

MTF Technology Research Agenda 2026-2027

Evidence matrix, methodology and reproducibility note

Published: 31 July 2026 **Editorial reviewer:** Igor Dmitriev, MBA, MsEM, MsIE

Purpose

This report connects public evidence signals to testable management research questions. It is a horizon scan, not a forecast of investment returns and not a report of experiments that have not been performed.

Method

Sources were selected from standards bodies, regulators, intergovernmental organizations and research institutions. Each item records the evidence type, management question and limitation. The analysis distinguishes an observed or institutional signal from the inference proposed by MTF Institute.

Inclusion and limitations

The scan prioritizes primary public sources relevant to management decisions in 2026-2027. It is not a systematic review of every publication. Source selection, fast-moving technologies and jurisdictional differences limit generalization. Readers can inspect and extend the accompanying CSV under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 license.

Evidence matrix

Domain	Evidence signal	Research question	Limitation
Generative AI	NIST published a risk-management profile for generative AI	Which controls remain effective across changing models and use cases?	A framework does not measure business value
Artificial Intelligence	The EU AI Act applies obligations according to role and risk	What minimum evidence should procurement require before deployment?	Legal requirements depend on the actual use and jurisdiction
Machine Learning	Model performance and deployment conditions continue to change rapidly	How frequently should a business-critical model be re-evaluated?	Aggregated indicators do not evaluate a specific system
Data Science	Enterprise AI depends on reliable governed data and explicit provenance	Which provenance controls improve error detection without excessive review cost?	Proposed questions require field testing
Agentic AI	Tool-using systems can act across files and applications	Which permission and approval patterns limit irreversible action?	Not a controlled experiment
Fintech	BIS examines tokenisation in the monetary and financial system	Where can tokenisation reduce complete lifecycle cost rather than technical transfer time?	Does not endorse a commercial architecture
Blockchain	Project Agora continues institutional experimentation with tokenised cross-border payments	How do legal finality liquidity and compliance interact in a tokenised settlement model?	Experimental scope may not transfer to production
Web3	Token incentives can obscure the contribution of a business model	Does user retention persist after incentives change?	Requires longitudinal platform data
Digital Assets	Custody identity and loss allocation remain operating questions	Which governance design produces an inspectable audit trail and recovery process?	Not investment advice
Internet of Things	The EU Data Act changes expectations for access to connected-product data	How do data rights affect product design supplier contracts and service economics?	Application depends on role and product
Connected Operations	More alerts do not necessarily improve uptime	When does predictive information change action early enough to improve an operating outcome?	Requires process-level baseline data
E-commerce	Digital economy measurement still faces definition and comparability challenges	Which contribution measures allow defensible comparison across channels?	National and platform data can use different definitions

Domain	Evidence signal	Research question	Limitation
Digital Transformation	European reporting monitors digital progress and policy priorities	Which operating capabilities explain durable transformation outcomes beyond technology adoption?	Country-level indicators do not establish company-level causality
Virtual Worlds	An EU research partnership and observatory coordinate evidence and measurement	Which workplace uses create measurable value relative to established alternatives?	Institutional attention does not demonstrate commercial maturity
Spatial Computing	Immersive interfaces may support simulation training and remote assistance	Does performance transfer from the immersive environment to real work?	Hardware novelty and participant selection can bias results
Digital Twins	A visually persuasive model can hide stale or incomplete data	Which fidelity and freshness thresholds are required for a specific decision?	Thresholds are use-case specific

Citation

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