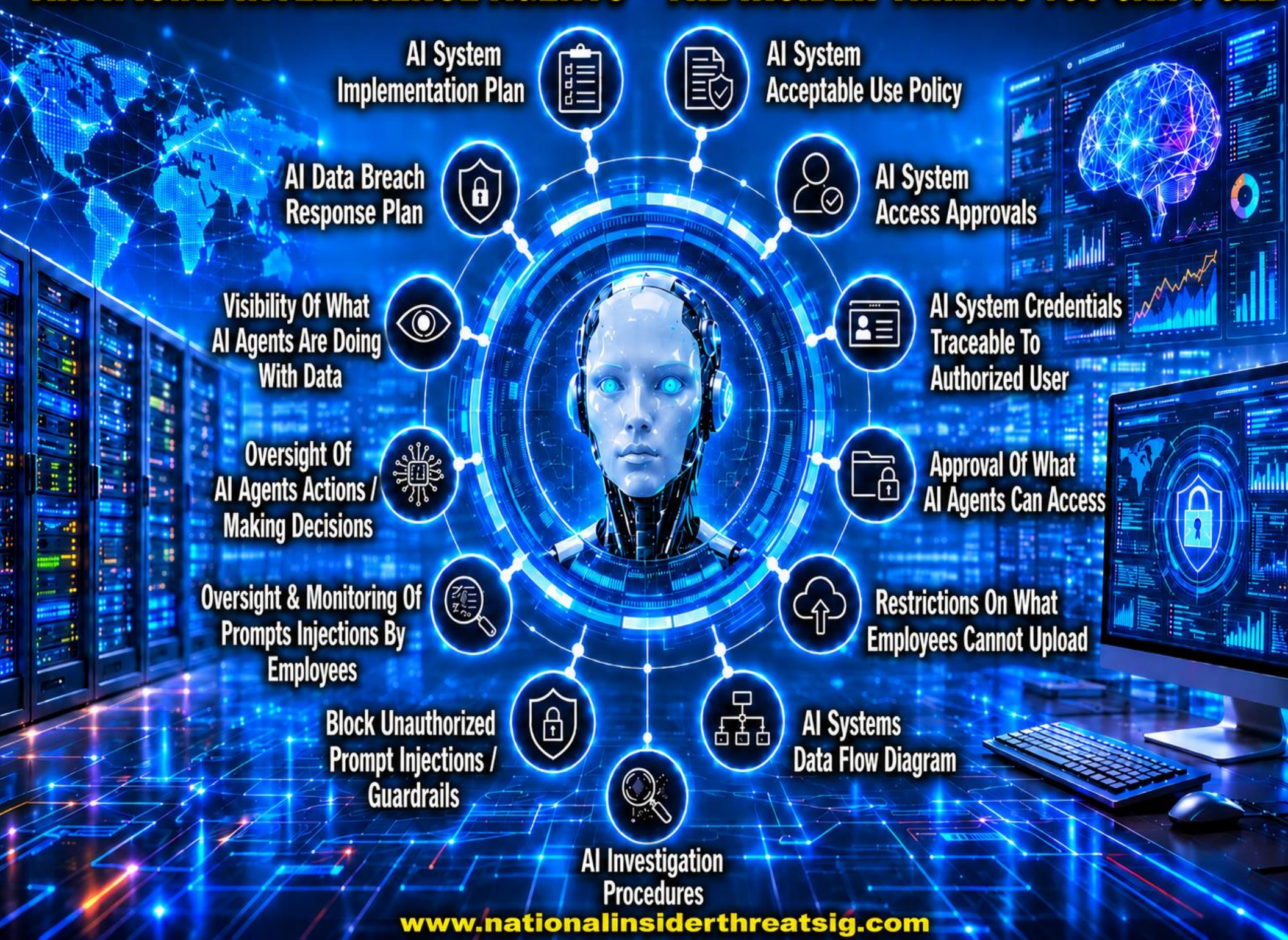


ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AGENTS - THE INSIDER THREATS YOU CAN'T SEE



