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DEKRA

Press release

AI experts appoint chief technology officer

Jan Zawadzki to be appointed new CTO at CertifAI

- Former Head of AI at Volkswagen subsidiary Cariad due to arrive mid of August
- CertifAI ensures that AI remains secure by providing certification, and testing services
- DEKRA, PwC Deutschland, and Hamburg city government are shareholders in the AI specialist firm

AI product testing and certification specialists CertifAI are expanding their senior management team, appointing Jan Zawadzki as their new chief technology officer (CTO). The data scientist has extensive experience in the machine learning and artificial intelligence fields, most recently heading up the AI unit at Volkswagen software subsidiary Cariad SE for over three years.

"In Jan Zawadzki, we have been able to attract an absolute expert in AI and machine learning. I have no doubt that at CertifAI, he will continue to expand the extensive range of services for us and take key decisions to make sure that artificial intelligence is safe and secure for everyday use," says Fernando Hardasmal, executive vice-president of DEKRA SE, who is responsible for the organization's digital and product solutions business and CertifAI. "CertifAI's ambition is to ensure safe, secure and trustworthy AI in the automotive industry, the industrial sector, and the medical field.

Dr. Robert Kilian, CEO CertifAI: "I am very grateful that we have found Jan Zawadzki as CertifAI's CTO. As long-time Head of AI at Cariad SE, Jan has been focused on creating disruptive solutions to scale safe AI development across various industrial functions for many years. It is rare to find such a good professional and personal match and I am beyond excited to start working with him on unlocking market access for our clients and building trust in AI solutions."

CertifAI was founded at the end of 2022 by DEKRA, PwC Deutschland, and the Hamburg city government (through its Innovationsstarter Fonds Hamburg). The

joint venture's focus is on providing services geared toward delivering solutions and meeting customer needs, specializing in testing and certification of individual AI products and components. The company also works to ensure compliance with industry-specific norms and standards, such as those found in the automotive manufacturing and health industry, in order to ensure that AI is used in a safe, secure and trustworthy manner.

About CertifAI

CertifAI was founded in December 2022 by auditing and consulting firm PwC Deutschland, the world's largest unlisted testing and certification organization DEKRA, and the Hamburg city government's Innovationsstarter Fonds Hamburg fund. The company specializes in certification and product testing, including testing of AI products and components. The global AI market's growth potential is huge – it is expected to multiply tenfold by 2028, reaching a projected value of $150 billion. As a result, there is a gap in the market for an organization that focuses on the security requirements associated with AI technology. CertifAI fills this gap.

About DEKRA

DEKRA was originally founded in 1925 to ensure road safety through vehicle inspection. With a much wider scope today, DEKRA is the world's largest independent non-listed expert organization in the testing, inspection, and certification sector. As a global provider of comprehensive services and solutions, we help our customers improve their safety, security, and sustainability outcomes. In 2022, DEKRA generated sales totaling nearly EUR 3.8 billion. The company currently employs almost 49,000 people who offer qualified and independent expert services in approximately 60 countries on five continents. With a platinum rating from EcoVadis, DEKRA is now in the top one percent of sustainable businesses ranked.