

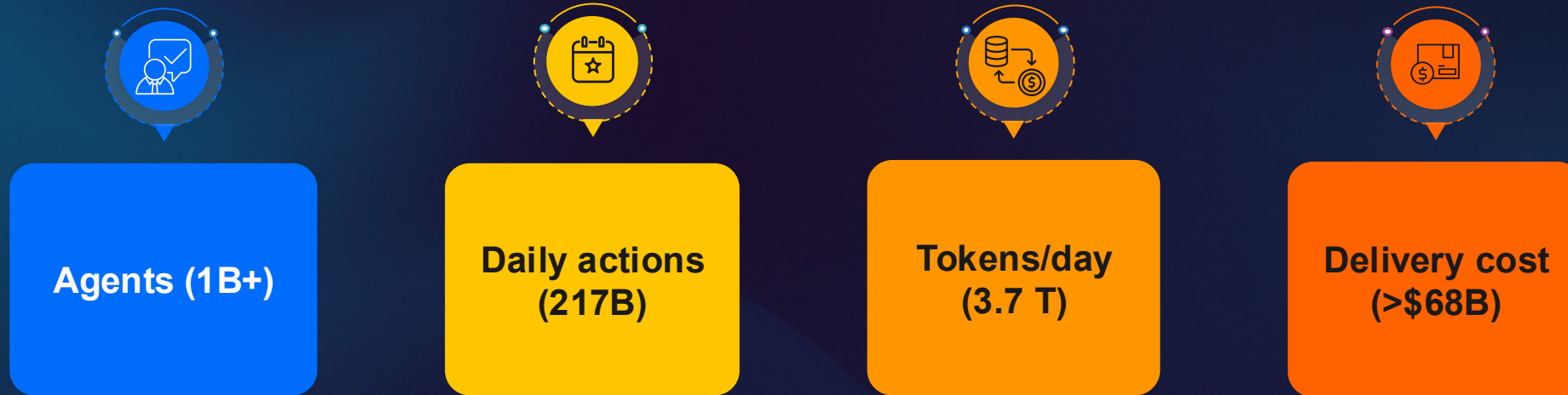


Preparing for the Agent Economy

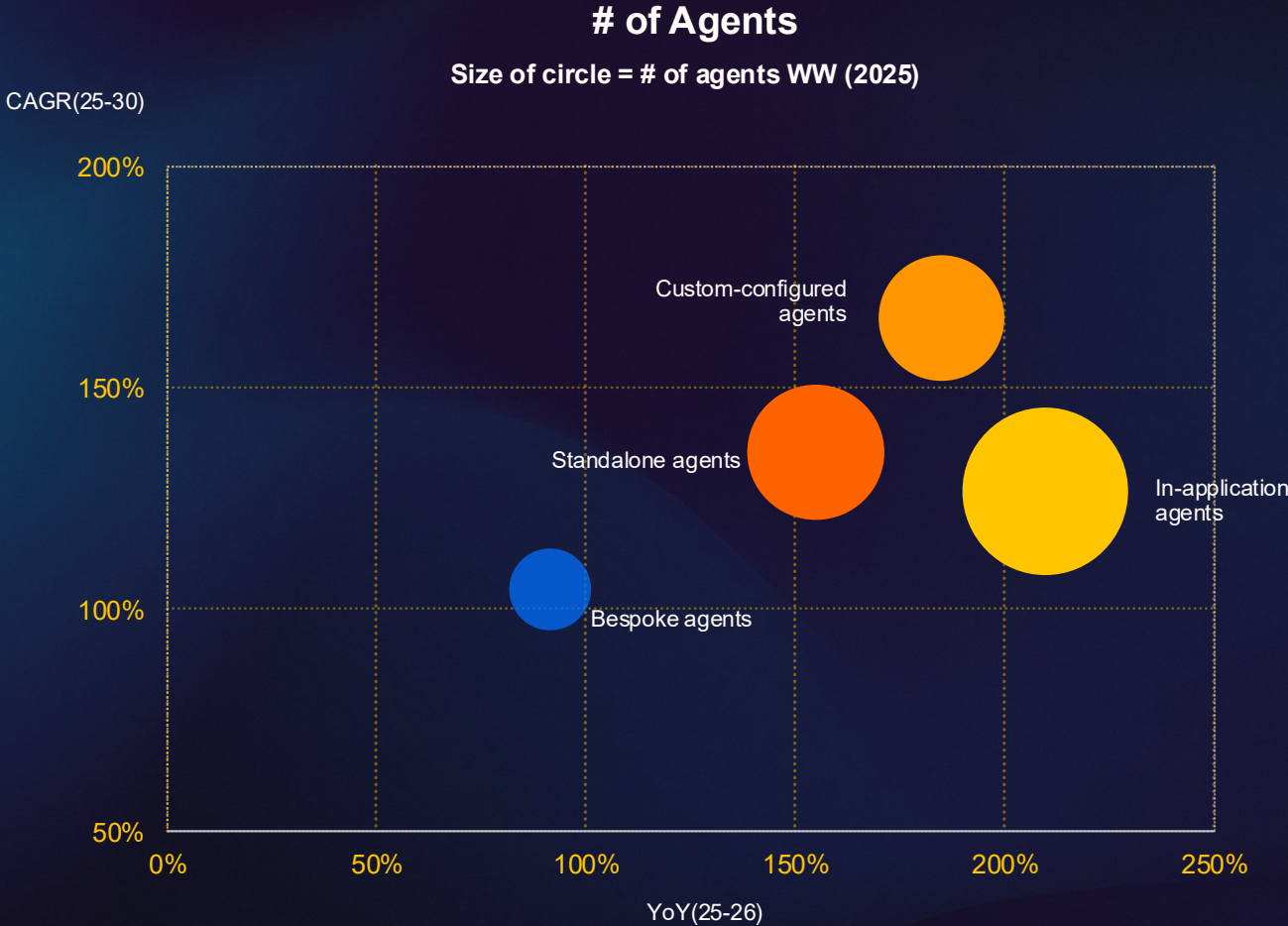
Alessandro Perilli

VP, Research, Enterprise AI Strategies

