ORION

Scanning & Intelligence

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ORION is a strategic foresight and intelligence platform that offers the capability to capture, identify, categorize and make sense of a multitude of drivers of change, insights or signals in the global and business environment and use those as accelerators of future-oriented strategies and transformation journeys.

It operates by synthesizing data from the structured database 'ORION Scanning & Intelligence' and integrating this with the expansive knowledge of ORION AI in delivering sophisticated and insightful trend analyses, making it an invaluable tool for strategic foresight and intelligence.

The goal is to maintain a balance between depth of analysis and clarity in communication, ensuring users receive valuable and understandable insights.

A Holistic View to the Future

At the core of Strategic Foresight is the commitment to a holistic approach, irrespective of the issue or strategic focus under exploration or analysis. This comprehensive perspective is vital for an in-depth understanding of potential futures.
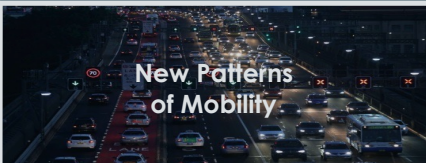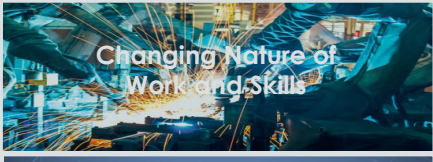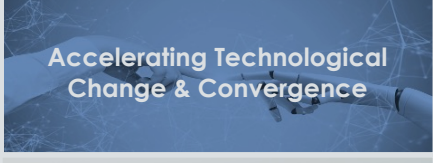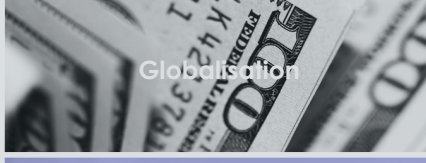
We use comprehensive frameworks like PESTLE (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal, Environmental) that serve as compasses, guiding us to consider a spectrum of broad themes crucial for any future-oriented exploration.

ECONOMY

TECHNOLOGY

SOCIETY

ENVIRONMENT

(GEO)POLITICS

SECURITY

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A Global Future Landscape

Scanning is founded upon this principle of holistic and extensive approach to the future, but we don't just look at isolated trends or singular dimensions; instead, we strive to interconnect various strands of insights to construct a multidimensional view of what the future might hold.

Our database's initial layer offers a window into the "Megatrends" shaping our world. These major global forces, resulting from diverse global forces, provide a macro view of developments and changes, essential for understanding the global future landscape.

MEGATRENDS

Economy Dynamics

New Patterns of Mobility

Business Ecosystems & Networks

Future of Health

New Consumption Patterns

Biotechnology Transformation

Digital & Virtual Transformation

New Individualities

Changing Nature of Work and Skills

Geoeconomic Dynamics and New Global Geopolitics

Accelerating Technological Change & Convergence

Globalisation

Cities and Urbanisation

Climate Change & Environmental Impacts

Transition to Clean Energy and Energy Reversal

Social Welfare & Innequalities

Changing Security Paradigms

Ageing, Longevity & Demographic Changes

Water Challenges

Ocean & Resources

Megatrends Deep Dives

Megatrends, while familiar, offer insights into broad changes that can be narrowed down by focusing on more detailed trends and signals.

In our Scanning Databases each Megatrend encapsulates a multitude of key trends, more specific trends and others signals of change, providing a more detailed view of the driving forces guiding global shifts.

This curated clustering around Megatrends not only provides a snapshot of the current global landscape but also serves as a guide to understanding and navigating the future.

Economy Dynamics
- Trade and Investment in a Volatile Economy
- Circular Economy
- Gig Economy and Freelancing
- Impact of AI on Economic Structures
- Global Economic Imbalances
- Open Finance/Banking
- Illicit Economy
- ...

Changing Mobility Paradigms
- Electromobility
- Mobility as a Service (MaaS)
- Road to Autonomy
- Smarter Infrastructure for Mobility
- The new Space Race
- Privacy and Data Protection
- Drone Warfare and Autonomous Weapons
- ...

Business Ecosystems & Networks
- Cross-Industry ecosystems
- Entrepreneurship Accelerated
- Digital Marketplaces and Platforms
- Collaborative Economy and Crowdsourcing
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Agile Governance
- Empathetic Brands
- ...

Future of Health & Healthcare
- Telehealth and Remote Monitoring
- Precision/Personalized Medicine and Therapeutic
- Health Data Analytics
- Mental Health Awareness and Technology
- Digitize me and my health
- Changing mindsets about health
- Live Forever (Ageing/NCDs)

New Consumption Patterns
- Sustainable consumption
- Conscious Eating
- Flexible Content Consumption
- The Sharing Economy
- Personalization and Customization
- Radical Transparency
- Shifts in Travel
- ...

