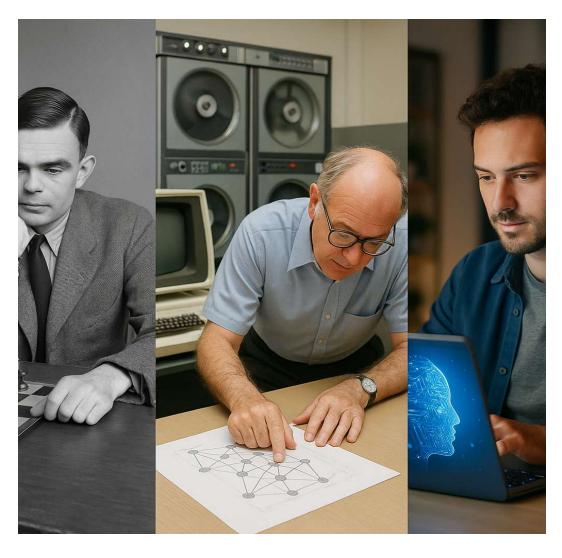


Al – Not a New Concept

Al isn't new - it's 70+ years in the making

- 1950s Ideas & definition
 - 1950: Alan Turing asks "Can machines think?" and proposes what we now call the **Turing test**.
 - 1955–56: The Dartmouth project coins the term "artificial intelligence" and launches AI as a research field.
- 1950s–1980s Early programs & foundations
 - Early game-playing programs (chess, checkers) already show basic learning and strategy.
 - Researchers develop logic-based AI, expert systems, and the first neural networks.
- 1990s–2010s Quiet progress
 - Steady advances in algorithms, data, and computing power strengthen AI in areas like planning, perception, and machine learning, mostly outside mainstream attention.
- 2020s Visible "boom"
 - Tools like ChatGPT make AI feel suddenly new, but today's systems are built on over seven decades of incremental research and engineering.





Early Al Milestones (1950s–1960s)

Early AI in action: 1950s-1960s

Learning machines

- 1951: **SNARC** an early neural-network machine that learned to navigate a maze.
- Late 1950s: **Perceptron** and **self-learning checkers** showed computers could improve at pattern-recognition and games by learning from data.

Talking to computers

 1960s: Programs like ELIZA began mimicking conversation and responding to text in surprisingly human-like ways (for the time).

Robots and problem-solving

- 1966–72: **Shakey** became the first mobile robot that could perceive its environment, plan a sequence of actions, and then carry them out.
- Other systems of this era solved math word problems and symbolic integration, showing that computers could tackle school-level algebra and calculus, not just crunch numbers.

Big idea

• From the start, AI meant **getting machines to do cognitive tasks**: reasoning, learning, understanding language and problems—just in much more primitive form than what we see today.













