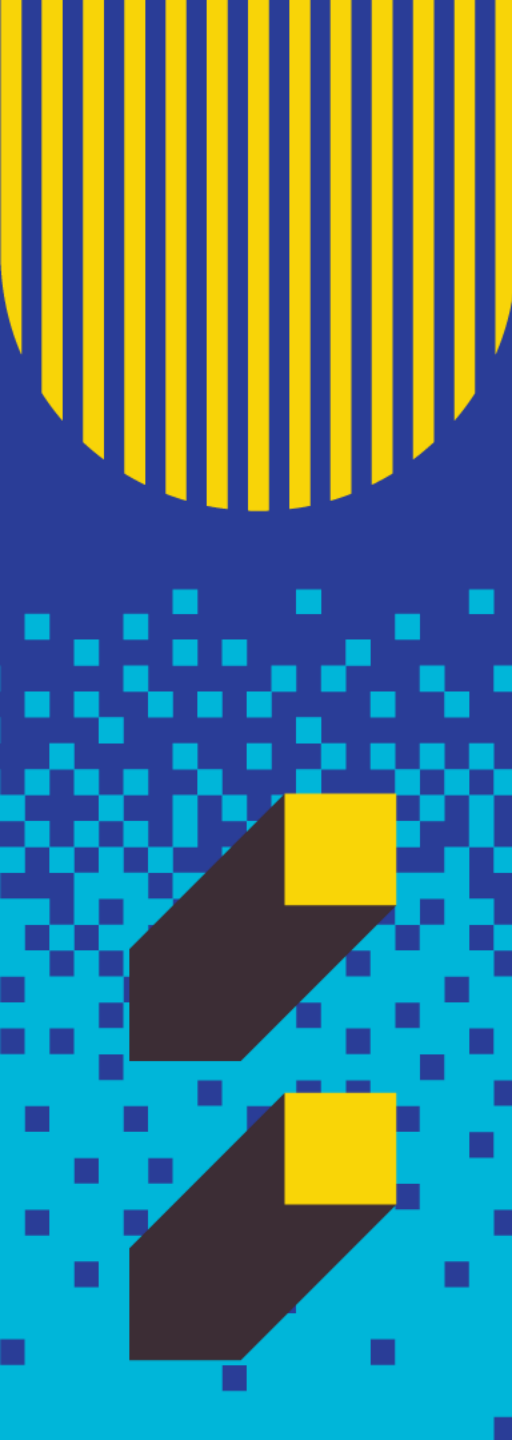




IAPP PRIVACY. SECURITY. RISK. + AI GOVERNANCE GLOBAL 2026

Training 6-7 October

Workshops 7 October

Conference 8-9 October

AI GP exam 9 October

SEATTLE

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WHAT IS AI ASSURANCE?

Navigating a Rapidly Evolving Ecosystem



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AGENDA OUTLINE

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Why AI Assurance?
- III. What is AI Assurance?
- IV. Who does AI Assurance?
- V. How do I get started?
- VI. Questions and Answers
- VII. Closing Remarks

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS



Miranda Bogen
Chief Technologist |
Director, AI Governance
Lab
CDT



Graeme Finley
Vice President
PACT AI



Craig Shank
Executive Director
Appia Foundation



Ashley Casovan
Managing Director, AI
Governance Centre,
IAPP

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Why AI Assurance?

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AI Assurance in the Headlines (September edition)

SB 813

**Governor Newsom
signs first-in-the-
nation AI
safeguards to
protect
Californians**

Office of Gov. Gavin Newsom
Sept 9, 2026

CA EXECUTIVE ORDER

**Newsom signs
executive order to
speed up AI
regulations and
creation of 'kill
switch'**

San Francisco Chronicle
Sept 19, 2026

PACING THE FRONTIER

**Anthropic CEO
calls for 'pacing
the frontier' of AI
race amid safety
concerns**

CNN
Sept 12, 2026

EMBEDDED EVALUATORS

**Anthropic selects
Accenture as first
embedded evaluator
to help implement
Amodeli's slowdown
proposal**

CNBC
Sept 18, 2026

WHITE HOUSE ACCORD

**Trump releases
self-regulatory
accord for
frontier AI
models**

MLex
Sept 2026

WHITE HOUSE ACCORD

**Pledge signed by
President Trump
and top AI leaders
misspells the
United States**

TechCrunch
Sept 30, 2026



What is AI Assurance?



