

AI in Risk Assessment: Practical entry points for GRC teams that are not tech-first

You do not need a data science team to start using AI in risk assessment.

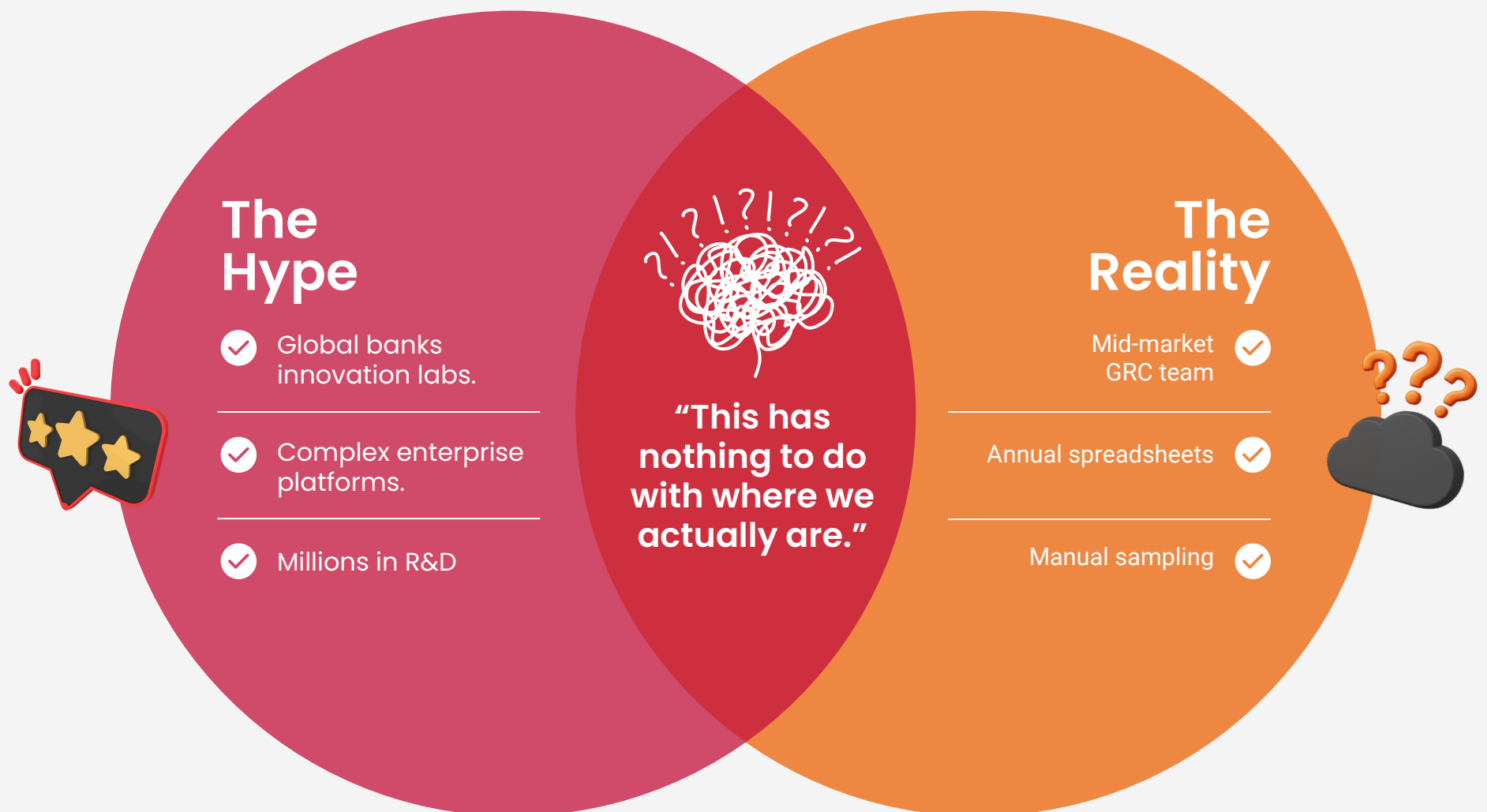
You need clarity on where your process breaks down — and the willingness to fix it with better tools.



