

Dawid Naude – CEO & Founder, Pathfindr

Award-Winning AI Innovator, Educator, Implementer.

“Stepping onto the stage, I thrive on converting cautious AI onlookers into confident champions.”

“AI isn’t simply an optimiser. It’s an igniter of entirely new - and better - ways of thinking, being and doing.”

AI’s true magic? Enabling you to reimagine what’s possible and achieve breakthrough innovation.

“If AI isn’t helping you reimagine what’s possible, you’re doing it wrong.”

Dawid Naude is a trailblazer in business, disruption, and innovation, shaping the future by translating AI’s potential into real world impact. Committed to making AI exciting, accessible, and impossible to ignore, he helps organisations to **make every employee more productive, reimagine what’s possible, and achieve breakthrough innovation.**

As the CEO and Founder of Pathfindr, Australia’s leading, AFR award-winning AI accelerator, Dawid is one of the country’s foremost AI **innovators, educators, and implementers**. A prominent AI speaker, Dawid’s keynotes have built a reputation for exciting audiences into action. With an infectious energy and a gift for making the complex feel simple, he is renowned for converting cautious AI onlookers into confident champions.

Dawid lives and breathes technology—not just for the thrill of innovation, but for the immense difference it makes to people’s lives. **Ultimately, Dawid believes AI’s superpower isn’t simply its ability to optimise the status quo, but capacity to ignite breakthrough ideas and opportunities. Entirely new, and better, ways of thinking, doing and being.**

His dynamic CV spans consulting, leadership and founder roles across digital, technology and innovation. A key player in Cloud Sherpas’ explosive startup years, Dawid was instrumental in the Company’s acquisition by Accenture in 2015. Joining the Firm’s technology innovation division, Dawid accelerated to Partner within three years and led projects for the likes of Qantas, NAB, AMP, Foxtel, and Government.

Through Pathfindr, Dawid now thrives on helping bold leaders to unlock AI’s full potential today—not in some distant future. Named one of AFR BOSS’ Most Innovative Companies in its founding year (2024), Pathfindr’s clients include Woolworths Group, Victoria Government, Honey Insurance, Standards Australia, Engie, Engineers Australia, Australia Post, Pemba Capital Group and Hunter Water.

An advisor to Government and industry bodies across APAC, Dawid is proud to be at the forefront of AI’s evolution and impact.

MINI

Dawid Naude is a trailblazer in business, disruption, and innovation, shaping the future by translating AI’s potential into real world impact. Committed to making AI exciting, accessible, and impossible to ignore, he helps organisations to make every employee more productive, reimagine what’s possible, and achieve breakthrough innovation.

With a dynamic CV spanning consulting and leadership roles across digital, technology and innovation, Dawid is the proud Founder & CEO of Pathfindr. Named one of AFR BOSS’ Most Innovative Companies in its founding year, Pathfindr’s is now the fastest growing AI Accelerator in Australia.

An advisor to Government and industry bodies across APAC, Dawid is one of the region’s foremost AI innovators, educators, and implementers. With an infectious energy and a gift for making the complex feel simple, his keynotes have built a reputation for exciting audiences into action.

SHORT FORM

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FIRST PERSON

As the CEO and Founder of Pathfindr, Australia's leading, AFR award-winning AI accelerator, I'm on a mission to make AI exciting, accessible, and impossible to ignore.

A fast-moving thinker and practitioner, I live and breathe technology—not just for the thrill of innovation, but for the immense difference it makes to people's lives. Ultimately, I believe AI's superpower isn't simply its ability to optimise the status quo, but capacity to ignite breakthrough ideas and opportunities. Entirely new, and better, ways of thinking, doing and being.

Across all my work, I love exciting audiences into action. Stepping onto the stage, I thrive on converting cautious AI onlookers into confident champions, while at Pathfindr, this involves helping organisations to **make every employee more productive, reimagine what's possible, and achieve breakthrough innovation.**

Across two decades, I've held consulting, leadership and founder roles across digital, technology and innovation. Highlights include leading Cloud Sherpas' data & AI division through the Company's explosive startup years and ultimate acquisition by Accenture in 2015. Joining the Firm's technology innovation team, I quickly progressed to Partner and enjoyed spearheading projects for the likes of Qantas, NAB, AMP, Foxtel, and Government.