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You already do assurance

Profession	What others rely on	Shared rules
Law	Closing opinion	Tribar Report
Audit	Financial statement opinion	Accounting and audit standards
Assurance	SOC 2 report	Trust Services Criteria
Privacy	Impact assessment	GDPR and regulator guidance
Compliance & governance	Control assessment	Control frameworks
Engineering	Acceptance testing	Test specs and acceptance criteria

Shared rules let others trust and reuse your judgment.



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AI Assurance Categories (What)

Category	Focus	Example Risks/Harms Addressed	Cross-cutting
Internal deployment risk evaluations	Is the model safe for release to internal lab researchers?	● Alignment ● Loss-of-control ● Cybersecurity ● RSI	Software Development Process Governance
Pre-release catastrophic risk model evaluations	Is the model safe for release to external users?	● CBRN uplift ● Manipulation ● Reward structure (sycophancy, engagement)	
Post-release societally important harm model evaluations	Is the model safe for use by external users?	● Mental health ● Bias and fairness ● Misuse	
Use-case level commercial risk evaluations	Is the model safe for deployment to our employees and customers?	● Reliability ● Privacy and confidentiality	

Who does AI Assurance?

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What implementation gaps is Appia meant to close?

Current gap

- High-level standards and regulations exist, but organizations still often recreate evidence pathways from scratch.
- Without shared evaluation methods and reusable evidence, implementation becomes duplicative, costly, and hard to rely on across the supply chain.
- Downstream actors often face shifting obligations even when much of the technical evidence already exists upstream.

Appia solution

- Translate high-level obligations into reusable requirements, evaluation methods, and evidence patterns.
- Adapt and integrate AI specific requirements and guidance into existing sector specific standards rather than building from the ground up.
- Define objects of conformity and modular pathways so different actors can assess only what is relevant to their role and context.
- Enable more consistent evidence handoffs across the supply chain instead of repeated re-documentation.

