WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN AN AI VENDOR

THE CHECKLIST

1. What is viable in your industry that will be solved/assisted by AI?

2. Is the data in a format or structure that will be easily integrated into your existing software or application?

3. What is the precedence of AI in your industry? What are the use cases?

4. Search out the companies who have implemented similar applications to better understand the integration process

5. Compare your existing strategic goals with AI implementation:

a) How will investing in AI help you reach your benchmarks?

b) What specific initiatives will it support more than others?

c) Do you have the needed talent to oversee implementation and day-to-day use?

QUESTIONS FOR VENDOR

1. What is your source of data?

a) What does the AI measure (i.e., content validity)

b) What is the AI trying to predict? (i.e., nomological/predictive validity)?

c) Do they have a scientific-validated explanation why their "mechanism" is relevant?

d) How reliable is the measurement? (i.e., measurement reliability)

2. Is the data accessible?

3. Is the data in a format or structure that will be easily integrated into your existing software or application?

4. What is the time frame for data processing and cleaning before installation?

5. What kinds of new data will need to be integrated, organized, or tracked to fit our particular application?

6. Who will be needed help set-up the solution?

7. How much in-house data science analysis do we need to do? Do we need any?

8. What are the quality control standards?

9. Is the AI automatically updating/self-learning and if so, is it supervised?

10. What's the maintenance roadmap once we integrate and install?

VENDOR INQUIRY TIMELINE

1. **Request an estimate**
Have the vendor send a time, effort, and cost estimate of set-up. Be sure to have them include integration and upkeep.

2. Get in-house feedback
Go over the vendor's estimate with your own company's IT expert about the AI integration.

3. Schedule a walkthrough
Have a vendor provide a step-by-step walkthrough, providing technical and training overview.

4. Inquire into industry experience
Ask vendors whether they've worked with companies similar to your own business; learn about the goals they've achieved using their AI software solution.

5. Contact customers
Contact information from past or existing customers and interview them (or find them yourself)

6. View case studies:
Details of integration and installation and results claimed in the case study