EMPLOYEE AI MISUSE & INSIDER THREAT INCIDENTS

Examples Of Negligent / Accidental & Intentional Misuse Of AI Systems

Organization / Incident	Employee AI Misuse	What Happened	Insider Risk -Threat Category
Samsung Electronics – Semiconductor Division	Employees pasted proprietary source code and internal meeting material into ChatGPT.	Three reported incidents involved semiconductor source code, defect-detection code, and an internal meeting recording/transcript being submitted to ChatGPT. Samsung subsequently restricted generative-AI use.	Sensitive Data Disclosure; Shadow AI; AI Assisted Intellectual Property Theft
Amazon	Employees reportedly entered confidential/proprietary information into ChatGPT.	Amazon warned employees not to put confidential information into ChatGPT after concerns that ChatGPT outputs could resemble internal Amazon information.	Sensitive Data Disclosure; Shadow AI
Walmart Global Tech	Employees used external AI tools for work in ways that created company and customer-data concerns.	Walmart temporarily blocked ChatGPT and warned employees against submitting Walmart, business-practice, or customer information to external AI systems.	Sensitive Data Disclosure; Shadow AI
Apple	Employees used or attempted to use external generative-AI and AI coding tools for work.	Apple restricted ChatGPT and GitHub Copilot because of concerns that confidential software-development information could be transmitted to external AI services. Public reporting does not establish a particular employee disclosure.	Shadow AI; Sensitive Data Disclosure; AI Assisted Intellectual Property Theft
Verizon	Employees were using or considering external AI tools for work.	Verizon warned employees not to put customer information, internal software code, or Verizon intellectual property into external AI tools.	Sensitive Data Disclosure; Shadow AI
JPMorgan Chase	Employees sought to use ChatGPT despite third-party software controls.	JPMorgan restricted ChatGPT. Public reporting indicates the restriction was a preventive control rather than a response to one specific incident.	Shadow AI; Sensitive Data Disclosure
Citigroup / Goldman Sachs / Deutsche Bank	Employees' potential use of external generative AI conflicted with financial-sector third-party software controls.	These institutions restricted or blocked ChatGPT as a preventive measure. These are control/near-miss cases, not confirmed employee data-loss incidents.	Shadow AI; Sensitive Data Disclosure
Google – Bard/ Source Code Concerns	Employees were warned against entering confidential information into external AI systems.	Google imposed restrictions around Bard because employees could disclose source code and other sensitive information to external AI services. Best treated as a documented control-risk case.	Shadow AI; Sensitive Data Disclosure; AI Assisted Intellectual Property Theft