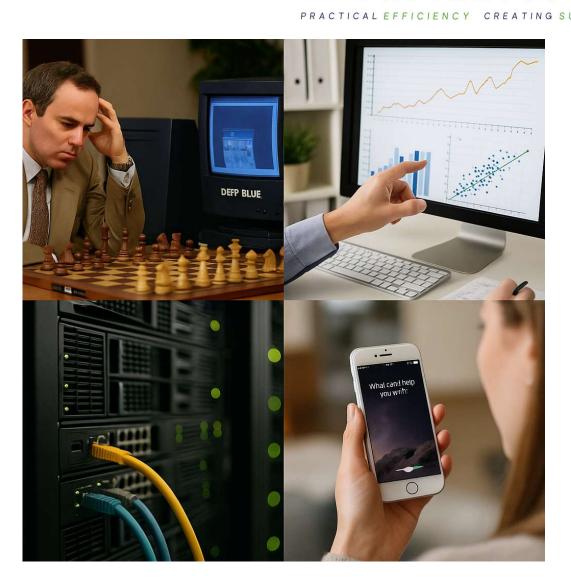


From Data to Business: Al in 1990s-2000s



From algorithms to everyday tools: 1990s–2010s

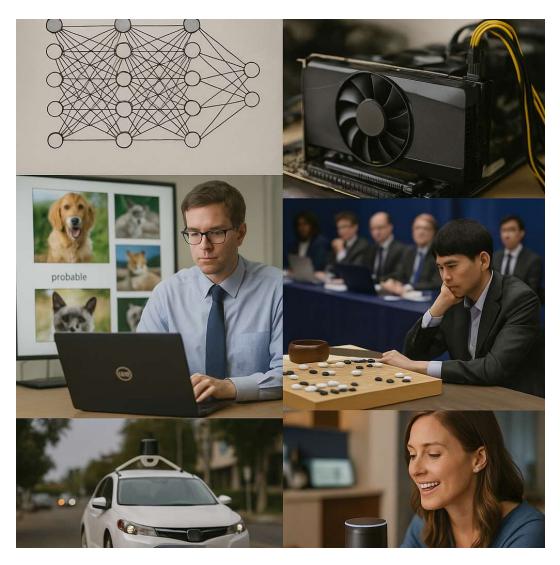
- Data-driven boom (1990s)
 - New machine learning algorithms (e.g. support vector machines, decision trees, boosting) take off as businesses start mining growing datasets.
 - **Predictive analytics** using past data to forecast trends and risk moves from statistics labs into mainstream business as computing power and stored data explode.
- Iconic milestone Deep Blue (1997)
 - IBM's **Deep Blue** defeats world chess champion **Garry Kasparov** in a six-game match.
 - Shows that, with enough compute and smart search strategies, computers can outperform top humans in a very complex, rulebased game.
- Narrow AI quietly spreads (2000s)
 - Machine learning powers credit card fraud detection, web search ranking, and early recommendation systems (e.g. shopping and media suggestions).
 - Al also improves **speech recognition and computer vision**, making interfaces like voice menus and basic image analysis practical.
- Al reaches consumers (2010s)
 - 2011: **IBM Watson** wins on *Jeopardy!* and **Apple's Siri** launches on the iPhone 4S.
 - From then on, AI systems sit inside **phones**, **cars**, **and online services** usually invisible and highly specialised, but shaping everyday experiences.







- Neural networks reborn: Decades-old neural network techniques made a comeback with more data and GPU computing. In 2012, a deep neural network by Hinton's team won an image recognition contest by a huge margin, kicking off a deep learning boom.
- Big data + big compute = big advances: Researchers found training very large networks on massive datasets (e.g. millions of images, billions of words) yielded dramatic improvements. GPU-accelerated training (e.g. a 2009 paper showed GPUs speeding up neural net) made this feasible.
- Major breakthroughs: Al mastered tasks once thought out of reach. DeepMind's AlphaGo (2016) defeated Go champion Lee Sedol with creative strategies. Neural nets began outperforming humans in vision (e.g. facial recognition) and held their own in speech transcription and translation.
- Al everywhere: Tech giants deployed deep learning in products – from self-driving car prototypes to voice assistants (Alexa, Google Assistant) and translation apps. Al's presence grew in health (diagnosing images), finance, and more. The 2010s cemented machine learning (especially deep learning) as the central force in Al R&D.



Generative Al and LLMs – Hype Returns (2020s)



- Huge language models: In 2017, the Transformer neural network architecture was invented, enabling much larger and more context-aware language models. By 2018, OpenAI's GPT models began to appear, culminating in GPT-3 (2020) with 175 billion parameters (trained on roughly 300 billion words of text).
- ChatGPT and the boom: In late 2022, OpenAI released ChatGPT, an easy chat interface to a powerful large language model. It reached 100 million users in mere two months (the fastest adoption of any tech product ever), sparking a media frenzy and an "AI boom" in the public eye.
- Investment frenzy: The apparent leaps in AI capability led to massive investments – over \$40 billion poured into AI startups in just the first half of 2023s. Every industry and company began exploring how to use Generative AI (AI that creates content).
- Al everywhere, again: 2023 saw rapid releases: OpenAl's GPT-4 (even larger, estimated ~1.7 trillion parameters), Google's Bard, Meta's LLaMA, etc. Generative Al can draft text, code, images, and more. This created a hype cycle with bold claims that Al will revolutionize or disrupt nearly everything making it seem like a brand-new era of Al.