The Real Frustration

Most AI use cases feel too far away

AI in GRC often feels distant from daily reality. The frustration is valid — but it can no longer be an excuse for inaction.



The Starting Point

AI adoption does not start with a transformation programme

Does not begin with

- ❌ A large transformation programme
- ❌ A new enterprise platform
- ❌ A Chief Data Officer
- ❌ A full data science team

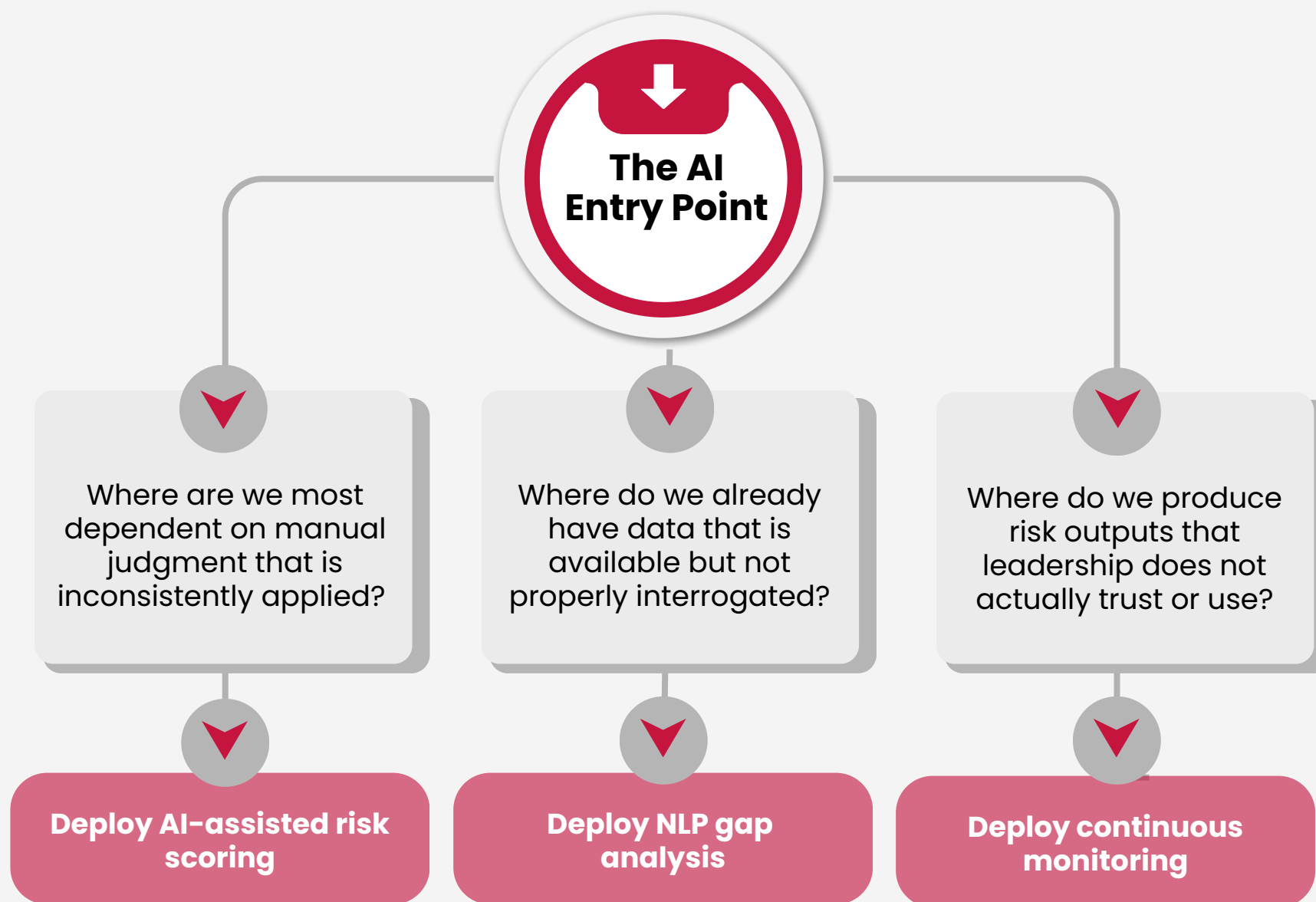
It begins with

- ✅ **Identify:** Conduct an honest audit of where your current risk process produces the least reliable output.
- ✅ **Target:** Apply a focused, low-barrier AI tool directly to that specific gap.
- ✅ **Assure:** Generate higher confidence, decision-useful outputs.

Start with the problem, not the technology

The most common mistake

DIAGNOSTIC DECISION TREE



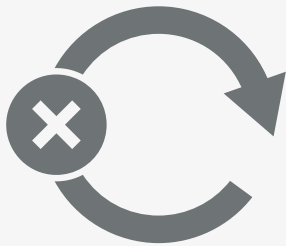