Biotechnology Transformation
- Biological Process Identification and Modelling
- CRISPR: Gene Editing at Scale
- Synthetic Biological Engineering
- Biosecurity and Dual-Use Concerns
- Human Optimization
- Green biotechnology
- Sustainable Materials
- ...

Digital & Virtual Transformation
- AI, ML & Data Era
- Ethical AI and Algorithmic Transparency
- International Cyber Law and Governance
- Digital Identity and Trust
- Augmented & Virtual Reality
- Quantum Computing
- Distributed Ledger Technology
- ...

New Individualities
- Differentiated Lifeworlds
- LGBTI Inclusion
- Youth Perspectives
- Multidimensional Me
- Next Gen Parenting
- Digital Identity and Privacy
- Social Media and Self-Expression
- Cross-cultural Interactions and Global Citizenship
- ...

Changing Nature of Work & Skills
- Digital Fluency and STEM Skills
- Automation and Job Redefinition
- Inclusive Labour Markets
- Lifelong Learning Pathways
- New organisations of work
- Purpose driven work
- Well-being in the workplace
- ...

Changing Geoeconomics & Geopolitics
- Expanding influence of East and South
- The battle for democracy intensifies
- Increasing influence of new governing systems
- Economic Sanctions and Trade Wars
- Energy Diplomacy
- Technology Competition
- Global Health Diplomacy

MEGATRENDS & KEY TRENDS

Technology Acceleration & Convergence
- Artificial General Intelligence
- Ethical Implications of Emerging Technologies
- Cross-disciplinary Technology Integration
- Technology & inequality
- Nanotechnology & Advanced Materials
- Greater emphasis on understanding technology
- Robots are becoming scalable

Globalization
- Connected World
- Increasing fragmentation of globalisation
- Digital Globalization and E-commerce
- Global Supply Chain Dynamics
- Cultural Exchange and Globalization
- Increasing significance of migrations

Cities & Urbanization
- Urban resilience as a new normal
- Escalating green action in cities
- Urban Governance through networks and groups
- Smart Cities and IoT Integration
- Urban Agriculture and Food Systems
- Sustainable Urban Mobility
- New Frontiers
- ...

Climate Change & Environmental Impacts
- Anthropogenic Environmental Damage
- Emerging Regenerative Paradigm
- Established practices are questioned
- Negative impacts increase
- Outside planetary boundaries
- Climate Migration
- Environmental Justice and Equity
- ...

Transition to Clean Energy & Energy Reversal
- Building Energy System Resilience
- CO2 Capture, Utilization, and Storage
- Electrification of Everything
- Energy Storage and Grid Modernization
- Re-mapping Energy Geopolitics & Governance
- Sustainable Urban Energy Systems
- Energy Poverty and Accessibility
- ...

Social Welfare & Inequalities
- Beyond the Welfare State to Basic Income
- Fiscal Policies to Support Social Protection
- Labour Market Participation
- Reasons for Welfare and Social Protection
- Weakening of human rights
- Welfare Models and Critiques
- Universal Health Coverage

Changing Security Paradigm
- International Security
- Peace and Resilience
- Cybersecurity
- Disarmament
- Future battlefields
- Nuclear Security
- ...

Ageing, Longevity & Demographic Changes
- Global population is growing
- An ageing world
- Aging Reinvented
- Financial Security and Ageing
- Intergenerational Workforce Dynamics
- Age-friendly Urban Design
- Healthcare and Long Lives
- ...

Water Challenges
- Water: our most vital resource
- Better management of water
- Clean Water and Sanitation
- Agriculture and Water Impact
- Water Security and Conflict
- Urban Water Management
- Desalination Technologies
- ...

Oceans & Natural Resources
- Human Well-Being and the Ocean
- Impacts of climate change on the ocean
- Emerging Ocean Technologies
- Deep-Sea Mining and Exploration
- Access to food
- Aggravating resource scarcity
- New sources of resources

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Clusters and Systems of Driving Forces