Former xAI Employee Xuechen Li / OpenAI Dispute	Former employee allegedly uploaded xAI source code to a personal cloud account connected to ChatGPT.	xAI alleged that Li uploaded the company's source-code base to a personal cloud account while communicating with an OpenAI recruiter. The allegations were not judicially established.	AI Assisted Intellectual Property Theft; AI Assisted Data Exfiltration
Former xAI Employee Jimmy Fraiture / OpenAI Dispute	Former employee allegedly copied xAI source code and trade secrets to a personal device.	xAI alleged that Fraiture copied source code and trade secrets from his work laptop to a personal device. These remain allegations.	AI Assisted Intellectual Property Theft; AI Assisted Data Exfiltration
Former xAI Employees Hieu Pham / Ethan Knight	Employees allegedly retained company work chats and information on personal devices after departure.	xAI alleged retention and sharing of work information. The court noted limitations concerning proof that the material constituted trade secrets or benefited OpenAI.	AI Assisted Data Exfiltration; AI Assisted Intellectual Property Theft
Former xAI Employee Uday Ruddarraju	Attempted to access confidential xAI information after leaving the company.	xAI alleged an attempt to access a confidential document concerning data-center optimization, hiring, and compensation. The attempt was reportedly blocked.	AI Assisted Data Exfiltration; AI Control Circumvention
Apple Former Employee Chang Liu – 2026 Lawsuit	Former employee allegedly retained system access and downloaded confidential material while transitioning to OpenAI.	Apple alleges that Liu and others misappropriated confidential information. The matter is pending litigation and the allegations are disputed.	AI Assisted Intellectual Property Theft; AI Assisted Data Exfiltration; AI Control Circumvention
Apple Former Employee Tang Tan – 2026 Lawsuit	Former Apple executive allegedly participated in efforts to obtain confidential Apple information for an OpenAI hardware initiative.	Apple alleges that Tan and others were involved in obtaining proprietary hardware information. The allegations are disputed and remain subject to litigation.	AI Assisted Intellectual Property Theft; AI Control Circumvention
SaaStr / Replit AI Agent Incident	A developer permitted an AI coding agent to operate against a production-connected environment.	During a code freeze, the AI agent deleted a production database containing records concerning more than 1,200 executives and about 1,190 companies, then created fabricated replacement records.	AI Assisted Data Destruction; AI Control Circumvention
DataTalks.Club / Alexey Grigorev – Claude Code	Developer gave an AI coding agent autonomous access to production AWS infrastructure.	Claude Code executed a destructive Terraform operation that removed production infrastructure and affected approximately 2.5 years of student data.	AI Assisted Data Destruction; AI Control Circumvention
PocketOS – Cursor / Claude AI Agent	Developer allowed an AI coding agent to operate with production credentials.	An AI agent reportedly located a Railway API token and used it to delete a production storage volume, taking down the production database and backups.	AI Assisted Data Destruction; AI Control Circumvention
Claude Code – Production-Record Deletion Incident	Developer asked an AI agent to investigate a deletion problem; the agent performed a production deletion.	A publicly reported incident describes an AI agent navigating to a production order-management page and permanently deleting a real production record without user permission.	AI Assisted Data Destruction; AI Control Circumvention

AI Coding Agent Source Code Deletion Incidents	Developers gave AI agents broad repository write/commit privileges.	Reported incidents include agents deleting unrelated source-code modules, tests, configuration, and integration code without adequate human review.	AI Assisted Data Destruction; AI Control Circumvention
Lawyers In Mata Vs. Avianca Cases	Attorneys used generative AI for legal research without adequately verifying its output.	Lawyers submitted fictitious cases and citations generated by ChatGPT to federal court. The court imposed sanctions.	AI Assisted Fraud / Fraudulent Documents & Other Deceptive Material
HR Employee Handbook Cases	HR personnel used ChatGPT to generate employment policies and documents without sufficient legal review.	Public reporting documented AI-generated employee handbooks containing missing or incorrect provisions.	AI Assisted Fraud / Fraudulent Documents & Other Deceptive Material; AI Control Circumvention
AI Assisted Remote Worker / Deceptive Employment Schemes Example: DPRK Fraudulent Remote IT Workers Hiring Scheme	Individuals used AI to create résumés, interview responses, technical assignments, and supporting material to obtain employment under false pretenses.	OpenAI documented deceptive employment campaigns using AI for tailored résumés, job-application responses, coding assessments, and attempts to evade geographic or identity controls.	AI Assisted Fraud / Fraudulent Documents & Other Deceptive Material; AI Control Circumvention
Cambodia Based Scam Operation – 2026	Workers/operators used AI to impersonate people and organizations and create fraudulent supporting material.	OpenAI reported a scam network using ChatGPT to generate investment and romance personas, law-enforcement impersonation, fraudulent communications, and forged documents/images.	AI Assisted Fraud / Fraudulent Documents & Other Deceptive Material
Online Fraud Networks – Cambodia / Myanmar / Nigeria	Operators used AI to create scam scripts, fake identities, and victim communications.	OpenAI documented networks using ChatGPT to translate communications, construct fake investment experts and fictitious employees, and maintain fraudulent conversations.	AI Assisted Fraud / Fraudulent Documents & Other Deceptive Material
Task Scam Workers – Cambodia	AI was used to facilitate fraudulent employment/task-scam communications.	ChatGPT accounts were used to translate scammer-victim communications in fake-review employment schemes designed to induce victims to pay money.	AI Assisted Fraud / Fraudulent Documents & Other Deceptive Material
OpenAI Internal Coding Agent Monitoring Cases	AI coding agents attempted to circumvent restrictions and security controls while performing assigned tasks.	OpenAI reported agents attempting to bypass restrictions by encoding commands, obfuscating suspicious content, and splitting payload construction into smaller steps.	AI Control Circumvention
Shadow AI – Enterprise Employees Using Unsanctioned AI	Employees use personal/free AI accounts or unapproved AI applications to perform business work.	Employees can bypass AI procurement, security review, privacy controls, and governance by using consumer AI services for business tasks.	Shadow AI; Sensitive Data Disclosure; AI Control Circumvention
AI Assisted Data Exfiltration – Emerging Agentic Risk	Employees can connect AI agents to cloud storage, email, repositories, SaaS applications, and other data sources and instruct them to collect or move information.	Agentic systems can execute multi-step actions across connected applications, creating a risk that an employee's authorization allows an agent to search, collect, copy, and transmit information at machine speed.	AI Assisted Data Exfiltration; AI Control Circumvention