GRC teams should approach AI as a problem-solving tool, not a capability to acquire.

Where the gaps usually sit

For many mid-sized organisations in the UAE

SUPPLY CHAIN OF RISK MANAGEMENT

Assessment



Inconsistent risk scoring across business units.

Documentation



Risk registers updated annually and ignored in between.

Assurance

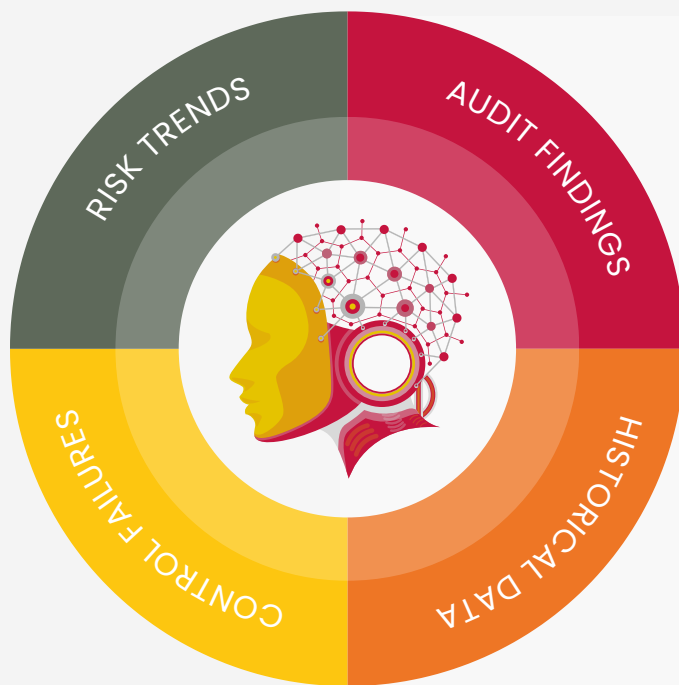


Control testing based on samples, even when full ERP data is available.

These are not purely technology problems. They are process problems that technology can now address at lower cost and lower complexity.

Entry Point 1

AI-assisted risk scoring and prioritisation



This can produce risk scores that are:

- More consistent
- Less subjective
- Less influenced by political pressure
- Better supported by evidence

For organisations using COSO ERM or ISO 31000, AI does not replace the methodology.