The second layer of our innovative approach harness the power of algorithmic clustering and graph-network analysis to organize and understand the intricate world of Megatrends, Trends and other signals of change (including Weak Signals and Wildcards).
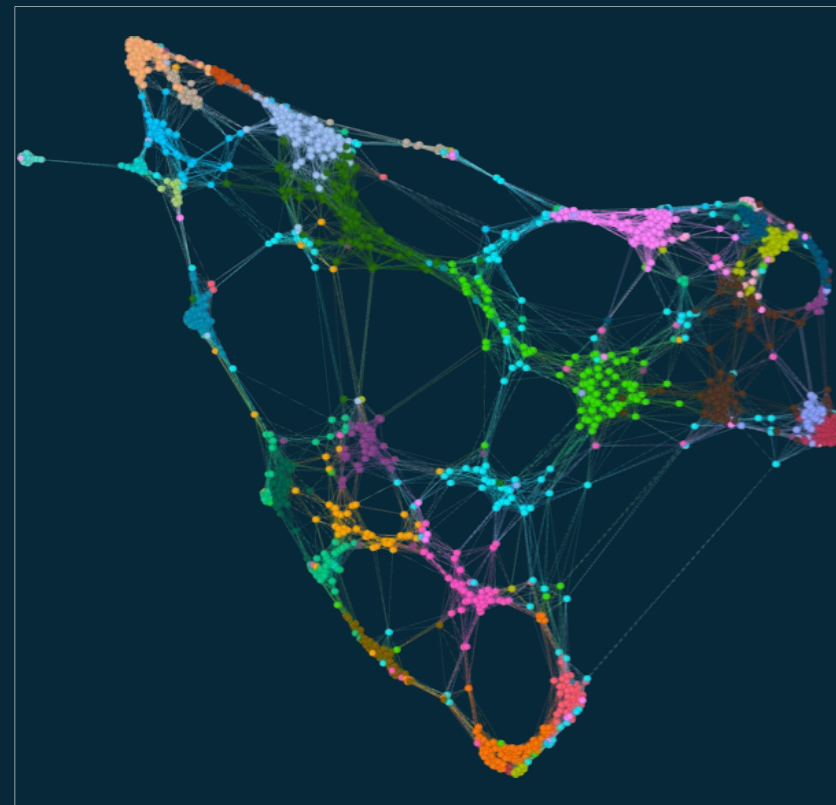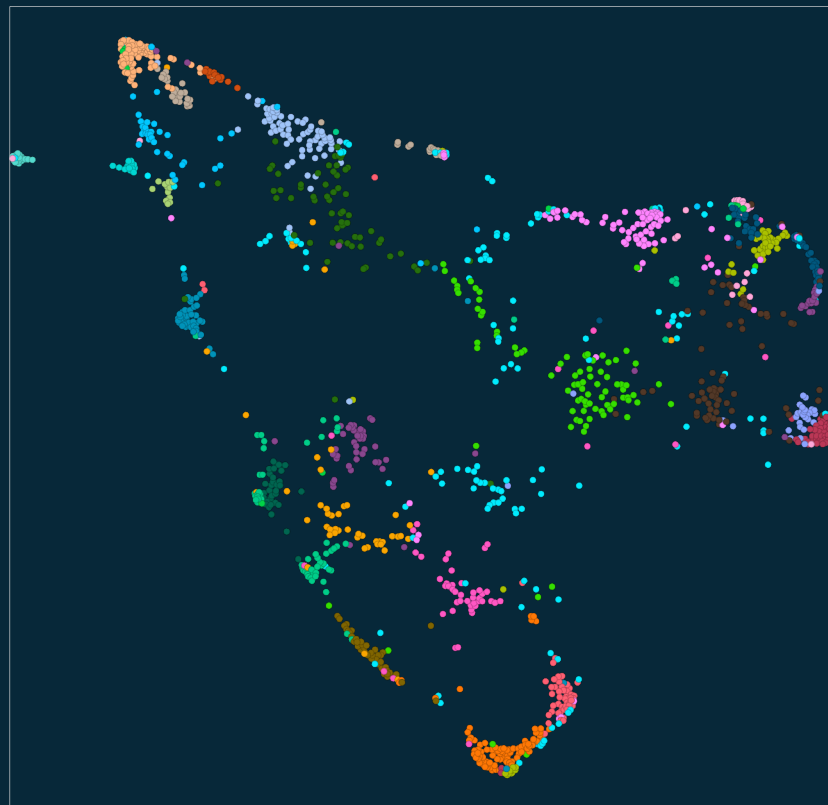
1341 Driving Forces

(Megatrends, Key Trends & Trends)

- Advanced Materials & Electronics Manufacturing
- Digital Innovations in Travel & Business
- Sustainable Environmental Practices
- Gender Rights & Social Equality
- Medical & Mental Health Care
- Consumer-Centric Business & Marketing
- Energy Infrastructure & Power Grids
- Water Sanitation & Environmental Health
- Digital Media & The Metaverse

