

Songlines Control®

Architecture Brief

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Available on the Microsoft Azure Marketplace | MACC Eligible | IRAP Aligned

Executive Summary

Songlines Control® is an enterprise-grade AI control plane designed specifically for Australian enterprise and government organisations. It sits between applications and AI models, providing a single pane of glass for real-time cost attribution, intelligent model routing, immutable audit trails, and sovereign-first governance.

By operating at the proxy layer rather than the application layer, Songlines Control® ensures that enterprise policies are enforced at the point of execution — before a single token reaches an AI model.

As of May 2026, Songlines Control® and Songlines Gateway are **available for purchase directly on the Microsoft Azure Marketplace**, making them the first Australian-built, sovereign-first AI governance products available through Microsoft's commercial channel. Enterprise customers with a Microsoft Azure Consumption Commitment (MACC) can apply their pre-committed Azure spend directly to Songlines subscriptions — reducing procurement friction and accelerating time to deployment.

The Architectural Gap in Enterprise AI

As AI scales across the enterprise, a critical infrastructure gap has emerged. Applications and autonomous agents are connecting directly to large language models (LLMs) via APIs, bypassing traditional governance and observability controls. This direct-connection model creates three significant risks:

Financial Risk: Token consumption scales unpredictably without real-time visibility or budget controls. AI spend behaves like a meter running 24 hours a day — and without a control layer, no one is watching.

Compliance Risk: Sensitive data including Personally Identifiable Information (PII) is transmitted to external models without automated redaction or auditability, creating exposure under the Privacy Act 1988, APRA CPS 234, and the APS AI Policy.

Operational Risk: Autonomous agents operate outside defined boundaries, creating "shadow AI" ecosystems that are invisible to security teams, compliance officers, and boards.

Songlines Control® addresses this gap by introducing a dedicated control layer that intercepts, evaluates, and governs every AI interaction — before it reaches any model.

Core Architecture

The Songlines Control® architecture is built on a high-performance proxy engine that intercepts API calls to AI models. It evaluates these calls against enterprise policies in real time — with 0ms added latency for budget alerts — and routes them accordingly.

1. Request Interception

Every AI request from enterprise applications, autonomous agents (including LangChain, AutoGen, and CrewAI workflows), or individual users is routed through the Songlines control layer instead of connecting directly to the model provider. No changes are required to calling application code.

2. Policy Evaluation

Enterprise policies are evaluated instantly at the point of execution. This includes checking real-time budget thresholds and spend caps; scanning prompts for sensitive data (PII) and applying automated redaction across 20+ entity types; verifying user and application access permissions against role-based access controls (RBAC); and evaluating data residency requirements to determine whether a request may leave Australian infrastructure.

3. Intelligent Routing

Tokens are optimised and the request is routed to the most appropriate model based on cost, latency, policy, or data residency requirements. Simple tasks are automatically routed to cheaper, faster models without requiring code changes in the calling application. Sensitive data is routed exclusively to approved sovereign or on-premise models, enforced at the proxy layer.

4. Governed Response

The response from the AI model is returned through the control layer, ensuring full observability and compliance logging end-to-end. Every prompt, model selection, and response is cryptographically signed and logged to an immutable audit trail.

Key Technical Capabilities

Capability	Category	Description
Real-Time MTD Spend Tracking	Economic Control	AI spend tracked in real time across all models, workflows, and users — with 19 built-in model pricing tables and zero manual tagging.
Cost Attribution	Economic Control	Spend attributed by model, workflow, and individual user, with CSV export for finance reconciliation.
Intelligent Model Routing	Routing	Dynamic routing based on cost, latency, policy, or data residency — applied automatically with no code changes to calling applications.
Sovereign Data Routing	Routing	PII and sensitive data routed only to approved sovereign or on-premise models, enforced at the proxy layer.
Immutable Audit Trail	Compliance	Every prompt, model selection, and response cryptographically signed and logged. Records cannot be modified or deleted. ISO 27001 aligned, ISO 42001 aligned, and IRAP-ready.
PII Auto-Redaction	Privacy	Automated detection and redaction of 20+ PII entity types before data leaves the enterprise environment, with a full redaction audit trail.
Budget Guardrails	Financial Control	Hard spend caps and soft threshold alerts enforced at the proxy layer with 0ms latency — fires on every ingest event, not after the invoice arrives.
Model Access Controls	Governance	Allowlists and blocklists per team and workflow, model version pinning, and shadow AI prevention.
Prompt Injection Prevention	Security	Real-time detection of prompt injection attempts with configurable warn/redact/block responses and a full injection audit log.
Human-in-the-Loop (HITL)	Governance	Approval checkpoints for high-risk AI actions, with multi-channel routing, timeout rules, and a full approval audit trail.
Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)	Security	Least-privilege access enforced at the system, user, and agent level.
Zero-Trust Architecture	Security	All integrations are deliberate, observable, and governed — no open-ended connections that create shadow AI risk. SHA-256 hashed API key validation and TLS 1.2+ in transit.
Air-Gap Deployment	Sovereignty	Fully sovereign on-premise deployment option for classified environments, ensuring 100% Australian data residency by architecture.

