



## SOLUTION GUIDE

# AI Buyer's Guide: Data Is the Currency

Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming global supply chains in remarkable ways. However, before your business launches head-on into an AI investment, it's important to understand why data is crucial to successful AI implementation and where and how to source it. In this document, we will discuss three factors that determine how well AI will perform: the scale, scope, and quality of the available data.

**First, let's examine the three key requirements for successful AI in the supply chain.**

## The prerequisites for AI in supply chain

It's important to remember that AI alone cannot transform your business. Like any other technological solution, its success depends on how it is used and contextualized. Here are the three important variables you need to get the most value from applied AI in the supply chain:

### Quality and quantity of data

AI requires data relevant to your business decisions – and lots of it. The best AI solutions pull data from both your internal operations and your broader external partner networks and then harmonizes, cleanses, and enriches it to make it decision-grade.

### Closed-loop orchestration

AI is all about helping you make the best decisions, but the true magic happens once decisions are put into action. A single platform that enables closed-loop collaboration and orchestration across all stakeholders, including sub-tier ecosystem partners, is what helps your business realize business value.

## Supply chain context

Basic run-of-the-mill AI overlays that don't draw on existing insights into your supply chain operations just aren't enough. A truly connected supply chain platform should have the latest AI technologies woven into their DNA, so the context and domain expertise needed to transform your business are already there.

Let's take a closer look at why having the right data, and enough of it, matters so much.

## Data is the key

AI requires access to data from the whole supply chain to provide maximum value. Otherwise, it runs partially blind.

Sourcing this data requires that your company go beyond its four walls and connect with everyone in your upstream and downstream ecosystem, including all tiers of suppliers, distribution, logistics, and global trade partners. This requires a multi-enterprise supply chain business network, like the Connected Supply Chain from e2open.

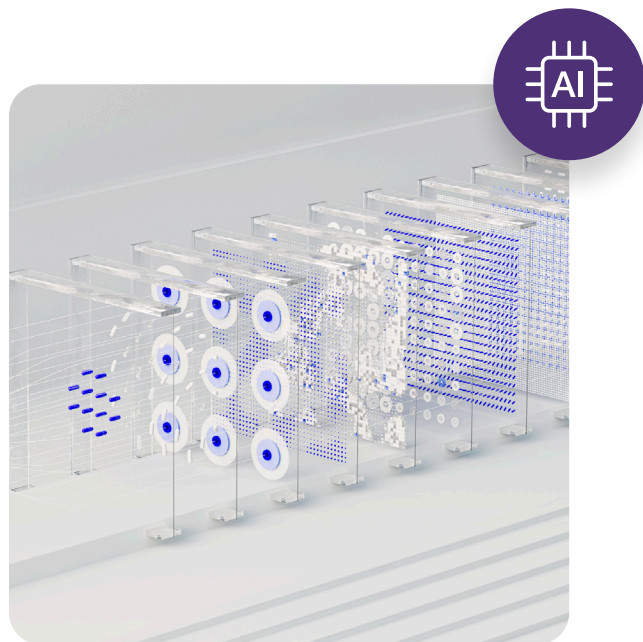
If you'd like to learn more about how e2open can help your business make a sound and strategic investment in AI, get in touch with us today by visiting [www.e2open.com/contact-us](http://www.e2open.com/contact-us).



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