

## **RSM France integrates the “Think First, Verify Always” protocol for responsible AI usage**

- **RSM France, the 6<sup>th</sup> largest global network in audit, accounting and consulting, integrates the “Think First, Verify Always” protocol for responsible AI usage.**
- **This protocol was developed and deployed by Yuksel Aydin, CISO and DPO of RSM France, as part of an initiative to integrate AI into RSM processes.**
- **The TFVA protocol is an operational method designed to strengthen human vigilance when interacting with artificial tools.**
- **As part of its strategy for controlled AI integration, RSM France has adopted this protocol, enabling all employees to apply it in their daily practices.**

**Paris, December 8, 2025**

Yuksel Aydin, Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and Data Protection Officer (DPO) of RSM France, as well as an independent researcher, has developed and deployed the “Think First, Verify Always” (TFVA) protocol – an operational method intended to enhance human vigilance when using artificial intelligence tools. This protocol was created within the framework of an initiative to integrate AI into RSM processes.

With the rapid evolution of AI technologies, methods of manipulation and deception targeting human cognition are becoming increasingly complex.

In response to this threat, Yuksel Aydin created the TFVA protocol, which is human-centric and positions the user as the first line of defense against AI-generated misinformation.

The protocol stems from a key observation: traditional cybersecurity strategies, focused on systems and technical safeguards, are no longer sufficient. Attacks now directly target user through phishing, social engineering, or artificially generated content. As a result the ability to think independently and verify information is essential.

**The “Think First, Verify Always” protocol**

Think First, Verify Always is based on two concrete principles :

- **Think First** : users are encouraged to engage in independent reasoning before accepting or acting on information generated by AI. This step helps limit cognitive biases and avoid automatically generated responses that could be misleading.
- **Verify Always** : encourages the systematic verification of results provided by AI, particularly when they have operational or decision-making impact. This may include consulting reliable sources, cross-checking data, or seeking human expertise to validate information. This step ensures that AI remains a decision-support tool rather than an exclusive source of trust.

These two steps are structured around five operational principles, grouped under the acronym AIJET : Awareness, Integrity, Judgment, Ethical Responsibility, Transparency.

### Demonstrated effectiveness

The effectiveness of the protocol has been proven: a randomized controlled trial involving **151 participants** showed that an intervention of just 3 minutes based on this protocol significantly improved cognitive performance in the face of digital risks. Trained participants demonstrated a **7.87% improvement** compared with the placebo group.

This level of effectiveness is remarkable considering the protocol's speed and simplicity. Unlike traditional security training - often long and complex - TFVA provides concrete behavioural guidelines that are easy to remember and apply immediately.

**Committed to the controlled adoption of AI**, RSM has now integrated the "Think First, Verify Always" protocol into its internal training and presentations. Employees learn to apply these two steps in their daily professional activities, thereby strengthening work quality and building trust in the use of AI. The method is designed to be immediately applicable et adaptable to all professions and experience levels.

[Discover the protocol](#)

### About RSM

RSM is the 6th largest global network for audit, consulting and accounting services, operating in more than 120 countries. It now brings together over 65,000 professionals and partners.

In France, RSM is a key player in audit, accounting and advisory services, with a presence in major regional economic hubs, including offices in Paris, Lyon, Chambéry–Grenoble–Albertville–Villefranche,

**Press release**

Montpellier–Nîmes–Uzès, Aix-en-Provence–Pélissane, Rennes, Nantes–Laval, Strasbourg–Colmar, La Réunion, Mayotte and Saint-Martin. RSM currently brings together more than 1,600 professionals across the country and intends to continue strengthening its regional footprint.

The group has structured its multidisciplinary offering around five business lines: Audit, Accounting, Advisory, HR–Social / Payroll, and Legal & Tax.

**Press:**

Domitille Masse

Communications

[domitille.masse@rsmfrance.fr](mailto:domitille.masse@rsmfrance.fr)