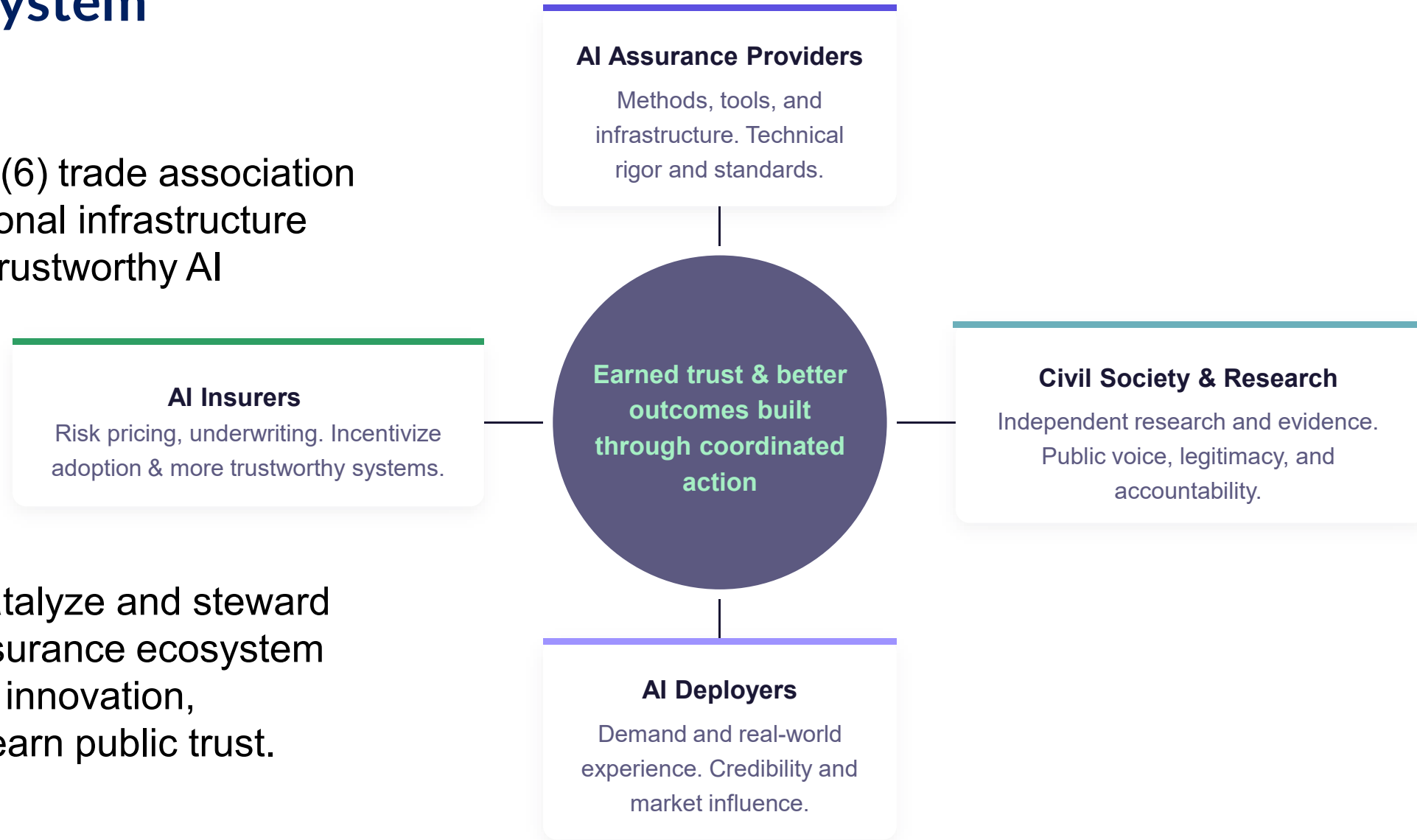
What this means for industry

- Appia can be described as implementation-oriented and modular, not as a monolithic specification “stack.”
- It is a shared infrastructure for assessable implementation and interoperable assurance.
- Most importantly, it allows for sector-specific rigor without forcing every domain into the same detailed implementation or assessment approach.

PACT AI Ecosystem

PACT AI is a 501(c)(6) trade association building the institutional infrastructure needed to support trustworthy AI adoption at scale.

Our mission is to catalyze and steward the emerging AI assurance ecosystem in ways that enable innovation, mitigate risks, and earn public trust.



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AI Assurance Categories (How)

- An **investigator** establishes what happened after an incident. They reconstruct events and identify probable cause.
- An **evaluator** measures what the system does. Their work is empirical: tests, benchmarks, and red-teaming.
- An **assessor** appraises risk. An assessor asks whether something is good enough for a stated purpose.
- An **auditor** concludes. An audit is a systematic, independent examination against fixed criteria, ending in a conclusion on whether those criteria are met.
Primary questions: what were the criteria, who set them, what information will this give me, and who is the performer independent of?

AI assurance needs two layers

Certified professionals

Training to apply shared rules

Professional skepticism and independent judgment

Independent criteria

Developed by multiple stakeholders

Appia Foundation's public specifications

Four questions for every assessor

What am I assessing?

AI objects of conformity

Where does it belong in the AI value chain?

Shared responsibilities

What are the requirements?

Specs, standards, regulations, obligations

How do we know it meets requirements?

Evaluation criteria

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AI Governance Skills Framework (AIGSF)

TOOLS AND TRACKERS

MEMBER 

AI Governance Professional Profiles: Assurance

This resource maps out a standardized job template for assurance professionals working in AI governance.

Published
30 Sept. 2026



AI assurance lead

Alternative titles: AI governance auditor, AI compliance auditor, Responsible AI auditor, Internal auditor — AI governance.

Summary statement: Provides independent, nontechnical assurance over AI governance, risk management, compliance and organizational controls to ensure responsible and compliant use of AI.

Key purpose: Delivers objective assurance that AI governance frameworks, policies, processes and oversight mechanisms are effectively designed and operational.

Deliverable(s), primary functions and subfunctions ▼

Main task(s) ▼

Key skill(s) ▼

Key knowledge ▼

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RESOURCE LIST

- IAPP - [AI Governance Skills Framework](#)
- [Appia Foundation](#)
- [Partnership for Assurance, Credibility, and Trust in AI \(PACT AI\)](#)
- Center for Democracy & Technology - [Professionalizing AI Assurance](#)
- Partnership on AI – [Strengthening AI assurance ecosystem](#)
- UK Government - [AI Assurance Roadmap](#)
- TechUK – [AI Assurance Ecosystem Mapping](#)
- Ada Lovelace Institute – [Going Pro? Considerations for the Emerging Field of AI Governance](#)



How Did Things Go? (We Really Want To Know)

Did you enjoy this session? Is there any way we could make it better? Let us know by filling out a speaker evaluation.

1. Open the IAPP Events app.
2. Select **IAPP P.S.R. + AIGG 2026**.
3. Tap "Schedule" on the bottom navigation bar.
4. Find this session. Click "Rate this Session" within the description.
5. Once you've answered all three questions, tap "Done".

Thank you!

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