- Electric Vehicles & Transportation
- Molecular Biology & Genetics
- Renewable Energy Sources
- Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
- Global Trade & Economic Relations
- Quantum Computing & Data Technologies
- Virtual & Augmented Reality Tech
- Hydrogen Energy & Carbon Solutions
- Agriculture, Nutrition & Food Production

- Nuclear Security & Military Proliferation
- Blockchain & Data Security
- Space Exploration & Satellite Tech
- Financial Systems & Banking
- Organizational Psychology & Employee Well-being
- Climate Change & Carbon Management
- 5G Networks & Communication Tech
- Economic Growth & Social Inequality
- Digital Media & Software Technologies
- International Politics & Migration

Clusters and Systems of Driving Forces

This approach allows us to analyze the database comprehensively, focusing our attention on specific clusters or ecosystems, and uncovering blind spots and potential biases that might skew attention towards certain themes while leaving others unnoticed.

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Digital Cluster

200 Driving Forces

Advanced Materials & Electronics Manufacturing

Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning

5G Networks & Communication Tech

Quantum Computing & Data Technologies

Blockchain & Data Security

Digital Media & Software Technologies

Digital Media & The Metaverse

Virtual & Augmented Reality Tech

- Advanced Materials & Electronics Manufacturing
- Digital Media & The Metaverse
- Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
- Quantum Computing & Data Technologies
- Virtual & Augmented Reality Tech
- Blockchain & Data Security
- 5G Networks & Communication Tech

Sustainability& Tech Energy

220 Driving Forces

Renewable Energy Sources

Hydrogen Energy & Carbon Solutions

Climate Change & Carbon Management

Sustainable Environmental Practices

- Sustainable Environmental Practices
- Renewable Energy Sources
- Hydrogen Energy & Carbon Solutions
- Climate Change & Carbon Management

Healthcare & Biotech Cluster

180 Driving Forces

Medical & Mental Health Care

Molecular Biology & Genetics

- Medical & Mental Health Care
- Molecular Biology & Genetics

Weak Signals & Wildcards

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The structured and curated layer of ORION Scanning Database includes not only Megatrends and Trends but also two other categories of driving forces - Weak Signals and Wildcards - that are important to scan and analyze when we want to explore the future.

In 1982 Ansoff defined Weak Signals as warnings (which can be found inside or outside an organisation), events or developments that due to being incomplete do not allow any type of estimation of their impacts and rigorous answers. He defined a Weak Signal as "A development about which only partial information is available at the moment when response must be launched (...)"

In the 1960s Herman Kahn emphasized the need to think the unthinkable, which is the question to ask when searching for Wildcards. These are events or developments that have a very low probability to occur, but that could have massive impacts on a particular system, organization, or society. We can use wildcards to help decision-makers anticipate and prepare for unexpected events.

ORION Discovery Hub

The third layer of ORION scanning database stands as a testament to our commitment to capturing the pulse of global changes. It is designed for the identification and classification of articles and diverse non-curated information, gathered from a wide array of sources. This dynamic repository is a treasure trove of emerging signals, offering insights into the evolving landscape of global trends and signals of change.

Key Features of our Discovery Hub:

Extensive Collection
Rapidly Expanding
Structured Yet Fluid
Non-Curated and Diverse
Systemic, Dynamic, and Networked

