

AEON Completes Framework for Authorization Infrastructure Engineering

New discipline addresses a core autonomy challenge: determining not only what machines can do, but what they are authorized to do.

RENO, NV, UNITED STATES, September 1, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- AEON, Inc. today



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*Scott Charles Armstrong,
Founder & CEO, AEON*

announced the completion of Version 1.0 of the foundational body of work for Authorization Infrastructure Engineering (AIE), an emerging engineering discipline focused on how authority can be expressed, evaluated, and preserved as autonomous systems take consequential action in the physical and digital worlds.

Artificial intelligence, robotics, autonomous vehicles, unmanned systems, and software agents are rapidly gaining the ability to perceive, reason, plan, coordinate, and act with increasing independence.

That progress introduces a fundamental question:

Is the system authorized to perform the action?

Authorization Infrastructure Engineering is concerned with the engineering boundary between intelligence, authority, and action.

“Autonomous systems are becoming capable of extraordinary things, but capability alone cannot confer permission,” said Scott Charles Armstrong, Founder and CEO of AEON and author of the AIE foundational work. “As machines become participants in transportation, infrastructure, defense, industry, commerce, and everyday life, we need a systematic way to determine not only what a machine can do, but what it is legitimately authorized to do.”

FROM CAPABILITY TO PERMISSION

Much of the autonomous-systems industry is focused on improving capability: better models, sensors, simulation, planning, orchestration, coordination, safety, and control.

AIE addresses a different question.

A robot may be capable of entering an area. An autonomous vehicle may be capable of taking a particular route. An unmanned system may be capable of executing a mission. A software agent may be capable of initiating a transaction.

Technical capability alone does not establish permission.

Capability does not equal authorization.

AIE examines how autonomous systems can operate within the authority structures of the human institutions, organizations, jurisdictions, missions, contracts, and environments in which they operate.

The discipline addresses questions including who or what possesses authority over a proposed autonomous action; what actions are permitted under that authority; where and when that authority applies; what happens when authority changes, expires, conflicts, or is revoked; and how consequential autonomous actions remain attributable and auditable.

PRESERVING AUTHORITY AT MACHINE SPEED

Historically, authority has been exercised primarily through human decision-making, institutional processes, laws, contracts, credentials, operating procedures, and command structures.

Autonomous systems increasingly operate at speeds and scales where continuous human approval is impractical.

AIE explores how legitimate human and institutional authority can remain meaningful without requiring human reaction time for every machine action.

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ESTABLISHING A NEW ENGINEERING DISCIPLINE

The Version 1.0 AIE Foundational Library establishes an initial vocabulary, conceptual framework, and set of principles for examining authorization as a distinct engineering problem.

The work considers authorization alongside, but separate from, fields such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, safety engineering, orchestration, identity, and governance.

AEON views the foundational library as a starting point rather than a finished body of

knowledge.

As autonomous systems become increasingly embedded in defense, transportation, infrastructure, commerce, robotics, and other consequential environments, the need to distinguish between what a machine is capable of doing and what it is permitted to do will become increasingly important.

“Authorization is needed for autonomous systems to flourish,” Armstrong said. “And as autonomous systems become part of civilization, authorization will be needed for mankind to flourish alongside them.”

ABOUT AEON

AEON is developing authorization infrastructure for autonomous systems.

The company is focused on the emerging boundary between machine intelligence and legitimate authority — enabling autonomous systems to determine whether consequential actions are permitted before execution while preserving accountability to the institutions and authorities governing the real world.

For more information about Authorization Infrastructure Engineering, visit <https://aeonlayer.com/resources>.

Scott Charles Armstrong

AEON INC

+1 775-722-1639

[email us here](#)

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