Different types of Al

By "how smart" they are (capability)

- •Narrow Al Very good at *one* thing (e.g. recommending movies, recognising faces, answering questions). This is what we mostly use today.
- •General Al (AGI) A hypothetical Al that could learn and reason across *many* tasks as well as a human. We don't have this yet.
- •Superintelligent AI A speculative future AI that would be *far* smarter than humans in almost every domain.

By "how they think" (approach)

- •Rule-based / symbolic Al Follows explicit rules written by humans ("if X then do Y"). Great for well-defined, stable problems.
- •Machine learning Learns patterns from examples instead of being hand-programmed. We show it data and it figures out rules itself.
- •Deep learning A sub-type of machine learning using very large neural networks; especially strong at images, speech, and language.

By "how they learn" (training style)

- •Supervised learning Learns from labeled examples (e.g. many emails tagged "spam" or "not spam").
- •Unsupervised learning Finds structure in data without labels (e.g. grouping customers by similar behaviour).
- •Reinforcement learning Learns by trial and error, getting rewards or penalties (like training a digital dog with treats).

Key takeaway for today

•Most business tools right now are **narrow AI**, often using **deep learning** and **supervised learning** behind the scenes—even if the interface feels "general" to us.





What is an LLM (Large Language Model)?



PRACTICAL EFFICIENCY CREATING SUCCES

Massive next-token predictor

- At its core, a large language model (LLM) is a huge neural network that predicts the **next token** (piece of a word) given all the previous text.
- It doesn't "think" like a human it's calculating which continuation is most likely.

Trained on huge text datasets

- Earlier GPT models (like GPT-3 with 175B parameters) were trained on ~300 billion tokens from filtered web pages, books, Wikipedia, and more.
- Newer models (GPT-4 and beyond) are larger and trained on even more diverse data, but their exact size and training set are not publicly disclosed.

What it can do

 Because it has seen so many language patterns, it can answer questions, write text and code, summarise documents, translate, and more – all by choosing text that fits the context.

What it can't do (yet)

- It has no direct access to the physical world or human experiences.
- It can sound confident while being wrong, because it's optimising for **plausible text**, not guaranteed truth.



LLM Limitations – Myths vs. Reality

Not conscious or sentient

- No feelings, goals, or self-awareness just pattern-matching over text.
- Past claims of "sentient AI" have been rejected by experts and the companies involved.

Looks smart, but can misunderstand

- The model doesn't "know" things like a human; it infers likely answers from patterns.
- It can sound very confident while being completely wrong or offtopic.

Creativity with boundaries

- Great at remixing ideas, styles, and concepts it has seen in training.
- It doesn't have magical access to new facts or guaranteed "breakthrough" ideas.

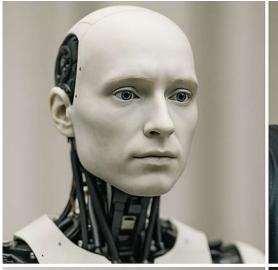
Hallucinations are real

- Can invent fake references, laws, people, or data that simply don't exist.
- Should **never** be left to make critical decisions without human review.

Bias and reasoning gaps

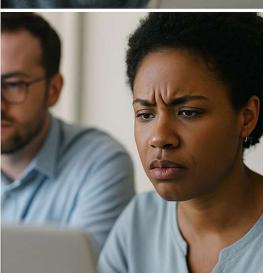
- Can reflect biases and stereotypes present in its training data.
- Still shaky on some complex logic, long calculations, or subtle edge cases.
- Best used as a **powerful assistant**, not a replacement for expert human thinking.















RACTICAL FEFICIENCY CREATING SUCCESS

No general intelligence

- Today's systems are narrow specialists: great at certain tasks, weak outside them.
- We don't yet know how to build a machine with the flexible, commonsense intelligence of a human.