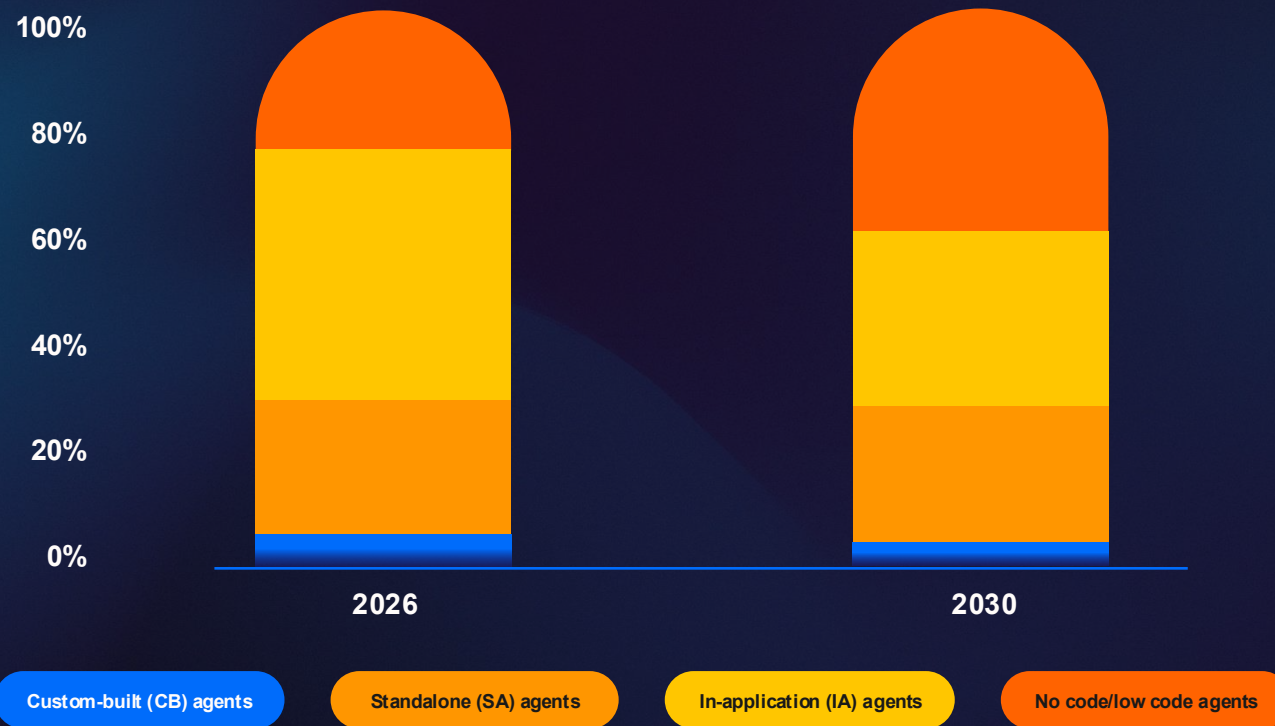
1 billion AI agents worldwide by 2029



Today, enterprises adopting AI agent types based on **speed and ease of deployment**