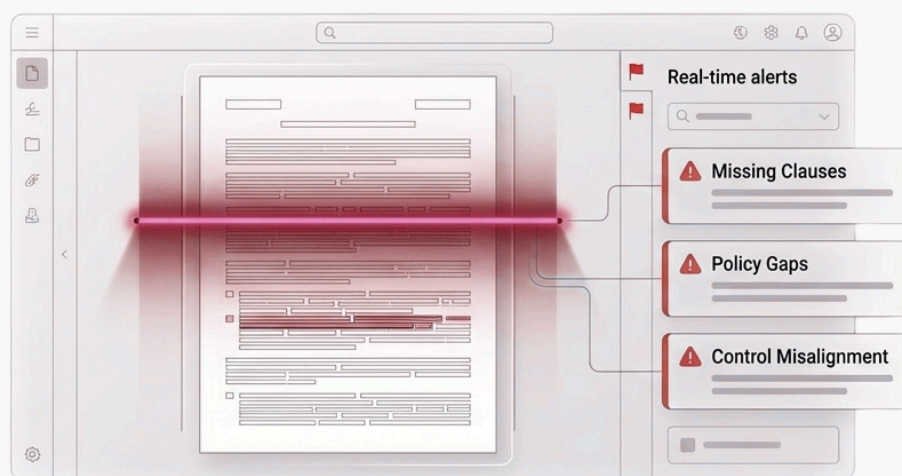
It strengthens the evidence base behind the methodology.

START SMALL: One business unit. One risk category. One tool.

Entry Point 2

NLP for policy and control gap analysis

Document Scanning UI



A major part of GRC work involves comparing policies against:

- Regulatory requirements
- Internal standards
- Control frameworks
- Sector-specific mandates

Natural Language Processing tools can automate much of this comparison.

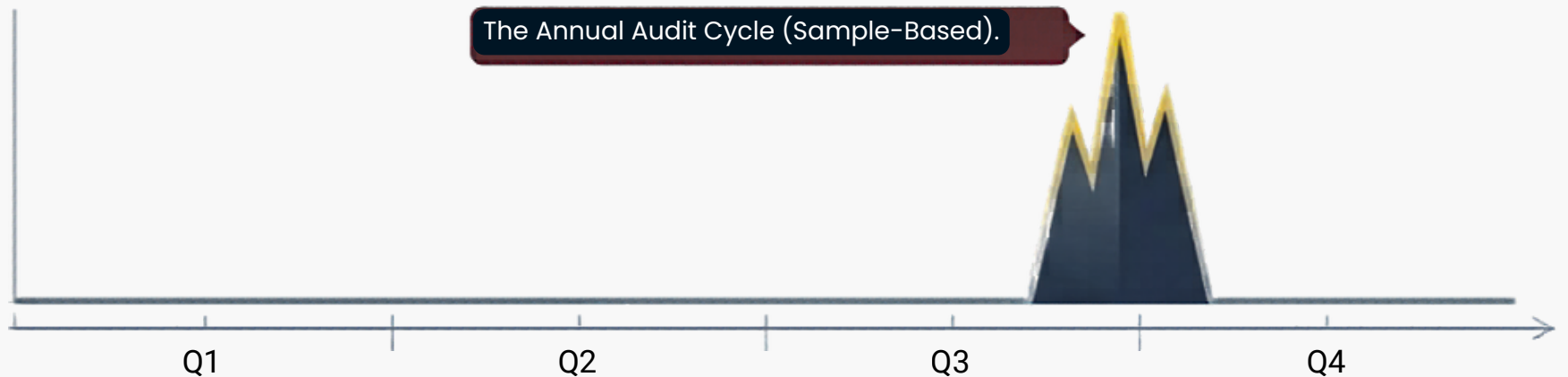
What used to take weeks can now be reviewed in minutes.

AI handles the comparison. Humans handle interpretation and remediation.

