Dale Rutherford

Ethical AI Integration, Deployment, and Governance

Professional Summary

Digital Transformation | IT Modernization | Ethical AI Integration | Strategic Innovation
Proven technology executive with 40+ years of management experience, leading strategy, digital transformation, and operational innovation across diverse sectors, including financial services, government, and global consulting. Adept at modernizing legacy infrastructures, implementing cloud-based systems, and integrating AI, automation, and data-driven solutions to optimize performance. Demonstrated success driving large-scale change initiatives, regulatory compliance, and multi-million-dollar programs with both public and private sector organizations.

Core Competencies

- Digital Transformation & IT Strategy
- Cloud Infrastructure & SaaS Integration
- AI, Automation & Data Analytics
- ISO 42001, ISO 27001, ISO 27701, ISO 23053, ISO 8000
- Cross-Functional Team Leadership
- Regulatory Compliance and Data Governance
- CRM Implementation & Optimization
- Agile, Scrum, Lean Six Sigma Methodologies

Experience

Mar 2021 – Present — **Area Director**, *Communities Unlimited, Inc.*, Fayetteville, AR.
- Lead multi-state entrepreneurship programming, overseeing grant management, partner development, staff supervision, and digital infrastructure alignment to support scalable consulting services.
- Directed the execution of complex IT-enabled business development strategies focused on minority and rural SMEs, integrating CRM tools and compliance-driven reporting frameworks.
- Fostered strategic partnerships to connect small businesses with procurement opportunities, emphasizing data-driven decision-making and outcome reporting.

Special Projects Coordinator.
- Served as project lead for new program initiatives, impact data coordination, and process improvement across the Entrepreneurship Division.
- Developed IT-supported training programs, dashboards, and client engagement tools, driving program delivery, impact, compliance, and program efficiency.
- Spearheaded CRM customization efforts to ensure effective data tracking, reporting, and strategic planning.
- Coordinated data analysis and stakeholder engagement across multiple grant-funded programs.

Senior Management Consultant.
- Led the digital transformation of internal CRM infrastructure, improving data analytics, client tracking, and grant compliance.
- Directed implementation of grant-funded technology systems supporting $1.5M Wells Fargo initiative.
- Developed training programs and process frameworks for new IT-enabled initiatives targeting small business growth.
- Drove CRM and data reporting modernization for program scalability across seven states.

Apr 2020 – **Leave of Absence**, *Home Depot*, Savannah, GA.
Feb 2021 Guardian of grandchildren while my Daughter was deployed with the US Army to Eastern Europe. When the Covid pandemic forced schools to close, I stayed home to provide childcare and homeschool the children.

Oct 2000 – **Management**, *Home Depot*, AR, GA, KS, MO.
Apr 2020 Assigned to several management positions across four states, from store management to Division Trainer for the Tool Rental Operations.
- Directed regional roll-outs of new tech-enabled retail programs, including Pro Desk, Tool Rental, and Specialty Sales.
- Led regional and district-level budgeting, staffing, and operations using data-driven performance management systems.

Education

Aug 2023 – **PhD** - **Information Science**, *UALR*, Little Rock, AR, Exp. Grad. May 2026.
Present
- Academic and Research interest: Information Science & Information Quality
- Research Interest: Ethical AI Integration Strategy, Deployment, & Governance
- Dissertation: "Modeling Information Quality Decay in LLM Echo Chambers: A BME Framework"

2000 **MBA**, *Finance & Accounting*, Henderson State University.
- Entrepreneur In Residence
- Recognized for contribution in School of Business obtaining AACSB Certification
- Authored and published multiple academic research papers
- Thesis: "Creative Accounting Practices in Corporate America"

1985 **BS**- **Management**, *Operations Management*.
- Curator for the Economic Education Center
- Commissioned 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Army at the age of 20 years old

Publications

2025 **"Echo Chamber Dynamics in LLMs: Mitigating Bias and Model Drift"**, *Dale Rutherford, Ningning Wu*, International Conference on the AI Revolution: Research, Ethics, and Society.
Conference & Proceedings

2023 **Authored "Cybersecurity Risks in the Deployment and Use of Digital Business Cards: Implications for Organizations and End-Users"**, *Dale Rutherford, Ningning Wu*, International Conference on Computational Science and Computational Intelligence.
Conference & Proceedings

1998 **The Influence of Mutual Funds on Securities Market Activity**, *Dale Rutherford, Shakar Shetty*, American Society of Business and Behavioral Science.
Conference & Proceedings

1998 **The Influence of Mutual Funds on Capital Migration Among Developing Countries**, *Dale Rutherford, Shakar Shetty*, Global Finance Conference.
Conference & Proceedings

2017 **Wargs: Outcast**, *Dale Rutherford*, Lulu Press.
book 3 - Science Fiction Thriller trilogy

2017 **Wargs: Dominion**, *Dale Rutherford*, Lulu Press.
Book 2 - Science Fiction Thriller trilogy

2016 **Wargs: Curse of Misty Hollow**, *Dale Rutherford*, Lulu Press.
Book 1 - Science Fiction Thriller trilogy

Software Skills

Languages Python, HTML, Java, PHP, JavaScript
Databases SQL, PL/SQL, MySQL
Tools GitHub, Jupyter Notebook, Elicit, Houristica, Alation, Oracle APEX

Certifications

- Lean Six Sigma Black Belt
- ISO 8000 MDQM
- SCRUM Master
- IIBA-AAC
- FMVA
- Project Manager

Areas of Interest

- Data Analytics
- Data Integrity/Quality
- Ethical AI Integration Strategy
- Data Quality and AI Governance

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