In the future, **custom configured and standalone agents** will dominate

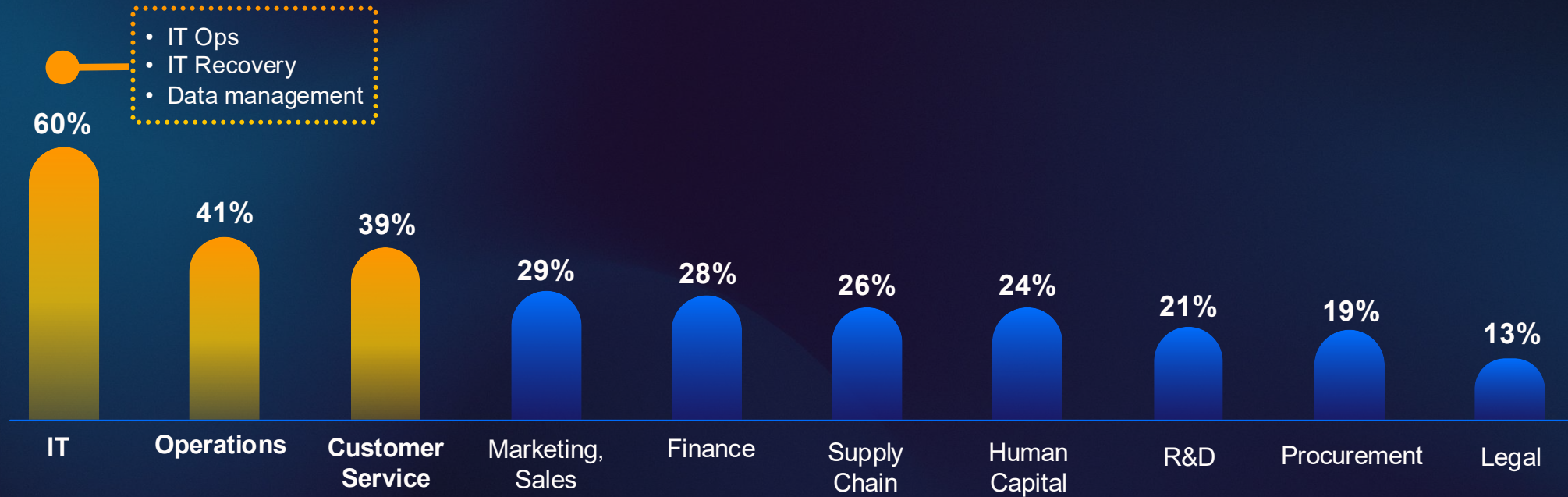


AI agents deployed to **drive growth**

Anticipated benefits of agentic AI

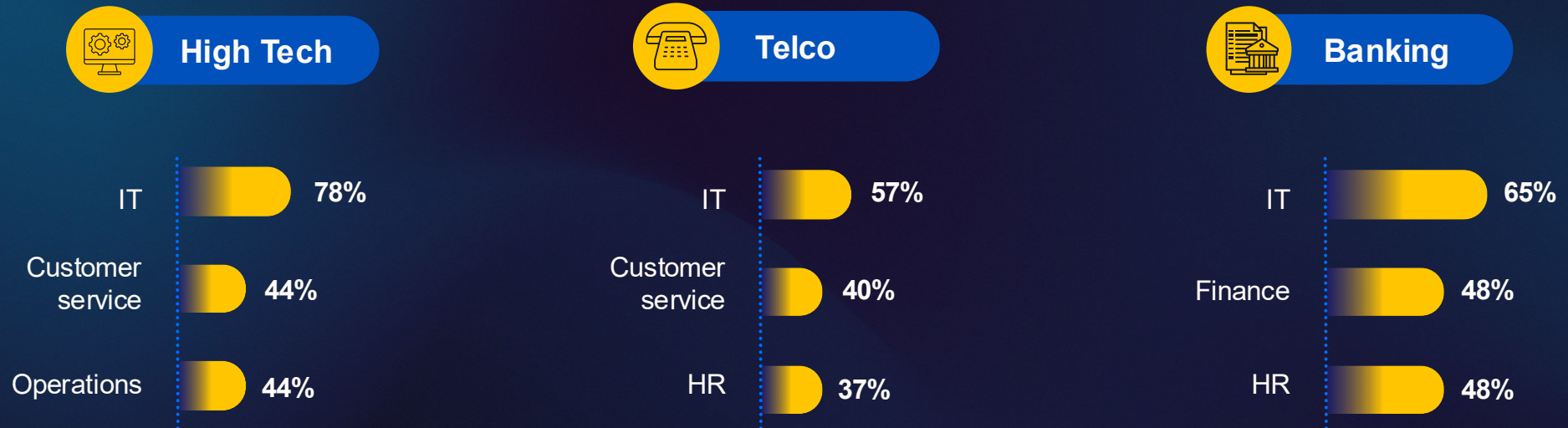


Enterprises investing in AI agents for IT, ops, and customer service



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Top functions deploying AI agents



