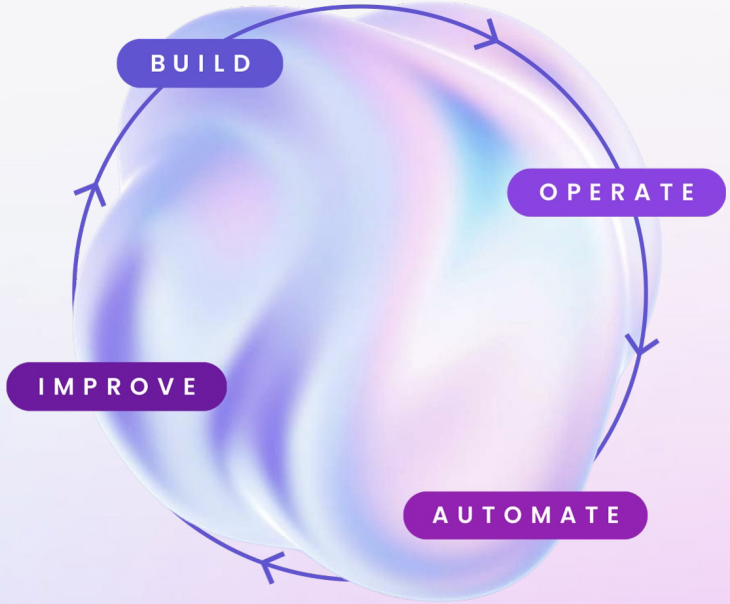
GUIDE · VINT TECHNOLOGIES

Is your IT ready for AI?



A leader's guide to the foundations of AI.

AI works only if the IT beneath it is in order. Here is how to check it yourselves.

Vint

WHO THIS GUIDE IS FOR

A guide for leadership, not just IT

This guide is for leaders of service companies: Chief-, Head- and Director-level decision makers. No IT background is required.

It answers three questions:

- Why is the benefit of AI so often decided in the IT foundation?
- Are the foundations of our own environment in order?
- What can we do ourselves, and when do we need help?

CONTENTS

How the guide progresses

01 **Insight**
Why the foundation decides

02 **Five foundations**
What to check and how

03 **Moving forward**
Where to start and who does what

04 **In practice**
Questions and a 30-day start



Vint

SUMMARY

The benefit of AI is decided by the foundation

The benefit of AI is rarely decided by the tool. It is decided by what AI can access and how securely.

- Choose the workflow first, not the platform
- Check the five foundations: identity, data, interfaces, security, and infrastructure and cost
- Fix what blocks the chosen workflow

AI does not create new risks. It makes old ones visible.

01

PART 1

Insight

Why the foundation decides.

STARTING POINT

Why AI pilots stall in daily work

An AI pilot can work in a demo and stall in daily work. The cause is often not the model or the tool. The workflow needs something the environment cannot yet provide:

- information scattered across systems and people's heads
- access rights nobody has cleaned up
- interfaces between systems that do not exist
- an owner who is accountable for the result

The question is not which tool you use, but what the workflow needs in order to work.

INSIGHT

AI sees what the user sees

When AI is connected to company information, it works with the user's rights. If a user has access to a folder they should not, AI can find and summarize its contents.

A fictional example: an employee asks about the status of a project. The answer includes details from a proposal that was accidentally visible to everyone.

AI does not create new risks. It makes old ones visible.

FIVE FOUNDATIONS

Five foundations that decide

1

Access rights

Who can reach what.

2

Data

Where it is and whether it is current.

3

Interfaces

How systems talk to each other.

4

Security

Ground rules, monitoring and approved tools.

5

Infra and cost

Whether it handles the load and costs are visible.

Vint

BASIC GLOSSARY

Six terms worth knowing

Term	In plain language
Identity	Who or what uses a system: a person or a program
Access right	What data and functions an identity can reach
Interface	The way systems exchange data without copying by hand
Integration	Connecting several systems into one working whole
Retrieval from your own documents	AI looks up the answer in the company's own documents
Agent	AI that carries out multiple steps on its own

Vint

WHERE ARE YOU?

Five levels of AI maturity

Level	What it means
1 Individual exploration	Individual users with their own tools. No shared practices.
2 Managed use	Secure shared use managed by IT. Permitted tools and guidelines are defined.
3 Process solutions	AI is connected to specific processes. The benefit is measurable.
4 Integrated automation	AI is part of production workflows and systems, such as ERP and CRM.
5 AI-driven operations	AI is part of leadership and decision-making. Ownership and metrics are agreed.

Vint's maturity model. Most organizations are at levels 1–2. Competitive advantage usually appears in the move to level 3 and beyond.

02

PART 2

Five foundations

What to check and how.

FOUNDATION 1 · IDENTITY

Who can reach what data?

Ready

- Every user has their own account
- Rights are based on role
- Rights of leavers and role changers are updated
- AI also has its own account and limited rights

Not yet

- Shared accounts
- Rights have piled up over the years
- Nobody knows who can reach what

Ask: can IT tell you who can reach what data?

Vint

FOUNDATION 2 · DATA

Where is the data and is it current?

Ready

- You know where the key information is
- Information has an owner and a current version
- The source of information can be shown

Not yet

- The same information in several places in different versions
- Know-how is in people's heads, not documented
- Outdated documents mix with new ones

Ask: where is the current version of proposals, contracts and project information?

Vint

FOUNDATION 3 · INTERFACES

Do your systems talk to each other?

Ready

- Systems exchange data without copying by hand
- The key systems have an interface
- Changes are documented

Not yet

- Data is moved by hand through spreadsheets
- Interfaces are not known
- Integrations depend on one person

Ask: which three reporting or transfer jobs are still done by hand?

