ask how many users, which workflow, for how long and against which baseline.

Separate a factory result from a governance tool

At IMTS, a one-day industrial-AI conference will focus on data readiness, maintenance, quality, robotics and implementation trade-offs.³ Give the operations leader one test: did a live use case change downtime, yield, safety, energy, changeover time or skilled effort under normal conditions?

The same day, UNESCO plans to launch RAM 2.0, a global analysis of national readiness findings and an environmental toolkit at its Riyadh forum.⁴⁵ These may change a government's assessment method or an organisation's policy checklist. They are voluntary governance instruments, not new national laws.

The distinction matters across regions. A factory case depends on local equipment, labour, energy and safety conditions; a governance method depends on law and institutional authority. Both can travel as questions. Neither should travel as a result until the receiving organisation tests it in its own operating environment.

Watch physical autonomy move through the rule system

UNECE's automated and connected vehicles working party concludes its 26th session after considering guidance and interpretation for automated-driving regulations.⁶ A working document is not a final rule, but it can reveal which safety, control and cross-border questions are moving toward technical settlement.

Vehicle makers, insurers, fleet operators and software suppliers should identify which interpretation would alter system design, assurance, liability or launch sequencing. Other sectors should watch how physical autonomy forces product capability, operating conditions and regulation into the same room.

Name the owner now: product for the design implication, risk for assurance, legal for jurisdiction and operations for the permitted environment. That makes Friday's output a routed decision rather than a general regulatory update, while recognising that national adoption and road conditions will still determine commercial timing.

End with four bounded decisions

By Friday, the team should be able to make four bounded changes—or decide that none is warranted: add one public-service pilot condition, alter one enterprise-agent shortlist, approve one industrial experiment, and update one governance or regulatory control.

The market backdrop is strong but incomplete. Oracle reported triple-digit cloud-infrastructure growth and more than US\$30 billion of additional AI cloud contracts, while the newest research continues to explore agent coordination, stability and infrastructure fit.⁷⁸ Capacity and capability are moving. This week should show whether operating decisions are moving with them.

EXHIBIT / FIVE DATES, FIVE PERMITTED DECISIONS

14 SEP Public service Check ownership, procurement, interoperability and the outcome measure. European Commission pilots [1]	15–17 Enterprise agents Change the shortlist only when access, failure, cost and results are visible. Dreamforce [2]	16 SEP Factory Test a live metric under ordinary operating conditions. IMTS [3]	16 SEP Governance Adopt a useful readiness control without pretending it is law. UNESCO [4][5]
18 SEP Physical autonomy Track the interpretation that would change design, assurance or launch. UNECE [6]			

RESEARCH RECORD

Method and limitations

Method

This executive agenda compares official programmes and working documents for 14–18 September 2026 with Oracle's 10 September financial result and the newest available arXiv release batch. Scheduled events are treated as future signals, not outcomes. Vendor launches, funded pilots, practitioner demonstrations, voluntary governance tools and draft regulatory work retain their different status and decision boundaries.

Limitations

The events had not occurred at the research cutoff. Programmes can change, and announcements may not include independent results or representative customer denominators. UNESCO instruments are voluntary; UNECE working documents are not final rules; EU pilots have not reported completed benefits; vendor and conference cases are selected by their organisers. Oracle's infrastructure demand does not establish customer returns. The latest arXiv papers are mostly preprints and do not validate production deployments.



Sources and limitations

Source facts link to the original publication. Institute analysis reconciles definitions and turns the material into a management proposition. Frameworks are decision aids, not claims of universal causality. Read every important statistic with its population, date, definition and caveat.

Research cutoff: 13 September 2026. Review cycle: six months, or earlier after a material change in the underlying facts, standards or policy.

REFERENCES

Evidence behind the thesis

01	European Commission, GenAI pilots for public administration
Official event on 14 September 2026; three funded pilots began 1 July and outcomes are pending.	
02	Salesforce, Dreamforce 2026
Official vendor programme for 15–17 September 2026; launches and customer stories are vendor-selected.	
03	IMTS, Industrial AI Conference
Official practitioner programme for 16 September 2026; event claims are not measured outcomes.	
04	UNESCO, Global Forum on the Ethics of AI
Official forum programme for 14–17 September 2026; UNESCO's framework is normative and voluntary.	
05	UNESCO, RAM 2.0 and governance-tool launch
Official launch notice; three products planned for 16 September 2026.	
06	UNECE, automated and connected vehicles working party
Official 26th-session page and working documents for 14–18 September 2026; proposals are not final rules.	
07	Oracle, Q1 FY2027 results
Issuer release dated 10 September 2026; reports supplier demand, not customer returns.	
08	arXiv, recent cs.AI submissions
Newest available batch is 11 September 2026 with 171 entries; mixed review status and mostly preprints.	

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Then measure what changes.

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