Sci-fi robots vs real software

- Killer robots and all-powerful Al rulers are movie plots, not current reality.
- Human-level, open-ended AI is still a research question, not a product you can buy.

No secret "will" or hidden agenda

- Current Als don't wake up and choose goals; they follow instructions and training we give them.
- An Al only "tries" to do something if we design it that way.

We keep them in controlled boxes

- These models run on servers we own, with safety rules, monitoring, and kill-switches.
- There's active work on AI safety, testing, and ethics to keep them within guardrails.

Real risks are human and systemic

- Job disruption, biased decisions, deepfakes, security misuse, or simple software bugs are the main worries **today**.
- So it's less "Terminator", more "powerful tool that can help or harm depending on how people use it."



Using AI as a Tool – Best Practices

Al = power tool, not teammate, enabler

- Use it to speed up boilerplate, refactors, docs, tests, data crunching.
- You still own design decisions, correctness, and reliability.

Prompting = writing a spec

- Tell the model *what*, *how*, and *constraints* (language, style, edge cases, APIs).
- Provide examples and context (schema, interfaces, error cases) for better outputs.

Trust, but verify (like unreviewed Pull Requests)

- Treat responses as **proposed patches**, not production code.
- Run tests, linters, security checks, and do a real code review before merging.

Don't ship hype

- Add AI where it clearly improves latency, quality, cost, or Developer Experience (DX)—not just because a vendor says so.
- Measure impact (metrics, A/B tests) and be ready to roll back.

Keep humans in the loop for decisions

- Use AI to generate options, summaries, analyses.
- Engineers MUST decide on the most appropriate engineering solution, especially for **architecture**, **safety**, **and business logic**.





Al in Engineering – Overview



- Transforming engineering workflow: All is being applied at many stages of engineering – from design and simulation to manufacturing and maintenance. It acts as a "co-pilot" for engineers, automating repetitive + tedious tasks and providing data-driven insights.
- Adoption grew rapidly after ChatGPT Era: Surveys (e.g. IMechE 2024) show ~60% of engineering companies have started using AI tools, especially Large Language Models and machine learning for productivity. Many more are planning to in the near future. According to a 2025 cross-industry survey, about 88% of companies say they now use AI technology in at least one business function
- Not replacing engineers: Importantly, AI is augmenting roles, not replacing them. ~66% of engineers believe AI will take over routine chores, freeing them to focus on complex creative tasks. Engineers remain essential for decision-making, supervision, and domain expertise.
- Areas of impact: Key areas where AI adds value in engineering include:
 - Design Optimization & Generative Design (Al suggesting improved designs)
 - Simulation & Analysis (Al speeding up calculations or providing surrogate models)
 - Predictive Maintenance (forecasting equipment failures)
 - Quality Control & Computer Vision (automatic defect detection)
 - Knowledge Assistance (using LLMs for coding, documentation, standards lookup).









AI in Design & Simulation

- **Generative Design:** Al algorithms can generate optimized design alternatives based on goals and constraints. For example, Airbus used generative-design Al with 3D printing to create a "bionic" partition for aircraft 45% lighter yet equally strong, resulting in huge fuel and CO2 savings.
- **Topology optimisation:** Given a design space and loads, AI-driven software finds the material layout that achieves desired performance with minimal weight. This yields organic, efficient structures that a human might not intuitively design.
- **Simulation acceleration:** Al surrogates can approximate physics simulations (CFD, FEA) much faster. A trained ML model can predict outcomes (stress, airflow) without needing a full finite-element run each time, speeding up iterative design.
- Parameter tuning: Machine learning helps explore large design parameter spaces. Instead of manually tweaking, say, 10 parameters, an AI can learn the relationship and propose combinations that meet specs. This is used in chip design, automotive, aerospace, etc., to balance trade-offs (weight vs strength, performance vs cost).
- Result: Al in design leads to lighter, more efficient components and shorter design cycles. Engineers spend more time on defining goals and validating Al-proposed designs, rather than manually iterating every option.







