

DAY 1 Monday 19 October 2026	
08:20	*Register; grab a coffee. Mix, mingle and say hello to peers old and new.*
09:00	**Mihi Whakatau** *Delivered by **Te Aroha Grace, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei***
09:10	*Welcome remarks by Corinium & Chair's opening remarks* **Xanthe Sulzberger** Head of Data - Operational Excellence **Fonterra**
09:20	**Speed Networking – Making new connections at CDAIO New Zealand!** During this 5-minute networking session, participants can build their network. Have fun!
09:25	**Keynote Co-Presentation** **Same Fundamentals, New Scale: Decision-Making in the Age of AI** Speakers **Bill Moses** Chief Information Officer **New Zealand Qualifications Authority | Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa** **Vipin Kumar** Chief Customer Officer **New Zealand Qualifications Authority | Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa**
09:50	**Presentation** **Beyond the Hype - How to Build the Foundation that Powers AI Success** Speaker **Joseph Sullivan** Regional Vice President and Head of Specialist Sales APJ **Informatica from Salesforce**
10:15	**Panel** **The Economics of AI – Cost, Consumption and Control at Scale** Key questions: • Where are organisations overspending on AI today, and which levers actually make a meaningful difference in controlling cost? • How are leaders managing inference cost explosion and token consumption without slowing innovation? • What guardrails and controls are needed to prevent uncontrolled enterprise-wide AI spend? Moderator **Xanthe Sulzberger** Head of Data - Operational Excellence **Fonterra** Speakers **Matt Bain** Chief Technology & AI Officer **Spark** **Amanda White** Chief Information Officer **Open Country Dairy** **Peter Gavin** General Manager, Digital and Data **New Zealand Trade and Enterprise**
10:50	*Morning Coffee and Connect*

11:20	**Panel** **When AI Starts Giving the Wrong Answers — How Do You Stay in Control and Protect Your Outcomes?** • How do you know when AI is starting to give the wrong answers, and what signals do you pay attention to? • How do you stay in control as AI becomes more embedded across different teams, functions and business processes? • How do you balance human oversight with the need to scale AI across the organisation? • How do you protect business outcomes when AI outputs cannot always be predicted, explained or trusted? Moderator **Jeff Smith** National Data & Analytics Manager **New Zealand Couriers** Speakers **Fiona Thomson** Chief Data & Analytics Officer **NZTE** **Rachel Harrison** Head of Decision Science & AI **ASB** **Jordan Cunningham** Head of Data and Analytics **Sharesies** **Sam Hambling** Head of AI and ML **Les Mills International**	
11:55	**Presentation** **Beyond Data Readiness: The Infrastructure That Turns AI Into Governed Action** Speaker **David Irecki** CTO APJ **Boomi**	
12:20	**Keynote Co-Presentation** **No Pilots Left Behind: Auckland Council's Value Driven AI Roadmap** Speakers **Sarah Cawsey** General Manager Data **Auckland Council** **Andrew Parkinson** Head of Analytics **Auckland Council**	
12:55	*Lunch Break! Connect and Converse.*	
	Track A: Trusted Data & AI	**Track B: Value & Impact**
	Chair: **Xanthe Sulzberger** Head of Data - Operational Excellence **Fonterra**	Chair: **Peter Gavin** General Manager, Digital and Data **New Zealand Trade and Enterprise**
14:05	**Presentation** **AI Doesn't Know When It's Wrong: Here's How You Can** Speaker **Jeremy Appleyard** Senior Sales Engineer **Precisely**	**Presentation** **From API to AI: It Was Never Just About APIs** Speaker **Warren Vella** Staff Solutions Engineer **Kong**
14:30	**Presentation** **Who Controls AI? Regulation Meets Sovereignty** Speaker **Kari Jones** Executive Director - Operational Excellence and Enablement **Financial Markets Authority – Te Mana Tātai Hokohoko**	**Presentation** **Scaling AI: From Experimentation to Enterprise Impact** Speaker **Kate Kolich** Head of Data and Artificial Intelligence **Contact Energy**