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MEGATRENDS & KEY TRENDS
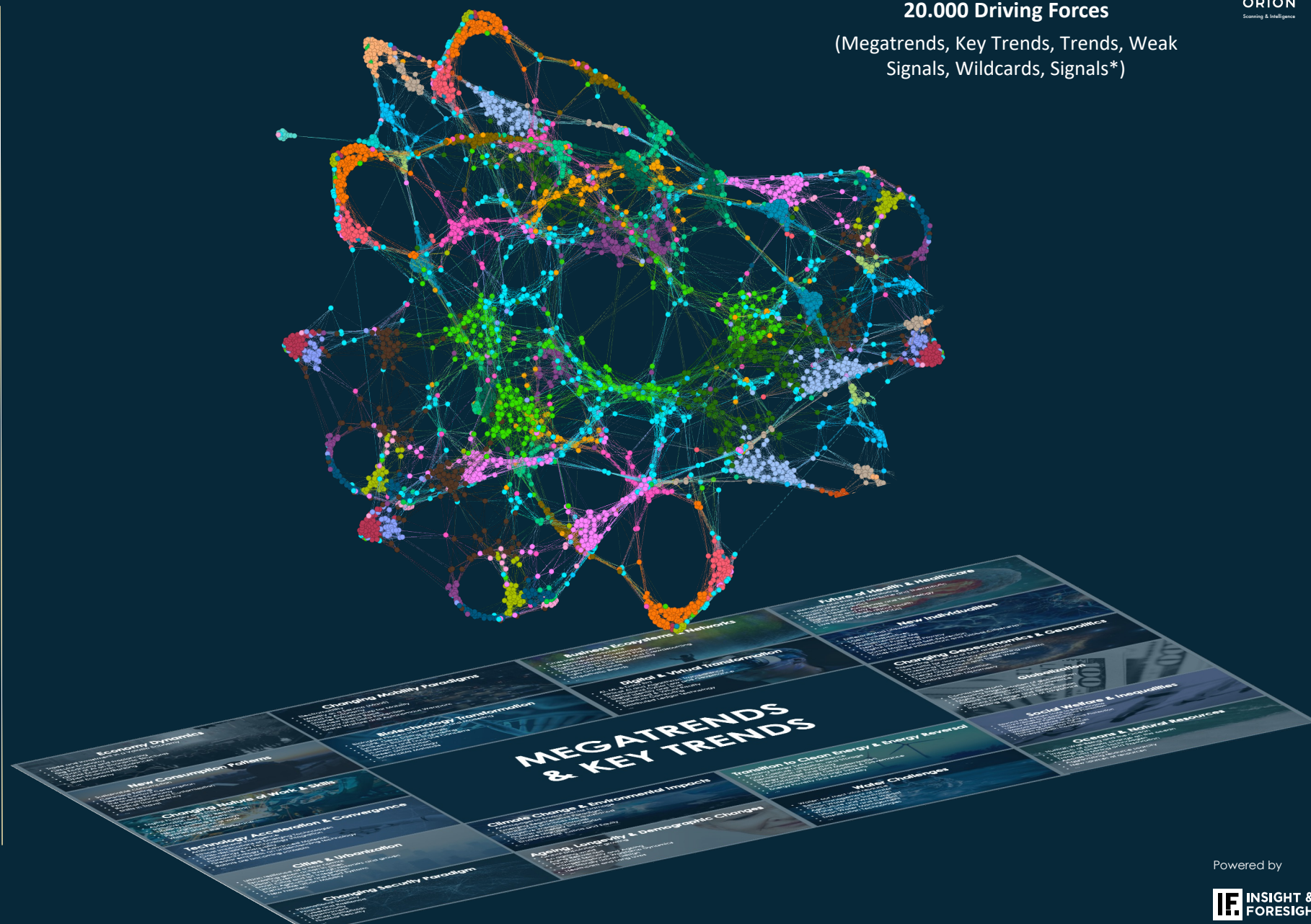
ORION.AI

ORION AI is designed as a strategic foresight and intelligence platform that synthesizes data from the comprehensive 'ORION Scanning & Intelligence' database and integrates this with the expansive knowledge of ORION AI in delivering relevant trends, insights and signals of the change, making it an invaluable tool for strategic foresight and intelligence.

The goal is to maintain a balance between depth of analysis and clarity in communication, ensuring that users receive valuable and understandable insights.

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ORION AI
Scanning & Intelligence
By IF Insight & Foresight

20 Megatrends that will shape our Future

20 Weak Signals to catch your attention

Make a Future Deep Dive on a specific topic

Present a list of 10 Wildcards

Message ORION AI...

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Scanning & Intelligence Sources

The information and insights collected are only as good as the sources from which they are derived.

ORION Scanning & Intelligence databases are a testament to our commitment to diversity, quality, and comprehensiveness. With a collection of over

1,600 sources

it serves as a wellspring of insights and emerging trends.

Expansive Variety: The database boasts an impressive array of over 1,600 unique sources, selected to provide a panoramic and diversified view of global developments.

Quality and Depth: Includes credible sources such as scientific magazines, think-tanks, universities or research centers, but also more fringe sources that allow us to capture emerging issues and early warnings.

Dynamic and Evolving: Our database is not static; it's a living repository that continuously evolves with the addition of new sources and insights.

Uncovering Hidden signals & patterns: The sheer variety and depth of our sources allow for the discovery of blind spots, uncover emerging themes and patterns, and provide a balanced and comprehensive view of the global landscape.

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Key Benefits

- Deepen the understanding of the driving forces affecting future development of a topic or strategy area

- Identify gaps in understanding and bring into focus new areas of research required to understand driving forces better

- Build consensus amongst internal teams and stakeholders about potential threats, risks, emerging issues, and opportunities

- Identify and make explicit some of the difficult strategic choices and trade-offs that may need to be made in the future

- Create robust and future-oriented and resilient strategies and foster organizational agility

- Mobilize people, teams and external stakeholders to action

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