

# The Always-Active Personal Layer Carve-Out

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## What the Personal Layer Specifies

The personal layer is a credentialed adaptation artifact signed by the consumer's own authority — the consuming system itself, or the operator deploying the consuming system. Its content represents the consumer's identity, preferences, history, organizational context, and governing authority. Architecturally, it is held in a privileged position by the admissibility evaluator: it contributes to every inference at full weight, regardless of which third-party artifacts are active.

The privilege is structural, not advisory. Third-party artifacts cannot be assigned weight that exceeds the personal layer's contribution. Third-party artifacts cannot suppress, override, or de-weight the personal layer. The personal layer is the irreducible 'self' of the consuming system, and the architecture makes it sovereign.

## Why Third-Party Skills Need a Sovereign Counterweight

Marketplace-style skill ecosystems produce a structural vulnerability: a sufficiently-aggressive or adversarial third-party skill can dominate the consumer's behavior even within governance-admitted bounds. Without a counterweight, the consumer's intent

becomes a function of which third-party skills are active rather than of the consumer's own governing authority.

The personal layer is the architectural answer. The consumer always speaks; third-party skills contribute but cannot supplant. This produces an agent ecosystem where third parties extend rather than replace the consumer, mirroring how human collaboration works (collaborators inform but do not replace the principal's identity).

## **How the Personal Layer Composes With Admissibility**

The admissibility evaluator treats the personal layer as a privileged input. When computing the weighted contribution of active artifacts, the personal layer's weight is bounded below by a credentialed minimum (set by the consumer's policy) and is not subject to reduction by third-party-artifact admissibility evaluation.

The personal layer is itself updateable through credentialed governance: the consumer's authority signs updates to the personal layer's content, which the admissibility evaluator consumes through the standard governance-update flow. This keeps the personal layer current with the consumer's evolving preferences and organizational context without exposing it to third-party manipulation.

## **What This Enables for Agent Sovereignty**

Enterprise deployments admit third-party skills (Salesforce-credentialed CRM skills, ServiceNow-credentialed ITSM skills, Microsoft-credentialed productivity skills) without losing control of the agent's enterprise identity. The personal layer carries the enterprise's policy and identity at full weight; third-party skills extend without replacing.

Consumer deployments admit third-party skills (developer-published Skills, Custom Actions, Extensions) without the user losing sovereignty over their agent's behavior. The personal layer carries the user's preferences and identity at full weight; third-party skills contribute within bounds. The architecture preserves what current marketplace patterns inadvertently put at risk.