AUDEAMUS GROUP / INTELLIGENCE

Applied AI Weekly Brief

AI AGENTS - SMB TRANSFORMATION - CONVERSATIONAL TUTORING

SAMPLE EDITION - OCTOBER 12, 2026 - COVERAGE: OCTOBER 5-12

THE SIGNAL

OCTOBER 8, 2026 - NEW YORK FED / RESEARCH SIGNAL

SMB AI use is linked to stronger growth expectations - but implementation remains incomplete

Using the 2025 Small Business Credit Survey, New York Fed researchers report that 46% of employer firms use AI; 51% of those users have integrated it partially or fully into business processes. AI users reported a 33-point net expectation of employment growth, compared with 15 points for non-users. These are expectations and associations, not proof that AI caused better outcomes.

Why it matters: For consulting, this points to a practical gap between trying AI and redesigning a workflow around it. For product work, make onboarding start with a measurable operating problem and track adoption through use in the workflow.

Read in full: Yes. Primary-source SMB evidence, with survey details and adjusted comparisons. Treat the findings as directional evidence, not a causal ROI claim.

Open source: Aarons and Sarkar, Liberty Street Economics

OCTOBER 6, 2026 - MODERN DATA REPORT, REPORTED BY EXPRESS COMPUTER / RESEARCH SIGNAL

Agent adoption is outpacing confidence in the data and context behind it

A survey of 540+ data leaders and practitioners across 65+ countries found 57.3% of organizations piloting or running agents, while 8.4% considered their data trustworthy enough for production. Although 61% said a reliable context layer matters for agents, 16% said their organization deliberately engineers one. The report notes that survey relationships do not establish causation.

Why it matters: SMB agent projects need the same foundations at smaller scale: reliable records, clear permissions, process context, and a defined human handoff. These are consulting discovery questions and product requirements, not late-stage cleanup.

Read in full: Worth reviewing. The findings are directly relevant to agent readiness; check the underlying survey method and report before using the figures in client recommendations.

Open source: Modern Data Report summary, Express Computer

TUTORING WATCH

No comparably strong conversational-tutoring study surfaced in this sample's October 5-12 scan. The weekly brief will keep the tutoring track active and include new work when it meets the evidence bar.

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