

Introducing Cognizant AI Nexus: helping enterprises govern the cost, quality and results of AI

Cognizant debuts modular operating layer designed to accelerate value from AI—on infrastructure enterprises can own

TEANECK, N.J., Oct. 22, 2026 /PRNewswire/ -- Cognizant (Nasdaq: CTSH) announced the launch of Cognizant AI Nexus, a modular, multi-model operating layer designed to help enterprises more quickly turn AI investment into proven business value by metering AI spend, governing AI quality and documenting results across every team.

As frontier model capabilities converge and prices compress, the AI model an enterprise chooses is becoming less important in driving differentiation in the market. A more relevant question has emerged: how quickly can an enterprise turn AI investment into value it can measure and defend? That value velocity gap is the operational expression of a larger problem and a larger opportunity. [Cognizant research](#) found that the total unrealized annual value of AI across the Global 2000 could be as much as \$4.7 trillion.¹

Enterprises are moving past AI pilots, but many are still waiting for the returns. The same study found that two-thirds of Global 2000 leaders had yet to demonstrate measurable business productivity gains from AI, and one in four had paused or abandoned deployments. AI is also making technology spend both harder to see and harder to forecast. A new Cognizant survey of 250 FinOps leaders found that 72% of organizations exceeded their AI budget in the past 12 months, and 16% overshot by more than 25%.²

"Many enterprises have already made their AI commitments," said Ravi Kumar S, CEO, Cognizant. "What boards and finance leaders need now is evidence: what that spend returns, who is accountable for it and how to get more from every dollar. Cognizant AI Nexus gives them one governed place to answer those questions and a way to keep improving the answer."

Cognizant AI Nexus brings together five capabilities that enterprises can adopt independently, or together. Two of them, Engage and Orchestrate, change where work happens. The other three, Reveal, Coach and Route, govern how AI performs in that work. The expected functionality and potential benefits of these capabilities are as follows:

Where work happens

- **Cognizant AI Nexus Engage** gives engineers, analysts and business leaders one governed workspace grounded in their own enterprise knowledge. A secure sandbox turns conversation into analysis, code and decisions, while persistent AI specialists, AI agents with their own context and memory, capture proven ways of working.
- **Cognizant AI Nexus Orchestrate** rebuilds business processes as agentic workflows, designed by Frontier Certified Engineers and run by Frontier Business Operators.³ Cognizant [introduced both roles in June 2026](#) and aims to hold them accountable for results throughout the lifecycle of each workflow.

How AI is governed

- **Cognizant AI Nexus Reveal** maps every token, tool and dollar across AI vendors to the people, projects and outcomes behind them, so leaders can manage consumption budgets and prove impact.
- **Cognizant AI Nexus Coach** evaluates the context, approach and outcome of AI work as it happens and turns better practices into standards that raise quality across the enterprise.
- **Cognizant AI Nexus Route** matches each request to the model that offers the right balance of quality, cost and control, drawing on frontier, open-weight, small language and self-hosted models. Sensitive workloads stay inside the enterprise, policies apply to every route and traffic is designed to shift to healthy models when a provider slows or fails.

Cognizant AI Nexus is designed to help enterprises build compounding value from their most effective processes. It distills proven practices into reusable assets that teams can share and AI specialists can apply, and each workflow run adds to the knowledge behind the next. Because the same layer meters spend and monitors quality, enterprises can track improvement in unit cost, quality and speed over time.

Cognizant's survey of FinOps leaders also found that 97% of organizations have had an AI agent session escalate beyond expected cost or activity, and 36% say the impact was material. Cognizant AI Nexus is designed with trust and control built into the operating layer itself.

Each AI specialist has its own identity, permissions and memory, and the enterprise decides what it can access. Every workflow carries a full audit trail, and human approval remains in place for critical decisions, compliance checks and customer-facing actions. Because Cognizant AI Nexus is designed to run inside the enterprise's own environment, the enterprise keeps control of the data, processes and institutional knowledge its AI depends on.

Cognizant's client work shows why that context matters. [Across agentic AI engagements](#), the company has found that a lack of

context readiness, more than any limit in model capability, is what keeps deployments out of production.⁴ As its own Client Zero, Cognizant runs Cognizant AI Nexus at scale across its operations before taking it to clients.

Learn more about [Cognizant AI Nexus](#).

About Cognizant

Cognizant (Nasdaq: CTSI) is an AI Builder and technology services provider, bridging the gap between AI investment and enterprise value by building full-stack AI solutions for our clients. Our deep industry, process and engineering expertise enables us to build an organization's unique context into technology systems that amplify human potential, drive tangible outcomes and keep global enterprises ahead in a fast-changing world. See how at www.cognizant.ai or @cognizant.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release includes statements that may constitute forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the accuracy of which are necessarily subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions as to future events that may not prove to be accurate. These statements include, but are not limited to, express or implied forward-looking statements relating to the unrealized value of AI and the anticipated functionality of and benefits from utilizing Cognizant AI Nexus' capabilities. These statements are neither promises nor guarantees, may reflect findings of the reports and surveys discussed above, and remain subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond Cognizant's control, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in these forward-looking statements. Existing and prospective investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. Factors that could cause outcomes to differ materially from those expressed or implied include general economic conditions, the impact of technological development and competition, the competitive and rapidly changing nature of the markets Cognizant competes in, our ability to successfully deploy and use AI-based technologies, and the other factors discussed in Cognizant's most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Cognizant undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities law.

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¹ Cognizant, "Closing the AI Execution Gap: A \$2 Billion Business Boost," survey of 1,100 senior business leaders at Global 2000 companies and 100 startups across 10 industries, announced June 15, 2026. <https://news.cognizant.com/2026-06-15-New-Cognizant-Research-Reveals-4-7-Trillion-in-Untapped-AI-Value-Across-G2000>

² Cognizant FinOps survey of 250 FinOps leaders at director level or above at companies with \$500M+ in annual revenue in the US (150), UK (50) and India (50), fielded Aug. 27–Sept. 5, 2026. Margin of error ±6.2 percentage points.

³ Frontier Certified Engineers combine industry domain expertise with AI engineering, breaking each business process into atomic tasks and compiling them into a workflow that reflects how the business actually runs. Frontier Business Operators own the operational result, directing people and AI specialists together toward an agreed objective. Cognizant introduced the roles on June 1, 2026 (<https://news.cognizant.com/2026-06-01-Cognizant-Develops-Frontier-Certified-Engineer-and-Frontier-Business-Operator-Roles-to-Define-the-Next-Generation-of-AI-Powered-Work>) and on July 9, 2026 committed to scale to 5,000 Frontier Certified Engineers and 10,000 Frontier Business Operators (<https://news.cognizant.com/2026-07-09-Cognizant-to-scale-to-5,000-Frontier-Certified-Engineers-and-10,000-Frontier-Business-Operators>).

⁴ Naveen Sharma and Satish Hegde, "Building the engineered context layer (Part 2)," Cognizant, July 16, 2026. <https://www.cognizant.com/us/en/insights/insights-blog/how-to-build-engineered-context-layer-for-enterprise-agentic-ai>

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<https://news.cognizant.com/2026-10-22-Introducing-Cognizant-AI-Nexus-helping-enterprises-govern-the-cost,-quality-and-results-of-AI>