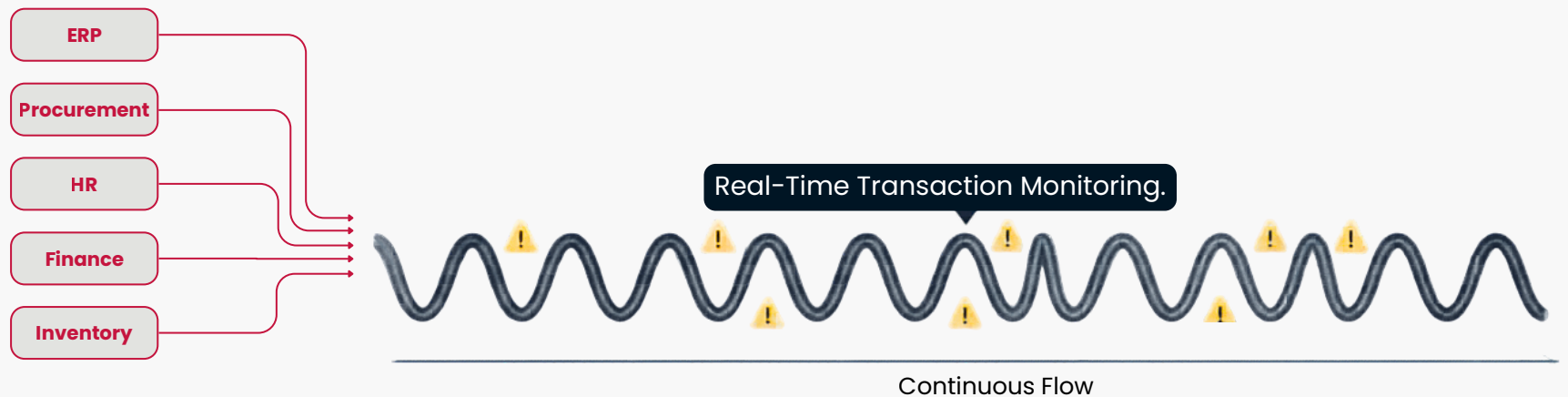
Entry Point 3

Continuous monitoring over periodic testing

Top Track: Traditional

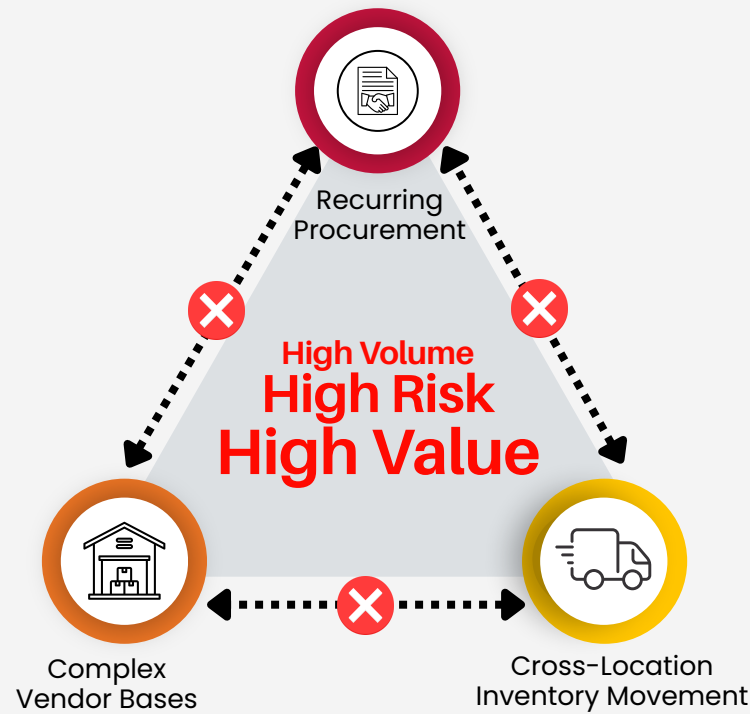


Bottom Track: AI-Enabled



AI-driven anomaly detection **continuously** scans entire populations of transactions, surfacing exceptions for auditor review instantly, not months later.

Why this matters for FMCG and manufacturing



Continuous monitoring materially **improves assurance quality** by reviewing patterns across massive datasets, not just small audit samples. The result: **better exception detection** and **stronger operational assurance**.