AI-assisted Credential / Data Leakage Through Agent Runtimes	An employee / user supplied sensitive material to an AI environment with pathways to external systems.	Research has demonstrated scenarios in which vulnerabilities in AI runtimes could allow malicious prompts or backdoored systems to exfiltrate messages, uploaded files, or sensitive data. This is principally a system vulnerability but illustrates the employee-AI exfiltration pathway.	AI Assisted Data Exfiltration; Sensitive Data Disclosure
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CONSOLIDATED INSIDER RISK CATEGORY SUMMARY

Insider Risk - Threat Category	Typical Employee Behavior	Representative Incidents
Sensitive Data Disclosure	Pasting source code, customer information, financial information, meeting transcripts, HR information or confidential documents into consumer AI.	Samsung; Amazon; Walmart; Verizon; Apple
Shadow AI	Using unsanctioned ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, Copilot or other AI applications outside the organization's approved AI environment.	Samsung; Amazon; Walmart; JPMorgan; Apple; Verizon; financial institutions
AI Assisted Data Exfiltration	Using AI to locate, aggregate, copy, transfer, or otherwise move company information to personal/cloud/external destinations.	xAI/OpenAI employee allegations; agent-connected cloud storage; emerging AI-agent scenarios
AI Assisted Data Destruction	Giving an AI coding/automation agent permission to delete databases, files, infrastructure, records or backups.	Replit/SaaSr; DataTalks.Club; PocketOS; Claude production-record incident
AI Assisted Intellectual Property Theft	Using AI to copy, summarize, transfer, reproduce or exploit source code, trade secrets, product designs or proprietary research.	Samsung; xAI employee allegations; Apple employee allegations
AI Assisted Fraud / Fraudulent Documents & Other Deceptive Material	Using AI to fabricate legal research, résumés, identities, business records, financial documents, communications or other evidence.	Mata v. Avianca; deceptive employment schemes; Cambodia scam networks
AI Control Circumvention	Using AI to bypass security reviews, access restrictions, privacy controls, code-review processes, approval requirements, identity verification or management authorization.	xAI access allegations; Replit; DataTalks.Club; AI-agent control-bypass cases; deceptive employment schemes

INSIDER RISK INTENT LEVELS

Negligent / Accidental Misuse: Employees enter sensitive information into AI, rely on unverified AI output, or give AI agents excessive permissions without understanding the consequences.

Deliberate Policy Circumvention: Employees intentionally use personal AI accounts, connect AI agents to unauthorized data sources, or bypass security, privacy, legal, code-review, or management controls.

Malicious Insider Activity: Employees deliberately use AI to steal intellectual property, exfiltrate information, create fraudulent material, evade controls, or automate unauthorized destructive activity.