

RATE AI

Independent AI ratings and intelligence · rateaiglobal.com

WHITE PAPER

How RATE AI measures accountability in consequential AI systems

Public edition v1.1 · August 2026 · Interim programme status

1. WHAT RATE AI IS

RATE AI is an independent rating agency for artificial intelligence. It measures, from verifiable public evidence, how consequential AI systems answer to external pressure and how much accountability their operators demonstrate. The full method is published in *THE RATE AI METHOD* (R. I. Antonie, Accent, 2026, ISBN 978-606-561-263-1); this paper gives a concise public account of its application.

2. WHAT RATE AI MEASURES

RATE AI measures two analytical dimensions and publishes ONE headline RATE AI Rating. REI captures the binding regulatory pressure around a system and its response to that pressure; ADI captures demonstrated governance capacity. Both remain visible as 0-60 component scores beneath the headline. The public scale runs from AAA, the strongest position, to D, the most severe. Each assessed system receives one headline rating, reported with verifiable transparency.

3. THE INTELLIGENCE UNIVERSE

Every rating stands on the RATE AI Global Intel universe: a census of more than 3 million AI models and systems, a monitored frame of more than 20,000 deployed systems, and a 570-system sample combining a take-all high-impact stratum with probabilistic selection. To date, 202 units have been assessed and adversarially verified. A separate human-evidence layer keeps lived experience visible alongside institutional evidence.

4. HOW THE EVIDENCE IS HANDLED

Each system is assessed through a structured evidence framework. Claims are tied to attributable sources, archived and cryptographically fingerprinted so the evidence chain remains reproducible. Legal determinations draw on official sources; governance evidence draws on primary

documentation specific to the evaluated unit. Evidence uncertainty remains visible in the transparency and rating record.

Every completed dossier passes through independent adversarial verification and successive human review. Durable archived evidence preserves traceability as the live information environment changes.

5. HOW RATINGS ARE ASSIGNED

Ratings are assigned under the version-controlled Rating Assignment Methodology. REI and ADI are evaluated separately and resolved into ONE headline RATE AI Rating through an ordinal rule that preserves both dimensions. Each assessed system receives one headline RATE AI Rating. Each system is also classified under the law that binds it and against the EU AI Act risk taxonomy as a fixed comparative benchmark.

Transparency is reported with every result as the share of the evidence surface that resolves from public sources. In the first 202 assessments, 40 systems reach at least 90 percent verifiable transparency. The percentage is reported separately from the rating.

6. HOW AGGREGATES ARE PUBLISHED

Aggregate positions at jurisdiction, industry, sector and global level follow the frozen Aggregation Protocol. The group headline is an ordinal median summary of member-system positions; REI and ADI remain aggregate 0-60 component scores, with Transparency reported separately. Groups of 5 to 9 systems are marked indicative, and broader publication expands as coverage reaches the threshold. Public releases present anonymised comparative patterns.

7. PUBLIC AND COMMISSIONED OUTPUTS

The public layer presents aggregate ratings, comparative patterns, methodology, release facts and analytical interpretation. Commissioned work adds system- or organisation-specific positioning, evidence decomposition, comparative standing, monitoring and evidence-improvement pathways. Both layers use the same rating architecture, evidence rules and versioned methodology.

8. HOW INDEPENDENCE IS PROTECTED

RATE AI's independence rests on a published, version-controlled methodology, source-level evidence traceability, separate rating decision records and consistent application across the

programme. Commissioned work can deepen evidence, explain drivers, monitor change and support stronger documentation. Rating movement follows new verified evidence through the same methodology.

9. PROGRAMME STATUS AND ROADMAP

The August 2026 release covers 202 assessed and adversarially verified systems from the 570-unit sample. All 202 receive a RATE AI rating; 40 reach at least 90 percent verifiable transparency, and eight ratings are in the A range. Assessment continues in scheduled cohorts, with aggregate positions refreshed under the same frozen methodology stack.

10. READING RATE AI OUTPUTS

A RATE AI output is read in layers: the ONE headline RATE AI Rating, REI and ADI 0-60 component scores, Transparency, evidence cut-off and methodology version, plus group size and any indicative-sample marker for aggregates. Together, these fields keep the headline comparable and the analytical route visible.