Through Pathfindr, I now lead a brilliant, fast-growing team of AI specialists. Named one of AFR BOSS' Most Innovative Companies in its founding year (2024), Pathfindr supports bold leaders to unlock AI's full potential today—not in some distant future. Our clients include Woolworths Group, Victoria Government, Honey Insurance, Standards Australia, Engie, Engineers Australia, Australia Post, Pemba Capital Group and Hunter Water.

Advising Government and industry bodies across APAC, I'm proud to be at the forefront of AI's evolution and impact.

If you're an equally optimistic AI innovator, educator, or implementer ... reach out - I'd love to connect!

SHORT FORM

As the CEO and Founder of Pathfindr, Australia's leading AI accelerator, I'm on a mission to make AI exciting, accessible, and impossible to ignore.

Across all my work, I love exciting audiences into action. On stage, I thrive on converting cautious AI onlookers into confident champions, while at Pathfindr, this involves helping organisations to **make every employee more productive, reimagine what's possible, and achieve breakthrough innovation.**

Over the course of my career, I've held consulting, leadership and founder roles across digital, technology and innovation. A leader in Cloud Sherpas' explosive startup years, I was fortunate to play a key role in the Company's acquisition by Accenture in 2015. Joining the Firm's technology innovation division, I was appointed Partner within three years.

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TESTIMONIALS

Westpac Commercial Banking: 2025 Offsite

"Dawid's AI Masterclass was brilliant!"

"Dawid opened our eyes to the power of AI, the exciting changes coming to business banks, and the future of lending!"

"Dawid's AI insights were amazing, and very clever."

"Dawid's AI session was extremely interesting and relevant. He shared tips we can apply immediately to save time, and enhance our skillset."

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"Dawid opened our eyes to what's possible when we combine expertise and innovation. It's fair to say our partnership with Pathfindr has enabled us to truly revolutionise how we serve our customers. Our vision has become reality - the future of customer service is here!" Angelo Azar, COO - Honey Insurance

"XXXXXX" ABC

"Dawid left us all inspired about how we could use AI, even the Googler's learned a lot."

Paul Dearlove, CEO - Google New Zealand

"One of our members said it was the best association presentation they've seen in 30 years. Dawid made all our members aware and excited about AI, there was a long queue to chat to him afterwards."

Cath Hart, CEO - Real Estate Institute of Western Australia

"Dawid made us all realise that we've had our head in the sand - and that it's an exciting technology to embrace right now."

Richard Lindell, Managing Director - Corporate Leaders Network

[Makala Castelli, CEO Self Storage Association of Australia](#)

"Dawid's talk was a massive hit. He was engaging, funny, and brought to life AI for our entire audience, as well as challenging us to think bigger."

[Bradley F. Solution Architect Senior Manager at Accenture Australia](#)

"Dawid's immersion sessions were fantastic - he has an art for showing what's possible when it comes to identifying new capabilities."

[Charvi Gaur, Principle Analyst - QUT](#)

"It was an amazing experience working with Dawid. MBA books talk about the qualities of a good leader and few meet those qualities like he does - i.e. technical, smart, inspiring, cool under pressure, open to new ideas, reasonable, and above all, gives you freedom to drive a project to success."

[David Backhurst, Regional General Manager, Commercial & Corporate Banking - Westpac](#)

"Dawid has an exceptional ability to understand complex challenges, and then build optimal solutions through strong trust & credibility with all stakeholders. He consistently demonstrates collaborative enterprise behaviour."

[Megan Luttrell, Director, Kairos](#)

“Dawid's story, from his global transitions to his evolution from finance to technology and entrepreneurship, exemplifies a profound commitment to personal growth, professional excellence, and the pursuit of innovation. His story continues to unfold with the development of Pathfindr so I'd recommend you buckle up because Pathfindr is no doubt going to be a brand to watch!”