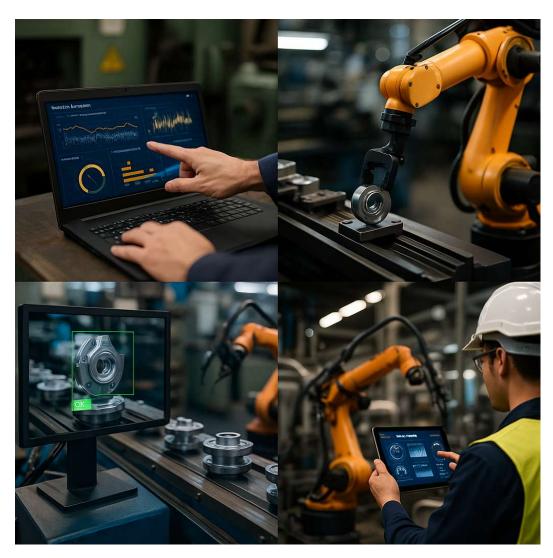




Al in Manufacturing & Maintenance



- Predictive Maintenance: Al systems analyse sensor data from machines (vibration, temperature, etc.) to predict failures before they happen. This allows condition-based maintenance – fixing or replacing parts at just the right time, avoiding unplanned downtime. Studies show Al-driven predictive maintenance can significantly reduce maintenance costs and unplanned outages. Like QualityLine.
- Quality control (QC): Computer vision AI inspects products on assembly lines for defects (surface flaws, misalignments) far faster and more consistently than human inspectors. AI can catch minute defects in real-time, improving yield and quality.
- Robotics & Automation: All enhances robots on the factory floor. Reinforcement learning can optimize robot movements for efficiency. All vision enables more flexible automation (robots that can adapt to varying part positions, etc.).
- **Process optimization:** Al algorithms adjust process parameters (like temperature, pressure in industrial processes) in real-time for optimal throughput and energy efficiency, learning from data to continuously improve operations. Like QualityLine.
- Outcome: Factories using AI see less downtime, higher product quality, and improved safety. For example, AI predictive systems in utilities can foresee equipment issues and prevent power outages. Maintenance becomes more proactive than reactive, saving money and extending equipment life.



Al in Civil & Infrastructure Engineering



- Structural Health Monitoring: All is used to monitor bridges, buildings, and dams. Sensors (strain gauges, accelerometers) feed data to All models that learn normal patterns and detect anomalies indicating cracks or stress. This allows early warnings for infrastructure maintenance.
- **Automated inspections:** Drones with AI vision can inspect structures (bridges, towers) for damage or corrosion. AI image analysis can pinpoint issues (e.g., concrete spalling, steel rust) in countless photos faster than human inspectors.
- Smart cities & traffic: Al systems optimize traffic signal timings and predict congestion. They can analyse data from cameras and IoT devices to improve flow and reduce jams. Some cities use Al for adaptive traffic control, leading to shorter travel times.
- Construction planning: All can help with construction scheduling and logistics by analysing project data to predict delays or optimize resource allocation. E.g., machine learning might forecast when certain tasks will run over time, so managers can adjust proactively.
- Geotechnical and environmental: All assists in analysing complex geotechnical data (like predicting landslides or tunnel boring machine performance) by finding patterns humans might miss. It's also used in flood prediction, earthquake damage modelling, and other civil risk assessments, making infrastructure management more proactive.









