

The Authority Governance Control Plane for Agentic AI

THE PROBLEM

AI agents are moving from answering questions to taking actions: approving requests, changing configurations, moving money, and committing the organization. The security stack governs **identity** (who the agent is) and **access** (what it can reach). Neither governs **authority**: what the agent is allowed to decide. An agent with valid credentials and valid permissions can still make a decision it was never authorized to make, and today no system defines, enforces, or records that boundary.

WHAT BOTARIS DOES

Botaris is a governance layer that sits above identity and access. Organizations use it to **define** the decision rights delegated to each agent, **enforce** constraints at runtime before consequential actions execute, and **account** for every authority decision in a durable record built for auditors, regulators, and boards. It works with existing IAM investments and agent platforms rather than replacing them.

Authority = Decision Rights + Constraints + Accountability

DECISION RIGHTS

What an agent is delegated to decide, by whom, and in what scope

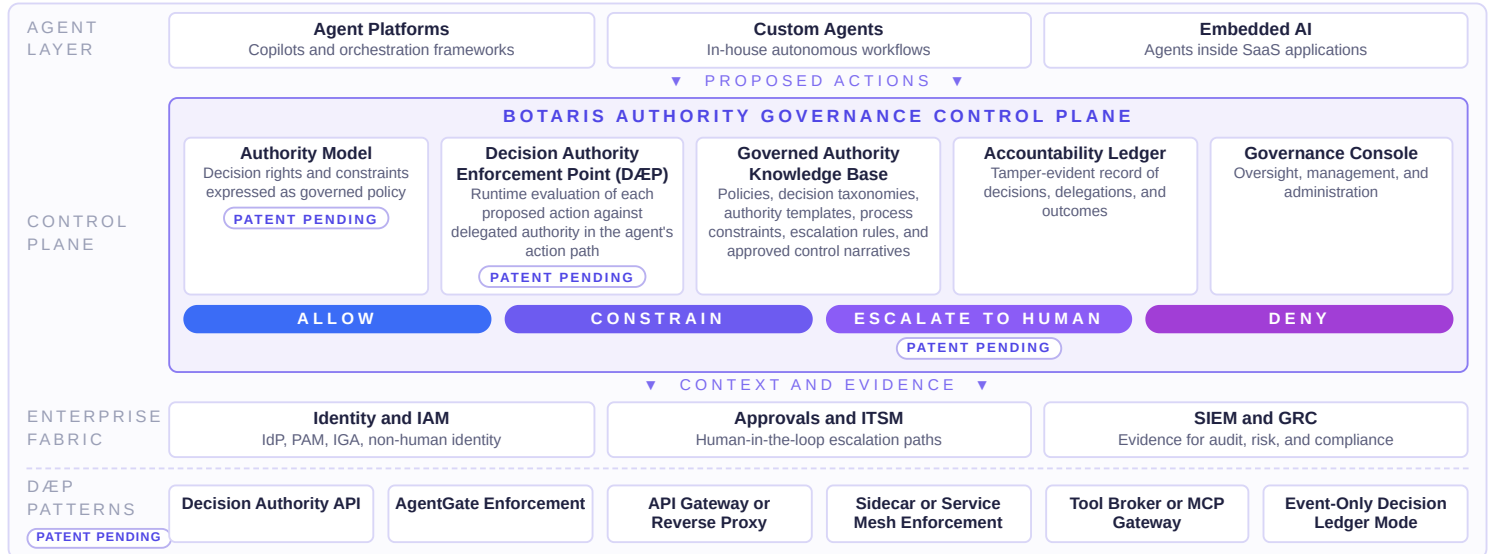
CONSTRAINTS

The limits, conditions, and thresholds that bound each decision

ACCOUNTABILITY

An attributable, reviewable record of every decision made under delegation

ARCHITECTURE OVERVIEW



AUTHORITY GOVERNANCE VERSUS THE ADJACENT MARKET

Category	What it governs	Derived decision rights	Ledgered ceilings	Escalation to the accountable human	Per-decision record
Identity governance (IGA) SailPoint, Saviynt, Okta	Agent identity, ownership, and access lifecycle	🟡	✗	✗	🟡
Privileged access (PAM) Delinea, CyberArk, Britive	Credentials, sessions, and per-action privilege	🟡	✗	🟡	🟡
Platform estates Microsoft, ServiceNow, IBM	Agents inside each vendor's own ecosystem	🟡	✗	✗	🟡
Machine identity and NHI AppViewX, Oasis (Cyera), Astrix (Cisco), Entro (SailPoint)	Non-human identity inventory and secrets lifecycle	🟡	✗	✗	🟡
Next-generation IAM C1, NewCore	Agent-first identity with gateway-routed tool calls	🟡	✗	🟡	🟡
Agent security startups Onyx, Geordie, Noma, Zenity, HiddenLayer	Threats: posture, prompt injection, runtime detection	🟡	✗	🟡	🟡
Runtime enforcement Sondera, Archestra, AccuKnox, Nightfall	Inline interception at the layer each owns	🟡	✗	🟡	🟡
GRC and AI governance Credo AI, Holistic AI, Hyperproof	Compliance frameworks, programs, and evidence	✗	✗	✗	🟡
Authorization infrastructure Cerbos, Oso, OpenFGA, OPA	Request-time evaluation of hand-written policy	🟡	✗	✗	🟡
Botaris Authority Governance	The decision itself, at the moment it is proposed	✓	✓	✓	✓

✓ capability is core to the product. 🟡 adjacent capability without an authority model behind it (attribution rather than derivation, per-action approval rather than escalation at an authority boundary, action logs rather than authority records). ✗ not in the data model. Ledgered ceilings means cumulative limits carried across a run; per-action thresholds without cumulative state do not count. Assessments are Botaris analysis of public vendor materials as of August 2026.

WHY NOW

Agents are entering production

Enterprises are moving agents from pilots into workflows with real financial, operational, and legal consequences.

IAM was built for people

Identity and access categories assume human users and static service accounts, not autonomous software making judgment calls at machine speed.

Accountability is becoming mandatory

Boards, auditors, and emerging AI governance frameworks increasingly require organizations to show who authorized an automated decision and on what basis.

LEADERSHIP

Jonathan Edwards, Founder and CEO. Two decades in identity and access management across directory services, federation, PAM, IGA, and non-human identity. Co-founded with **KJ Gambhir**, CSMO, and **Archie Patrick**, CTO.

WORKING WITH US

Botaris is onboarding a limited group of enterprise design partners and is engaged in an active pre-seed round. Design partners shape the product roadmap and receive early access.

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