To whom it may concern:

The issues associated with developing and deploying safe, secure, and trustworthy AI systems are not unique to AI systems. Therefore we submit that one should not look for an AI-specific solution to these issues.

The underlying problem is the absence of universal identity, authentication, data security, and trust layers at internet scale. The same foundational deficiencies undermine universal zero trust for supply chains, and are the root cause of today's trillion-dollar cybersecurity problems such as identity theft, data breaches, fakes and fraud.

Hushmesh Inc. is a Public Benefit cybersecurity startup developing a new cryptographic approach that provides global assurance of provenance, integrity, confidentiality and privacy for every bit, be it code or data, at internet scale.

Hushmesh is a <u>winner of the NATO DIANA Secure Information Sharing inaugural challenge</u>, and won another innovation award from a US agency (still confidential). We briefed the NIST 800-63 and the NCCoE Blockchain teams over the past few months, and we would appreciate an opportunity to brief the NIST AI team as well.

Given that submissions cannot be confidential, we are limited as to what we can disclose in this response to your request for information. For more information, please reach out to Manu Fontaine, Hushmesh Founder and CEO, manu@hushmesh.com

Thank you. Manu