14:55	**Co-Presentation** **Fivetran & University of Auckland: From Data Chaos to Connected Intelligence** Speakers **Thomas Sutton-Walsh** Enterprise Account Executive **Fivetran** **Indrajeet Singh** Associate Director, Data & Analytics Engineering **The University of Auckland**	**Presentation** **From Proliferation to Control: Managing 'Agent Sprawl' in the Enterprise AI Era** Speaker **Paul Sadler** Client Director **FIRN**
15:20	**Co-Presentation** **Trusted Data: Why Quality Still Breaks Everything and How to Fix It** Speakers **Etza Lukmanto** Data Value Lead **SkyCity**	**Presentation** **Signal Versus Noise: What it Takes to Drive Real Enterprise Transformation** Speaker **Sean Narayan** Artificial Intelligence & Business Intelligence Lead **Bidfood New Zealand**
15:45	*Afternoon Coffee and Connect*	
16:15	**Co-Presentation** **Platform Transformation to Enable Value: Data Engineering, Governance and Architecture Walk into a Bar, What Happened Next?** Speakers **Macushla Howell** GM Data and Enterprise Architecture **NZ Post** **Tom Lintern** Head of AI **NZ Post**	
16:40	**Presentation** **From Centralised to Federated: Designing Data & AI Operating Models That Work** Speaker **Peter McCallum** Former GM - Data, Intelligence & AI **The Warehouse Group**	
17:05	*Closing Remarks by the Chair*	
17:10	**Close of Day 1**	
17:10	**CDAIO Drinks Reception** *Continue the conversation over drinks.*	



DAY 2 Tuesday 20 October 2026	
08:30	*Register; grab coffee. Mix, mingle and say hello to peers old and new.*
09:10	*Welcome remarks by Corinium & Chair's opening remarks* **Xanthe Sulzberger** Head of Data - Operational Excellence **Fonterra**
09:20	**Keynote Presentation** **AI Isn't Free: Understanding the New Cost Drivers of Intelligence** Speaker **Mike Parsons** Data & AI - Tribe Lead and Chapter Area Lead **Air New Zealand**
09:45	**Panel** **Is Our Data Ready for AI or Are We Building on Fragile Foundations?** • How much of today's AI ambition is being limited or undermined by poor underlying data foundations? • Where are organisations still struggling: data quality, consistency, accessibility, or ownership? • Are we overcompensating with AI (e.g. LLMs, workarounds) instead of fixing core data issues? • What does "AI-ready data" truly mean in practice - and how close are most organisations? Moderator **Joseph Sullivan** Regional Vice President and Head of Specialist Sales APJ **Informatica from Salesforce** Speakers **Sam Graham** Head of Data and Analytics **My Food Bag** **Mira Bradshaw** Head of Data & Analytics **Acton International Marketing** **Nastassia Subritzky** Head of Data & Insights **Mitre 10** **Kenny Thein** IT Director **Restaurant Brands Limited**
10:20	*Morning Coffee and Connect*
10:50	**Presentation** **Building AI Infrastructure That Scales: From Shadow AI to Orchestrated Adoption** Speaker **Manvi Madan** Head of Data Governance **SkyCity**

11:15	**Panel** **Why Data Culture Programmes Fail and What Actually Changes Behaviour** • Why doesn't data literacy alone lead to more data-driven decisions? • What organisational barriers prevent behaviour change - even with strong data capabilities? • What motivates teams to use data consistently in their day-to-day work? Moderator **Jeff Smith** National Data & Analytics Manager **New Zealand Couriers** Speakers **Kathryn Byrne** Chief Analytics Officer **Woolworths Group** **Michelle Thompson** Head of Data Insights **Z Energy** **John Lewis** Head of Architecture, Data & AI **AA Insurance**
11:55	**Presentation** **Beyond Policies: Building Scalable AI Governance That Drives Trust and Innovation** Speaker **Mike Rankin** Head of Data and AI **TSB New Zealand**
12:20	*Lunch Break! Connect and Converse*
13:20	**Panel** **Have We Over-Engineered Data? Rethinking What "Good" Looks Like** • Are we over-investing in platforms, governance, and tooling without improving outcomes? Where is the line? • What do data teams actually need to deliver value today - and what can we stop doing? • Has the push for modern data stacks, products, and frameworks added clarity or complexity? • What would a lean, high-impact data function look like if we started again today? Moderator **Gurbani Singh** Senior Product Manager – Data **Kiwibank** Speakers **Jenny Kim** General Manager Analytics **Partners Life** **Sonny Taite** Director Innovation and AI **Te Whatu Ora** **Mike Congdon** Head of Data & Analytics **Southern Cross Healthcare**
14:00	**Presentation** **The Value of Data: Rebuilding to Move Beyond Reports and Vanity Metrics** Speaker **Mira Bradshaw** Head of Data & Analytics **Acton International Marketing**
14:25	**Fireside Chat** **What Comes Next? Sustaining a Strong Data Community and Defining the Next Strategy** Speakers **David Thomas** Group Data & Technology Officer **NZ Post** **Sonya Crosby** Former Chief Data & Analytics Officer **QBE Insurance**
15:00	*Closing Remarks by the Chair*
15:05	Afternoon Coffee! *Connect and Converse*
15:35	**Close of CDAIO New Zealand 2026**