ENTERPRISES

are still evaluating
or piloting
the use of agents

47%



21%

AGENTIC AI SOLUTIONS

deployed by end of
2026

34



43

ENTERPRISES

use agents in
production across
multiple business areas

29%



50%

NOV 2025

MAR 2026



What it takes **to win**



Knowledge fabric

Build the knowledge graph, semantic definitions, and context management



Agent orchestration

Coordinate multi agent operations at scale



Decision intelligence

Move from **human in the loop** to **human on the loop**



Agentic AI security

Treat Agentic AI as **critical infrastructure**



Knowledge fabric



Knowledge graph

Models relationships across customers, products, interactions, outcomes

Semantic definitions

Ensures consistent business meaning across agents, systems, and processes

Context management

Assembles, validates, and delivers relevant state at runtime for AI agents



Agent orchestration



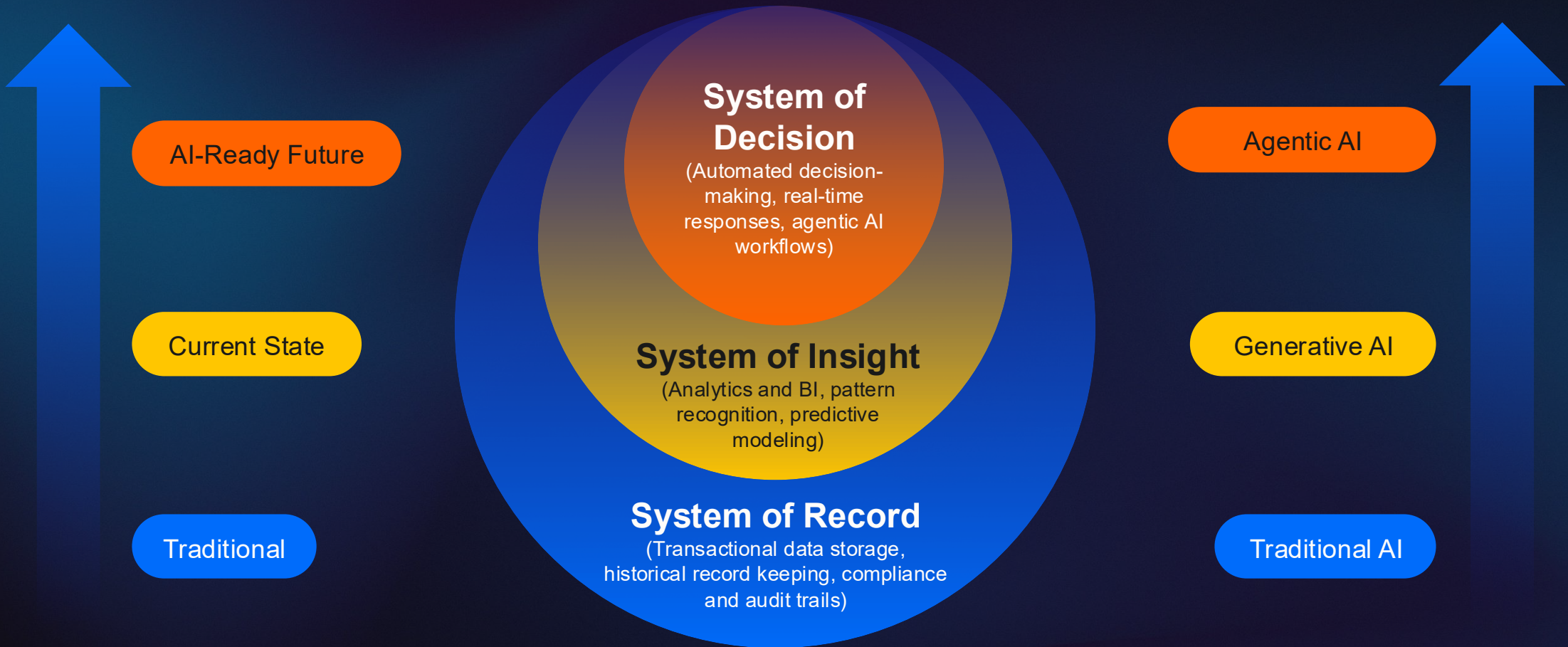
Tracks
agent **identities**
and **capabilities**