Vint

FOUNDATION 4 · SECURITY

Is the use of AI agreed?

Ready

- Data classification and ground rules for AI are agreed
- Events leave a trail and deviations are noticed
- Tools have an approval model

Not yet

- Employees use their own AI accounts
- It is not known where data ends up
- Monitoring is occasional

Ask: do you know which AI tools the organization uses today?

Vint

FOUNDATION 5 · INFRA AND COST

Does the environment cope and are costs visible?

Ready

- Cloud and service costs are visible and have an owner
- Capacity can cope with the new load
- Use and cost can be allocated

Not yet

- Costs show up on the invoice afterwards
- Nobody owns the whole
- The impact of the new load is unknown

Ask: do you see monthly what IT and cloud cost, and why?

Vint

WORKFLOW FIRST

Choose a workflow, then check the foundation

1

Choose a workflow

A recurring task, decision or knowledge bottleneck, and its owner.

2

Check data sources

Is the data good and current?

3

Check access rights

Who and what can reach what?

4

Check interfaces

Which systems does the workflow need?

5

Agree the outcome

Human review points and how benefit is measured.

Vint

SELF-ASSESSMENT

How ready is your foundation?

Area	Well	Partly	Not yet
1 Identity and access rights	○	○	○
2 Data quality and location	○	○	○
3 Interfaces and integrations	○	○	○
4 Security and monitoring	○	○	○
5 Infrastructure and cost visibility	○	○	○

Assess each area from the point of view of your chosen workflow. "Not yet" areas are fixed before production use. "Partly" areas can be fixed alongside a pilot.

Vint

03

PART 3

Moving forward

Where to start and who does what.

WHERE TO START

Fix what blocks the workflow

You do not need to fix everything at once.

- Choose one workflow
- From the self-assessment, see which areas are "not yet" for it
- Fix those first
- Pilot and expand only after that

A well-chosen workflow shows which foundations to build first.

WAYS OF WORKING TOGETHER

Three ways to move forward



Enable

Your team operates. A specialist designs and implements and transfers the know-how to your team.



Co-managed

You work together. Responsibilities are divided explicitly across your team, Vint and existing suppliers.



Managed

Vint operates the agreed scope. Coverage, escalation and reporting are agreed together.

Vint

TOOL

Ten questions for your IT leader

Foundation

- Who can reach what data, and when were rights last reviewed?
- What data can AI tools reach?
- Where is the key information and who owns it?
- Which systems talk to each other?
- Which AI tools are in use today?

Next steps

- How would we notice a data leak or misuse?
- What do cloud and IT cost now?
- Who owns daily upkeep after the pilot?
- What can we do ourselves in 30 days?
- What do we not yet know?

RAISE IT

Raise it in the management team

- Which one workflow do we want to improve with AI?
- Which foundations beneath it are "not yet"?
- Who owns it?
- What do we do ourselves and where do we need help?
- When do we come back to this?

Proposed decision: name an owner and complete the self-assessment within 30 days.

30 DAYS

30 days without outside help

1

WEEK 1

Map

The AI tools in use, a workflow and its owner.

2

WEEK 2

Assess

The self-assessment and ten questions for your IT leader.

3

WEEK 3

Prioritize

The "not yet" areas for the chosen workflow.

4

WEEK 4

Decide

On your own or with support. A proposal to the management team.

Vint

HOW VINT HELPS

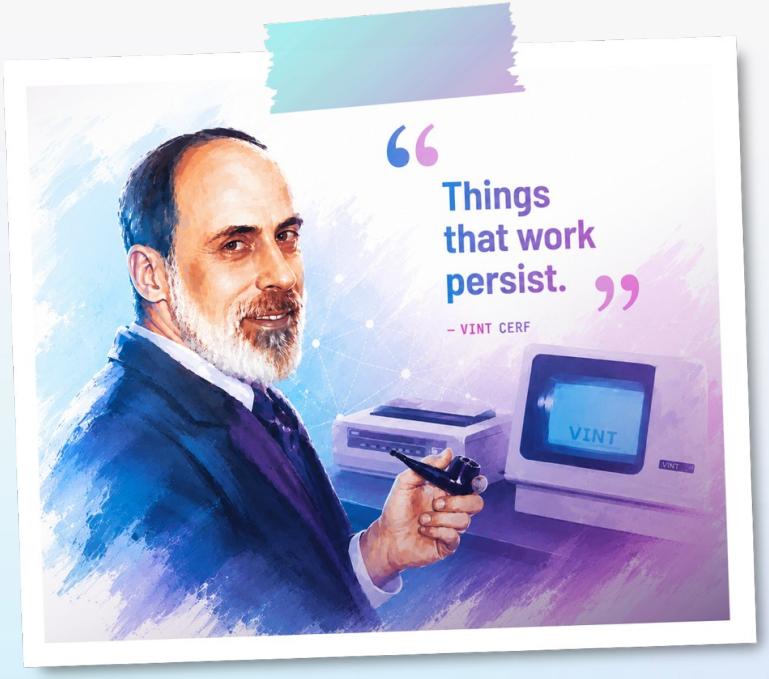
We help you see the gaps and choose the next step

In an IT and security assessment you get a shared baseline, identified gaps and risks, and prioritized recommendations.

In an AI maturity assessment you get a personal report on where you stand and what the next step is.

We work in an Enable, Co-managed or Managed model as needed. We have built an ISO 42001 management system for, among others, Siili Solutions Oyj.

You can start from the step you need without buying everything.



VINT TECHNOLOGIES

Thank you

VINT Technologies

Sales

+358 10 279 9661

sales@vint.tech

Start with one step: choose one workflow and complete the self-assessment this week.

Vint