

Consultants Society Forum 2026: The Evolving Consultant – Human Insights on Emerging Technology

Speaker: Deborah Lord, Director of Valuation Consultancy, VRM

Topic: From Data to Judgement: Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to support not replace Consultants

Abstract: There is no doubt that AI can increase productivity and efficiency in the workplace, but the use of AI also comes with risks and responsibilities. While AI offers an assistive tool to support Consultants it does not substitute decision making and does not diminish the professional responsibility, judgment or accountability required under frameworks such as JORC, VALMIN and the Corporations Act.

So how as Consultants and Experts can we effectively use AI? What are the opportunities and how can it add value? Conversely, what are the risks and where do we need to be cautious? As we enter this AI era, what professional guidance is there in relation to work by engineers and geologists? The talk explores when and how AI can be used by Consultants and what safeguards should be considered.