Intelligently
allocate tasks
to subagents

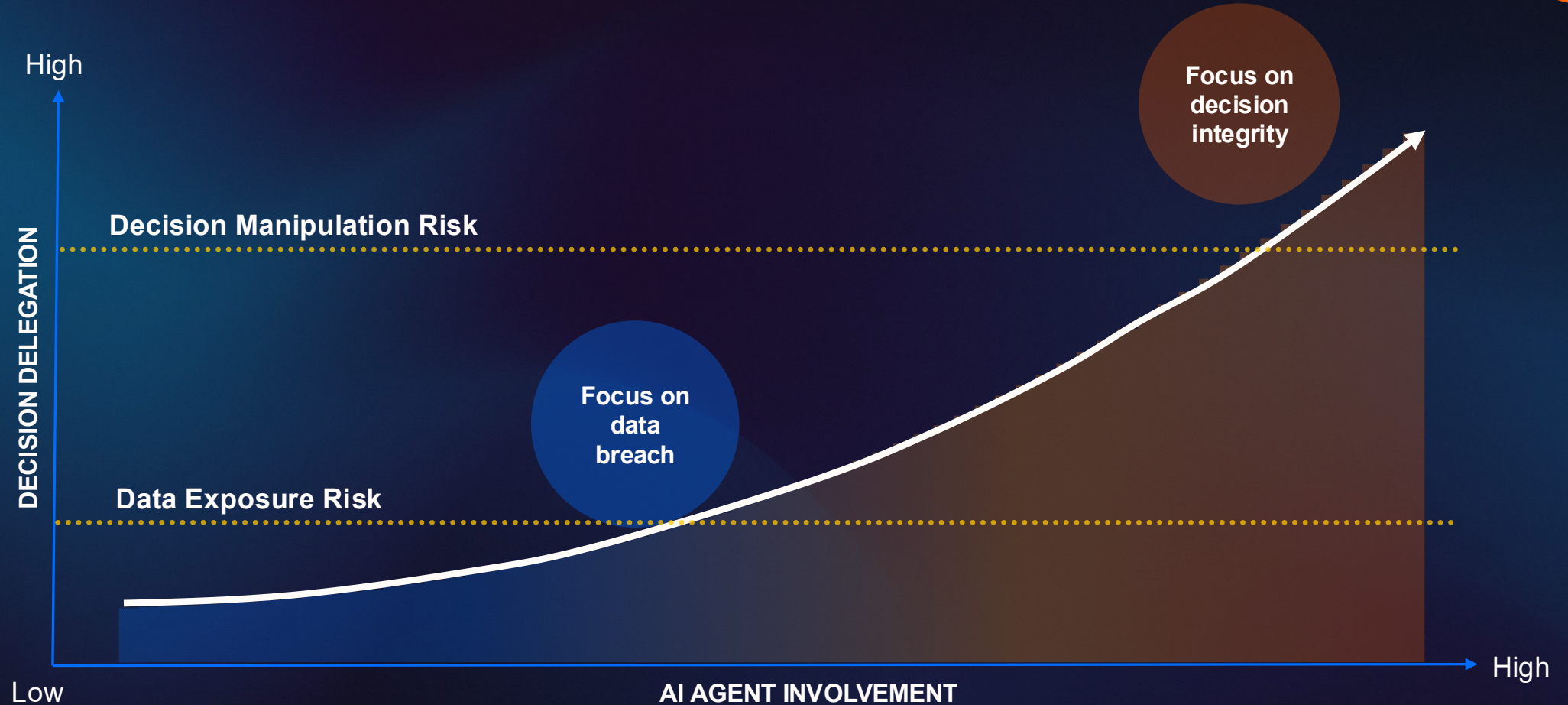
Guarantees
agent
interoperability
& **collaboration**



Decision intelligence



Agentic AI security



Assist with Knowledge Work
Drafts, research, summaries

Handle Customer Interactions
Support, Q&A, personalized responses

Make Recommendations
Options, prioritizations, next-best actions

Execute & Approve Routine Actions
Reprioritize work, trigger workflows, routine approvals



AI Agent security and governance account for

16.7%

of average planned
AI INVESTMENT WORLDWIDE



41%

of organizations ranked

CYBER RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY

as a top area for **significant budget increases** in 2026



Guidance for CEOs



Make agentic AI a source of competitive differentiation

Use it to create a faster, smarter, or more personalized operating model competitors will struggle to match.

Choose the enterprise bets that matter

Back a small number of agentic AI initiatives where speed, margin, growth, or customer experience can materially improve

Set the company's delegation boundary

Decide where agents can recommend, where they can act, and where humans must retain approval, so the business moves deliberately from human-in-the-loop to human-on-the-loop.



Guidance for CIOs



Manage agent economics like a production portfolio

Track cost, latency, reliability, reuse, and business value so the company scales the right agents and shuts down the wrong ones quickly

Make interoperability a non-negotiable

Require every agent to plug into shared identity, context, telemetry, and handoff standards so they can work across processes rather than create new silos.

Refactor core workflows around human supervision

Redesign operating processes, handoffs, support models, and exception handling so humans supervise agent work instead of manually carrying it out end to end



Guidance for CISOs



Institutionalize adversarial testing

Make red teaming mandatory for prompt injection, tool misuse, privilege escalation, memory poisoning, data leakage, and decision manipulation.

Apply zero-trust to agents

Enforce least privilege, segmented access, strong authentication, and approval gates for sensitive actions.

Prepare for agent failure as an operational incident

Build monitoring, forensic logging, kill switches, rollback, and recovery drills specifically for agentic systems.