The GRC Evolution

Traditional vs. Data-Driven Assurance

TRADITIONAL	VS	AI-ENABLED
Periodic & reactive	 RHYTHM	Continuous & near real-time
Sample-based testing	 SCOPE	Population-scale monitoring
Producing compliance documentation	 OUTPUT	Producing decision-useful assurance
Highly subjective judgment	 ASSESSMENT	Evidence-based scoring

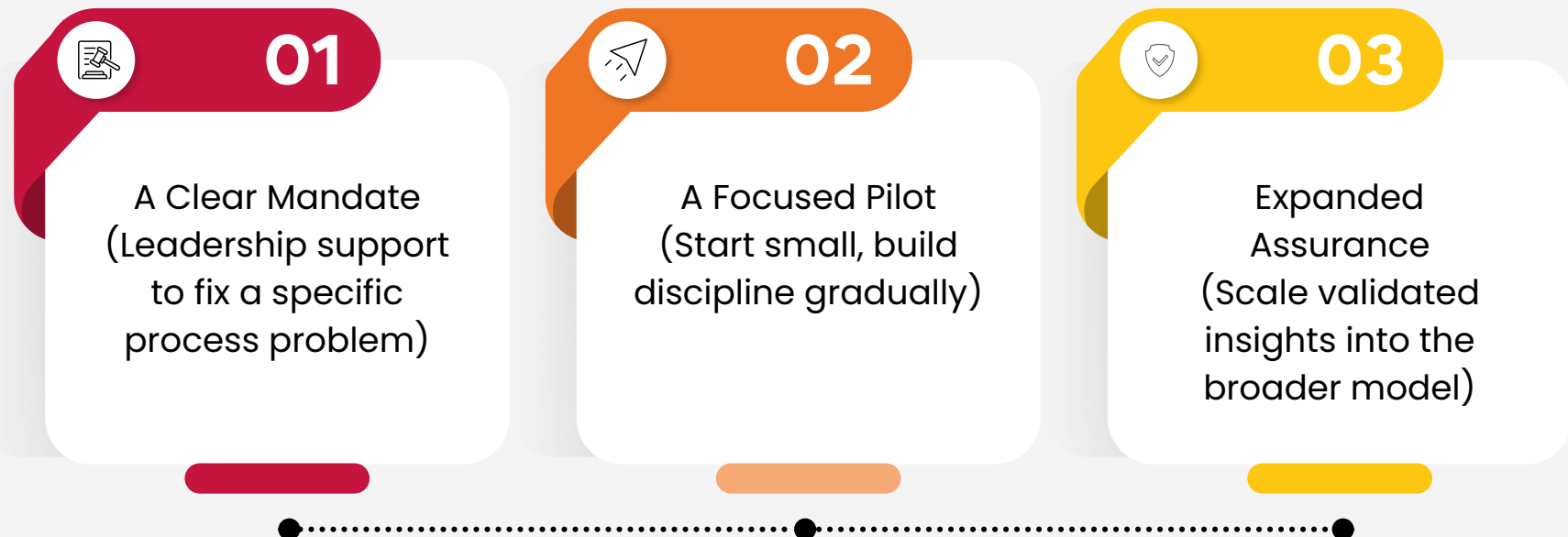
The gap between these two models is widening. Boards need to understand how quickly.

The Practical Reality

Ready to Deploy Today

AI entry points in GRC are already:

- Available
- Affordable
- Focused
- Implementable
- Suitable for teams with no prior technology background



You do not need to transform everything at once.
You need to begin where the risk output is weakest.



BUILD A MORE FORWARD-LOOKING RISK FUNCTION

If your team is exploring how to introduce data-driven approaches into your GRC programme, we would be glad to share how this can be approached in a practical, focused, and low-barrier way.

Start small. Strengthen assurance. Build confidence.



FOR A WORKING SESSION
CONTACT US AT

mcagrc@mcagulf.com