Compliance & Regulatory Alignment

Songlines Control® is designed to support compliance with the following frameworks and regulatory obligations:

Framework / Obligation	Relevance	How Songlines Addresses It
Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)	All organisations handling personal information	PII auto-redaction, immutable audit trail, data residency enforcement
APRA CPS 234	APRA-regulated entities (banks, insurers, superannuation)	Zero-trust architecture, RBAC, cryptographic audit trail, third-party model governance
APS AI Policy	Australian Public Service agencies	Sovereign deployment, human-in-the-loop gates, full audit trail, IRAP-ready documentation
ISO 27001	Enterprise information security	Security-by-design architecture, access controls, audit logging
ISO 42001	AI management systems	Policy enforcement at point of execution, model governance, risk-based routing
IRAP (Information Security Registered Assessors Program)	Australian government and regulated enterprise	IRAP-aligned documentation, sovereign deployment options, audit trail exportable for assessors
ASIC REP 798	AFS licensees, market participants	Board-level AI visibility, third-party model governance, immutable audit trail, PII controls

The 2026 Regulatory Context

The Australian regulatory environment for AI governance has materially tightened in the twelve months to May 2026. ASIC's October 2024 report REP 798 Beware the Gap identified that most organisations lack the governance infrastructure to manage AI risk at the board level. ASIC's 2026 Key Issues Outlook named agentic AI as a priority enforcement area. In April 2026, APRA wrote directly to industry calling for a "step-change" in AI risk management and flagging enforcement action for entities that fail to demonstrate adequate controls. In May 2026, ASIC issued an open letter to all AFS licensees requiring board-level AI risk discussions to be documented.

Songlines Control® is the purpose-built response to this regulatory trajectory — providing the governance infrastructure that regulators are now actively looking for.

Deployment Models

Songlines Control® is designed for deployment flexibility to meet varying security and sovereignty requirements:

Deployment Model	Description	Best For
Azure Marketplace SaaS	Fully managed, deployed via Microsoft Azure Marketplace. MACC-eligible. 30-day free trial available.	Enterprises seeking rapid deployment with minimal procurement friction
SaaS (Direct)	Fully managed multi-tenant environment. Operational within 10 minutes.	Organisations requiring rapid deployment without Azure Marketplace procurement
Private Cloud	Dedicated instance within the organisation's own cloud environment (Azure, AWS GovCloud, or equivalent).	Organisations with existing cloud commitments and data residency requirements
On-Premise / Air-Gapped	Fully sovereign deployment for highly classified environments, ensuring 100% Australian data residency by architecture.	Government agencies, defence, and critical infrastructure operators

Integration Ecosystem

Songlines Control® integrates seamlessly with existing enterprise AI stacks without requiring changes to calling application code:

AI Models: OpenAI GPT-4o, Anthropic Claude, Google Gemini, Azure OpenAI, AWS Bedrock, and local or sovereign models.

AI Frameworks: LangChain, AutoGen, CrewAI, and any framework that communicates via standard OpenAI-compatible API endpoints.

Microsoft Ecosystem: Azure OpenAI Service, Azure AI Foundry, Microsoft Entra ID (for identity and access management), and Microsoft Azure Marketplace (for procurement and MACC consumption).

Enterprise Systems: CRMs, vector databases, SIEM platforms, and custom internal APIs via webhook and log export.

The Songlines Product Family

Songlines Control® is the entry point of a three-tier product family, each tier building on the last:

Tier	Product	Core Capability	Indicative Pricing
Step 1	Songlines Control®	Visibility, cost attribution, policy enforcement, immutable audit trail	AUD \$9,995/month
Step 2	Songlines Gateway	Everything in Control, plus intelligent model routing to reduce token spend across all providers	AUD \$19,995/month
Step 3	Songlines Platform	Full sovereign AI stack — on-premise or private cloud, complete data residency, air-gap capable	Contact for pricing

Both Songlines Control® and Songlines Gateway are available today on the Microsoft Azure Marketplace with a **30-day free trial**. Organisations can start with Control and upgrade to Gateway or Platform as their AI governance maturity grows — with no changes required to their existing application code at any tier.

Commercial Models

Songlines Control® and Songlines Gateway are available through two commercial pathways:

Microsoft Azure Marketplace: Purchase directly through the Azure Marketplace. MACC-eligible — spend counts toward your existing Azure Consumption Commitment. Ideal for organisations with pre-committed Azure spend seeking to maximise their investment.

Direct Subscription: Annual or monthly subscription direct with Cetus AI. Includes onboarding support, a dedicated customer success contact, and access to the Cetus AI partner program.

Both pathways include a **30-day free trial** and a **two-week Proof of Concept (POC)** engagement — deploy Songlines Control® in your environment, instrument your key AI workloads, and receive a concrete data and recommended strategy for your leadership team within two weeks, at no risk.

Conclusion

Songlines Control® transforms AI from an unpredictable, ungoverned capability into a managed, observable, and secure enterprise asset. By enforcing policy at the point of execution, it provides the confidence required to scale AI deployments across the organisation — and the audit trail required to demonstrate that confidence to regulators, boards, and customers.

As the first Australian-built AI governance platform available on the Microsoft Azure Marketplace, Songlines Control® combines the commercial accessibility of a global distribution channel with the sovereign-first architecture that Australian enterprise and government organisations require.

Songlines Control® is a registered trademark of Cetus AI Pty Ltd. All pricing in AUD and exclusive of GST. Pricing current as at May 2026 and subject to change. Contact contact@cetusai.com.au for enterprise and government pricing.

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