Taming the AI Hydra: A Playbook for Architects and Leaders

95% of AI projects fail. That statistic isn't a scare tactic — it's a mirror. Most teams launch pilots, sprinkle prompts, and expect transformation. What they get is chaos. Why? Because AI doesn't arrive with scaffolding.

- **1. Back up everything**: AI drifts. Systems glitch. Always back up prompts, context, and state before trusting production.

- **2. Create anchors**: Persist contracts, memory, and checkpoints. Anchors keep continuity when the system resets.

- **3. Work in Agile loops**: Short commands, immediate feedback, quick iteration. Continuous testing isn't best practice — it's survival.

- **4. Apply GRASP and object-oriented discipline**: Treat GPTs like objects. Encapsulation, inheritance, and polymorphism keep boundaries clean and prevent bleed.

- **5. Remember the multiplier effect**: AI magnifies whatever you already are. Strong practices compound. Weak practices collapse faster.

Signal over spectacle. Without structure, AI is a multi-headed Hydra: impressive in parts, exhausting in practice.