



STRATEGIC CONTEXT • SEPTEMBER 2026 • 35 MIN READ

What the History of Technology Disruption Tells Us About AI

The steam engine, electricity, and the internet, and what they tell us about navigating AI

1950

Alan Turing, Computing Machinery and Intelligence. The Turing Test is proposed.

1956

Dartmouth Conference. The term Artificial Intelligence is coined.

1997

IBM Deep Blue defeats Garry Kasparov in classical chess.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Every major technological disruption has produced two kinds of contemporary prediction: catastrophic overestimation of short-term impact and dramatic underestimation of long-term structural change. The steam engine, electricity, the personal computer, and the internet all followed this pattern. AI is following it again.

This article is for the executive who is neither seduced by AI hype nor comfortable with dismissal, and who needs a historically grounded framework to calibrate the right response.

 The full analysis continues in the members' edition

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- 02 A Timeline of Defining AI Achievements
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- 04 The Comparison That Should Reassure Skeptics and Alarm Dismissers



Plus 2 further sections, including "The AGI Question: The Uncertainty That Changes Everything"

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