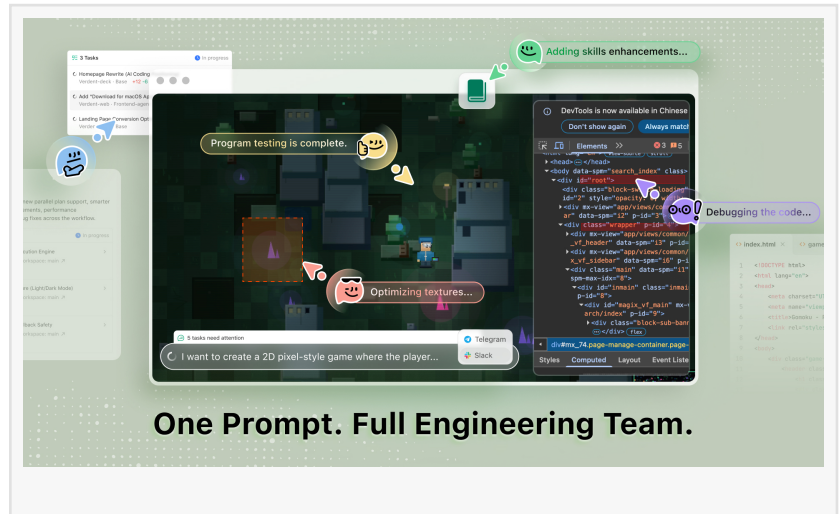


# Verdent Builds on Early Momentum as AI Coding Tools Move Toward Technical Cofounders

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, UNITED STATES, May 21, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- After launching [Verdent](#) Manager last month, Verdent is seeing early signs that builders are asking for more than another AI coding assistant.

The product reached #3 Product of the Day on Product Hunt, drawing attention from founders, developers, and indie builders who are looking for a different way to move software projects forward. During the Manager launch period, Verdent also saw paid user growth accelerate, adding an early commercial signal to the broader market response.



The signal was not just about launch visibility. It reflected a larger question emerging across the AI software market: once code generation becomes widely available, what comes next?

“

We are seeing a clear shift in what builders expect from AI”

*Zhijie Chen*

For many builders, the bottleneck is no longer getting a model to produce code. It is knowing what to build next, keeping a project organized, making sense of changes, and carrying work through the messy space between a

promising idea and a usable product. That is the space Verdent is focused on.

Verdent Manager was introduced around the idea of an AI technical cofounder: a system that can help users plan, execute, review, and continue software work over time. Instead of treating each request as a separate exchange, Verdent is built to support a more continuous workflow where context, intent, and progress stay connected.

That direction became clearer with the upgrade to [Verdent 2.2](#). The update was not simply about

adding more tools. It was about making the workspace feel less fragmented. Planning, task tracking, UI review, and iteration now sit closer together, helping users stay oriented while work is moving. For builders working without a large technical team, that matters. The goal is to reduce the amount of manual coordination required to keep a project alive.

This is also why Verdent's technical cofounder positioning is different from the traditional coding assistant model. A coding assistant waits for instructions. A technical cofounder helps maintain momentum. It understands where the project is heading, keeps track of what has already happened, and helps turn scattered decisions into forward progress.

"We are seeing a clear shift in what builders expect from AI," said [Zhijie Chen](#), founder and CEO of Verdent and former Head of Algorithms at ByteDance. "Writing code is only one part of the job. The harder problem is helping people move from an idea to something that works, holds together, and can keep improving over time. Verdent is being built for that full path."

As more people use AI to start software projects, the next challenge will be helping them finish. Verdent is building for that next phase: not just faster coding, but a more complete way to plan, build, review, and ship.

Not another AI coding assistant.  
An AI technical cofounder for builders.

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