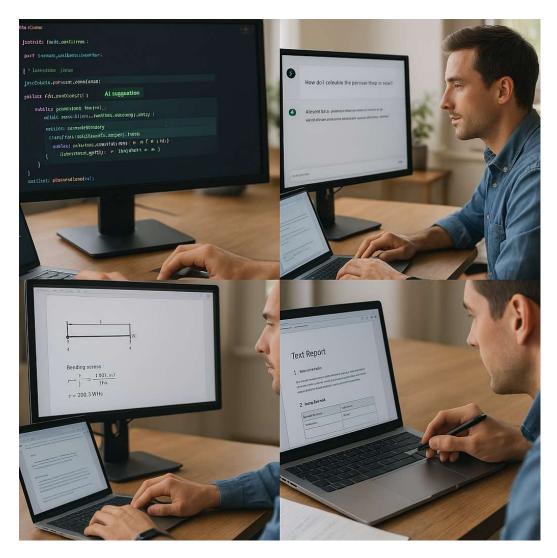




Al for Engineering Knowledge & Assistance



- Coding and computation: Engineers increasingly use AI coding assistants (like GitHub Copilot or ChatGPT) to write or debug code for simulations, embedded systems, or data analysis. This speeds up programming tasks by suggesting code snippets or even generating full functions on demand.
- Knowledge retrieval: Instead of searching manuals or forums, engineers can ask an LLM for quick explanations (e.g. "How do I calculate the pressure drop in a pipe?"). The AI can summarize relevant formulas or standards (though one must verify for accuracy!). Companies are building internal AI bots that digest their engineering documents and standards, so staff can query them in natural language.
- **Design guidance:** LLMs can assist in preliminary calculations or checks. For instance, an engineer might use an AI to quickly calculate a beam's bending stress or to suggest what size motor might be needed for a given load (using standard formulas). This is like having a junior engineer or reference guide on call.
- **Documentation & reports:** All helps generate documentation (like test reports, requirement docs) by drafting sections that the engineer can then refine. It can also translate technical jargon for non-engineers or create multiple language versions of technical documents.
- Training and skill support: Younger engineers can leverage AI as a learning tool – asking it to explain engineering concepts or methods. While not a replacement for formal learning, it can provide instant tutoring or examples (again, with caution to verify). This can accelerate skill development on the job.



Will AI Replace Engineers? (Why Humans Are Still Key)



- Al lacks true problem-solving intuition: Engineering often requires creative
 thinking, understanding ambiguous requirements, and making judgment
 calls in uncertain conditions. Al works on patterns and data; it doesn't truly
 "invent" new approaches or navigate novel situations with understanding.
 Human engineers provide the innovation spark and common sense that Al
 cannot.
- Domain expertise & experience: Engineering decisions involve physics, context, safety, ethics – nuances that come from education and experience. Al doesn't understand physics; it can recite formulas but doesn't have a gut feel for failure modes or real-world conditions. Experienced engineers catch issues an Al might miss or misjudge.
- Accountability and trust: Engineers are licensed and responsible for safety-critical outcomes. We can't (and shouldn't) trust AI alone with lives or big decisions. Engineers must validate and take responsibility for AI-assisted results. For example, an AI might suggest a design that mathematically works but uses an unproven material an engineer's insight is needed to flag "that material will corrode in this environment."
- Soft skills and coordination: Engineering projects require teamwork, communication with stakeholders, management of trades-offs, and sometimes persuasion or negotiation all human skills. Al doesn't negotiate or empathize; engineers do. Clients want human assurance, not just an Al output.
- Engineer + AI = Best combo: Rather than replacement, the reality is collaboration. AI can handle repetitive and computational tasks, while engineers focus on high-level design, creativity, verification, and integration. This combo leads to better outcomes. In surveys, most engineers felt AI will automate tasks but not eliminate the need for engineers—instead, it lets engineers concentrate on what humans do best.



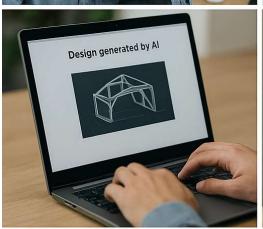
Risks of Over-Reliance on AI in Engineering

