THE APPROVAL CHANGE RECORD

Who approved that agent, and what changed since?

A small file that makes an organization’s AI agent approvals readable by people and by software.

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THE QUESTION

Three questions every agent should be able to answer

01

Who approved it?

A named person or role, with the date the approval took effect.

02

On what terms?

What the agent is for, what it may reach, and where it runs.

03

What has changed since?

Every widening, narrowing, replacement, stop test and withdrawal, in date order.

The approval change record answers all three in one file the organization holds and chooses to share.

Most organizations can name the agents they run.

Fewer can show who approved each one, and what has changed since.

The work was done. What is often missing is the dated record of it.

WHERE IT SITS

A record in the govern layer

Govern

Records what was allowed, who agreed, and when.

Enforce

Controls what the tools permit or block.

Observe

Sees what the systems did.

The approval change record

The govern layer, written so that software can read it too.

What it is: a dated record of decisions people made.

What it does: lets other systems link to those decisions and map them to their own data.

What it leaves to other layers: watching agents and blocking actions.

WHERE IT COMES FROM

From the Decisions log to a file a system can read

Decisions log

Rows the organization wrote during its reviews.

Approval change record

One JSON file, built in the browser.

Partner or tool

Reads the file the customer chose to share.

Agents

Name, approver, purpose and reach for each agent on record.

Events

Approved, widened, narrowed, replaced, stopped and stop tested, oldest first for each agent.

WHAT ONE LOOKS LIKE

Three short stories in the sample file



Sample data for a fictional company, Acme Health, Inc.

TWO DATES

When it took effect, and when it was written down

Effective date

The day the change took effect

June 2nd

Recorded date

The day a review wrote it down

November 15th

A single date can only tell you when something was written. Two dates show how long a decision stood before it reached the record.

The distance between the two is information a reader can use.

PLAIN ABOUT GAPS

It says what it does not know

Unknown

The organization said it does not know.

For example, a date answered "Not sure".

Not recorded

Nothing was entered.

For example, an agent with no approver on file.

Not applicable

The field does not apply.

For example, a first approval that replaces nothing.

A gap you can see is more useful than a guess.

ITS LIMITS, STATED PLAINLY

What the file establishes, and what it leaves open

What it establishes

Who the organization says approved each agent, and on what terms.

Each change since, with the date it took effect and the date it was recorded.

That the file a recipient holds is the file that was produced.

What it leaves open

How an agent behaved at run time. That belongs to the observe layer.

Whether an action was permitted or blocked. That belongs to the enforce layer.

Anything after the snapshot date, which is treated as unknown.

Every entry is marked as self reported by the organization.

HOW IT IS KEPT SAFE

Built in the browser, checked by a fingerprint

1. Built

The browser builds the file from the Decisions log.

2. Fingerprinted

The browser computes a fingerprint of the exact file.

3. Recorded

The date, organization name and fingerprint are kept for six years.

4. Checkable

A Verification URL lets a recipient confirm the file matches.

The contents stay with the customer

The file is not sent to SanctumShield or stored there.

History stays intact

A correction is a new row. Earlier events are kept as they were.

WHAT IT ENABLES

One record, four uses

A direct answer for the board

Who approved this agent, and when, with a name and a date.

A trail an auditor can follow

Each change in order, with the reason the organization gave.

Linkage for other systems

A partner or tool can read the file and map it to what it observes or enforces.

Continuity across reviews

Agent identifiers stay stable, so one review can be compared with the next.

The customer holds the file and decides who sees it.

READ MORE

See the sample and the field list

The illustrative sample

A fictional company with three agents and nine events.

sanctumshield.com/samples/authority-record/sample-approval-change-record.json

The field list

Each field, the two dates, the status values, and what the file does not establish.

sanctumshield.com/docs/authority-record-schema

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SANCTUMSHIELD

Trust is not the absence of doubt. It is the presence of evidence.

See the illustrative sample and the field list at sanctumshield.com/sample-outputs

Read The Missing Layer, available on Amazon in Kindle and paperback.

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