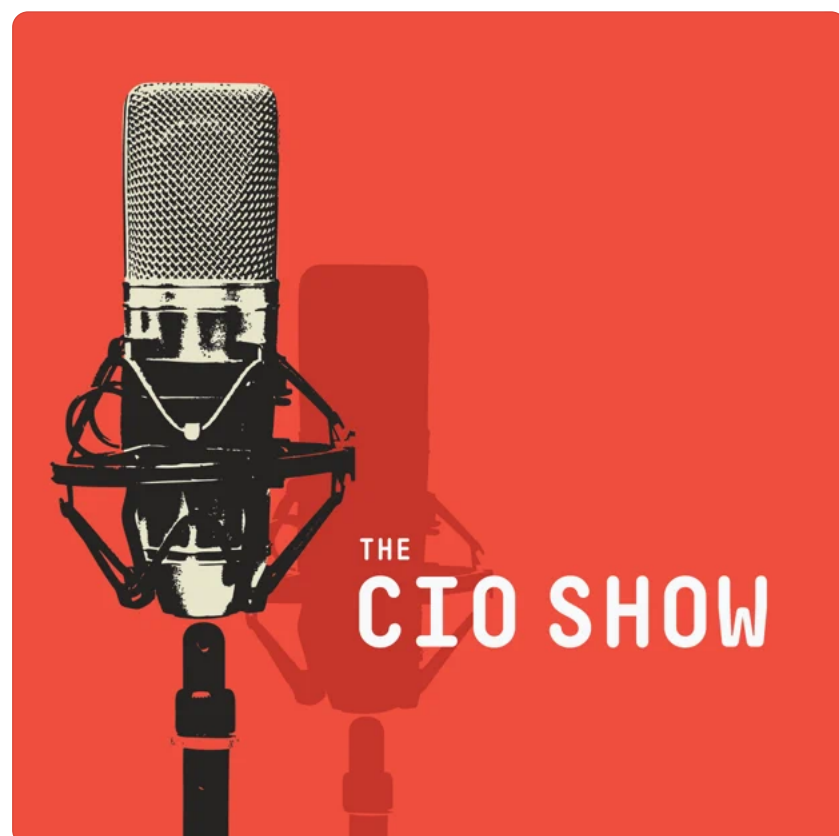




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The CIO Show: AI and ethics - Separating 'principles' and 'bits'

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With great power comes great responsibility, and there are few technologies driving today's fast evolving digital landscape as powerful as artificial intelligence (AI).

From anticipating consumer buying decisions, to predicting political outcomes, speeding discovery and treatment for disease, who we should date and marry, deciding who gets a job, or a home loan, AI is on fast track to touch virtually every aspect of work, life and play.

The possibilities for augmenting human capabilities and endeavour are indeed very exciting, while the potential for harm is also now an important topic of conversation.

In this episode of The CIO Show we have a panel with three of Australia's greatest AI experts discussing the need for serious regulatory and cultural reform to ensure the technology reaches its potential within acceptable ethical bounds.

Australia's Human Rights Commissioner, Ed Santow highlights some of the key findings – and recommendations – from its world-first 'Human Rights and Technology Report' including the need for Australia to have a new independent office for an 'AI Safety Commissioner', to help establish and enforce the guardrails.

Three years in the making, the report also looks at the use of biometric technologies like facial recognition, calling for a moratorium on their use until proper safeguards can be put in place.

There are many examples of how AI systems have led to bias, discrimination and worse, with the memory of Australia's 'Robodebt' debacle still raw for many.

And as Marie Johnson, managing director and chief digital officer with the Centre for Digital Business reveals on the show, there is at least one major federal government agency about to suffer a similar fate thanks to an AI system she says will do more harm than good.

Someone both at the coal faces and in the trenches when it comes to managing AI and ethics within a large organisational structure, NSW Government chief digital officer, Dr Ian Oppermann has presided over creation of an AI Ethics Committee for the state, with Ed Santow as a current member.

Someone who has thought long and hard about what widespread deployment of AI means for us, Oppermann boils it down nicely as the evolving art of balancing 'principles and bits.'

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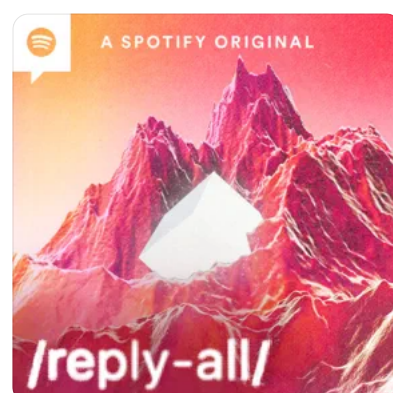
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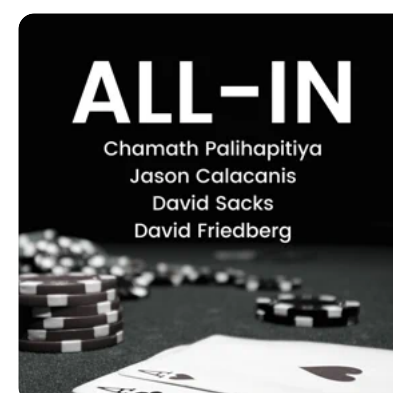
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