- Blind trust = mistakes: If engineers accept AI outputs without scrutiny, errors can slip through. Example: An AI design tool might suggest a material that is too brittle in cold weather. If unchecked, this could cause a failure. There have been cases of AI-written code with subtle bugs that human review had to catch. Over-reliance without understanding is dangerous.
- Loss of skills: If new engineers only learn via AI and don't practice
 fundamental calculations or critical thinking, they might not develop deep
 expertise. There's a risk of a generation of "button-pushers" who rely on AI
 tools but can't solve problems from first principles when needed. Engineering
 judgment comes from hands-on problem-solving, which must be cultivated.
- Data and bias issues: Al models trained on past data may carry biases or invalid assumptions. In engineering, this could mean Al optimizing for cost because historically safety margins were high – missing that a novel design needs more safety margin. If we trust Al optimization blindly, we might end up with designs that meet the letter of requirements but fail in unanticipated ways.
- Transparency and verification: Some AI (like deep learning models) are black boxes. In regulated engineering (bridges, medical devices), you need to justify designs with physics and calcs. A neural net saying "this design is fine" isn't acceptable without explainable rationale. Engineers must often rederive or independently verify AI results, which can reduce the imagined efficiency gains if not managed.
- Security and errors: Relying on AI software introduces cybersecurity concerns (imagine an AI system controlling a plant being hacked or failing). Also, AI can occasionally produce nonsense (hallucinations) that sound plausible. If an engineer isn't vigilant, such output could be wrongly acted upon. Essentially, AI can amplify mistakes if not put in context.















Engineering Careers in the Age of Al



- Opportunities for new engineers: Far from making new grads obsolete, Al can be a boost. Young engineers adept with Al tools can be extremely productive, automating grunt work and focusing on higher-level tasks. They can also fill skill gaps; firms see Al as a way to bridge the shortage of experienced engineers by empowering juniors with guidance from Al.
- **Need for upskilling:** Engineers (especially senior ones) will need to learn new skills e.g., data science basics, how to work with AI outputs, coding for AI integration, and prompt engineering. Lifelong learning is crucial. Those who adapt can amplify their impact; those who don't may find their traditional methods less in demand.
- Changing roles: Expect less drafting/calculation by hand and more AI supervision and decision-making. Senior engineers might spend more time validating AI results, setting up the right problem definitions, and mentoring younger engineers in critical thinking. The "human touch" areas like client interaction, defining project requirements, and creative brainstorming will become even more important for engineers.
- AI as a leveller: Juniors with AI can sometimes perform tasks that used to require more experience – because AI can supply suggestions and knowledge. However, this doesn't eliminate the need for experience; rather it means juniors can take on meaningful work sooner, under guidance, and potentially achieve faster growth. It also means strong engineering fundamentals and critical thinking are still vital – to know when the AI is wrong.
- Career advice: Embrace AI tools to enhance your work, but also cultivate skills AI can't replicate leadership, project management, cross-disciplinary knowledge, and innovative thinking. Engineers who combine technical prowess with AI savvy and human skills will be in high demand. The future is bright for those who evolve AI will handle tedious tasks, leaving engineers to do more exciting, impactful work.



Adapting and Thriving with Al – Recommendations

PROVENTUS

- Embrace AI tools in your workflow: Experiment with available AI (for design, coding, analysis). Start with low-risk tasks to build trust. Use AI to handle grunt work but always review. Developing familiarity now will future-proof your skills.
- Strengthen fundamentals: Ensure you understand the engineering basics behind AI outputs. Use AI results as a starting point, then verify with first principles or traditional methods. This not only catches errors but deepens your expertise.
- **Develop new skills:** Take courses or self-study in data science, machine learning basics, and how to script/automate tasks. Learn how to write effective prompts for LLMs. According to industry trends, engineers with hybrid skills (domain + AI) are highly valued.
- Focus on what Al can't do: Cultivate skills like creative problem-solving, communication, project management, leadership, and client relationship management. These human-centric areas will set you apart as Al handles rote technical tasks.
- Stay ethical and human-centred: Use AI responsibly. Be aware of bias and ensure transparency in how you arrive at engineering decisions (document when AI was used and how results were validated). Keep the human perspective consider safety, sustainability, user impact at the forefront, as these are things an AI won't inherently do without guidance.
- Lifelong learning mindset: The field will continue to change. Commit to continuous learning. Join communities, attend webinars, or pilot projects about AI in your engineering field. By staying curious and adaptable, you'll not only stay relevant but lead in leveraging new technology effectively.



Future Outlook – Engineering Evolving with AI



- Engineer-Al teams will be the norm: Just as calculators and CAD are standard today, Al assistants will become a standard part of engineering toolkits. Future engineering teams will routinely include Al in brainstorming, design iteration, and decision support a seamless human-Al collaboration.
- More innovation, faster: With AI handling tedious tasks and offering suggestions, engineers can iterate designs much more quickly and explore more alternatives. This could lead to faster development cycles and perhaps more inventive solutions, as AI might present options that spark new ideas.
- **New specialties:** We'll see growth of fields like AI engineering (developing and managing AI systems for engineering applications) and data-driven engineering. Traditional disciplines (civil, mechanical, electrical) will incorporate more software and AI knowledge. Interdisciplinary skills will be valued.
- Ethics and regulation will catch up: Expect more guidelines on how to use AI in safety-critical work. For instance, standards may require explainable AI or a human audit for AI-derived designs. Engineers might play a role in shaping these policies, ensuring public safety remains paramount.
- Engineering roles remain vital: In the foreseeable future, AI will not replace the creative, accountable engineer. Instead, engineers who harness AI will achieve more. The profession will likely become even more central as society tackles big challenges (climate change, infrastructure resilience, space exploration) all areas where human ingenuity with AI support can yield breakthroughs. The nature of engineering work will shift toward higher-level problem solving and integration, but the need for skilled engineers will be as strong as ever.
- **Conclusion:** Don't fear the hype cut through it. Al is a tool a powerful one and when used wisely, it stands to elevate what engineers can accomplish. By staying educated, ethical, and adaptable, engineers can ensure that Al becomes a trusted ally in creating a safer, smarter, and more innovative world.



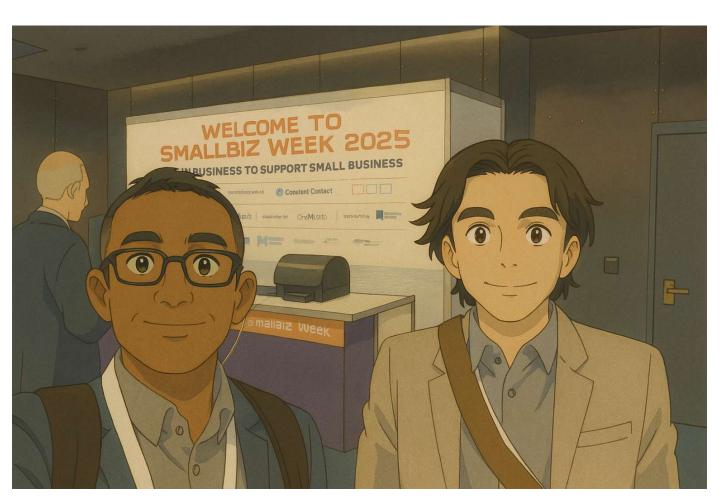




Thank you !!!!

Contact details at proventus.au

Questions welcome!!



About Dhayalan Asoka MIEAust



Proventus Group's Founder and CEO

Dhayalan's passion for all things Quality Engineering, Supply Chain and Process has taken him to all corners of the world. Dhayalan understands what it takes to deliver results and how to create a progressive process-driven environment. Having held Executive and leadership positions in Quality Engineering roles throughout his 23year career spanning multinational corporations, growth and startup environments in this region, Dhayalan is able to see the wood for the trees and efficiently tailor solutions that fit.

Dhayalan holds an Honors Bachelors Degree in Electronics Engineering from Multimedia University Malacca. Dhayalan is a member of Engineers Australia.



















About Jaime Rojero

Proventus Group's Co-Founder and CTO

Jaime's leadership, practical approach and keen interest in Systems Engineering, Software Development & Cybersecurity has seen him contribute in several countries over his 25-year career. Jaime's sharp competency allows him to simplify complex engineering topics and plan the perfect execution resulting in programmatic success.

Jaime holds an Electronics Engineering Degree and Masters of Science Instrumentation & Control from Instituto Tecnológico de Chihuahua. Jaime has also completed his Masters Degree in Cybersecurity with the University of Adelaide.

You can find his technical books focused on SW development and Product Cybersecurity at Amazon









