



SHIFT 2026 SPEAKER PROSPECTUS

NASHVILLE, TN
NOVEMBER 10 – 12, 2026



WHAT **SHIFT** IS – AND WHAT IT ISN'T

PURPOSE

SHIFT is Commvault's annual resilience conference and the sessions that resonate most aren't the ones that lead with product. They're the ones where a customer or partner takes the stage and tells a story the audience couldn't hear anywhere else.

SHIFT 2026 is built around one argument: **Resilience is no longer a backup conversation. It is an active operating discipline.** AI-speed threats are unavoidable in modern business, which means a continuous recovery plan is a necessity. That's the premise behind resilience operations (ResOps) – an industry framework Commvault introduced for treating cyber recovery as a continuous, instrumented, and measurable operating discipline rather than a reactive plan.

The sessions we're most excited to receive are the ones where your experience directly advances that conversation for the resilience leaders in the room.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Sessions grounded in customer stories, real data, live demonstrations, or a concrete framework tend to land best. The more directly your session connects to something the audience can act on, the stronger it is.

The strongest submissions share a few things. They're grounded in real experience – something you've lived, built, learned, or recovered from. They have a clear audience and a clear takeaway.

We organize every session around one of three jobs:

REFRAME | Change how the audience thinks about a problem

Instructor or multi-speaker sessions or panels. No product slides. Unifying data security, identity resilience, and cyber recovery—all from a single interface.

TEACH | Show forward-leaning teams how to operate differently

Case studies, panels, workshops. Interactive and operational.

PROVE | Demonstrate how Commvault Cloud delivers

Demos, deep-dives, labs, architecture sessions.

As you develop your submission, it helps to be able to answer one question clearly:

“What will the attendee do, think, or decide differently because of this session?”

THE SIX TRACKS

SHIFT is organized into six tracks – each one a conversation that resilience leaders are already having. The table below describes each track's **audience and what tends to make a submission stand out**.

01	02	03	04	05	06
TRACK 1 Cyber Recovery	TRACK 2 Identity Resilience	TRACK 3 Hybrid to Cloud	TRACK 4 AI & Data Activation	TRACK 5 The Forward Horizon	TRACK 6 Architecture & Integration
CISOs, IT leaders, recovery operators, architects	IT directors, backup and recovery admins, hybrid architects, CISOs	Hybrid enterprise leaders, cloud-native architects, SaaS operators	Security architects, recovery operators, data engineers, governance leaders	CISOs, CIOs, CTOs, CFOs – VP and above	Platform architects, senior engineers, partner solution architects, GSI technical teams
Cyber recovery has separated from backup as a discipline – with its own runbooks, metrics (Mean Time to Clean Recovery), and dedicated infrastructure. Sessions in this track explore what that means in practice: how organizations are building continuous recovery programs, what the board conversation looks like, how AI-speed threats are changing the calculus, and what it actually takes to recover cleanly under pressure. This is where the ResOps operating model is most directly expressed. The sessions that land best bring lived experience.	Identity security and identity resilience are two different operating models, and most organizations only have one of them. Sessions in this track explore the full range of that gap: from the ownership question (who actually gets identity back when it goes down?) to the technical runbooks, the anomaly detection layer, and what recovery looks like when AI agents hold credentials too. The strongest content has a customer IT leader who can share lessons learned.	The argument connecting this track is simple: one operating model, every environment. But the audiences are varied. Sessions can address any of these realities: organizations consolidating fragmented protection across hybrid environments, teams building cloud-native protection for AWS or GCP workloads, or those grappling with inherited SaaS and DevOps toolchains nobody planned for. The best submissions are specific about which problem they're solving. We'd be interested in sessions that speak to what a ResOps approach looks like for that environment.	Clean, classified, governed data isn't just a resilience outcome. It's the foundation AI initiatives depend on. Sessions in this track explore the full picture: how AI capabilities are changing recovery operations, how data classification and access governance connect to both operational readiness and board-level accountability, and how organizations are activating the data they already protect. If you've developed an agentic AI approach to managing resilience operations, this is where that story belongs. Sessions can range from strategic governance conversations to deep technical implementation.	This track is for the conversations CISOs, CIOs, and CFOs are having with their boards right now – frontier AI, post-quantum readiness, and sovereignty. Sessions can approach these from many angles: regulatory preparation, governance frameworks, what the resilience operating model looks like when the infrastructure being protected is itself AI. The format is intentionally smaller and more conversational than the other tracks. Sessions that bring an external or independent perspective – an analyst, a regulatory voice, a customer actively navigating these questions – tend to resonate most with this audience.	This track starts at 300-level and is built for the people who want to understand not just how the platform works but why it was built the way it was – adaptive fabric, MCP-native automation, recovery orchestration pipelines, and how it all connects in a real production environment. Sessions can cover platform architecture, integration design, partner build practices, or the technical decisions that make the ResOps operating model viable at scale. If you're building integrated solutions for shared customers, this is your home.

WHAT MAKES A STRONG SUBMISSION

Sessions that tend to be selected	Sessions that are harder to place
A customer or partner shares a story the audience couldn't hear anywhere else	A topic overview without a clear audience takeaway or action
One clear job – Reframe, Teach, or Prove – executed well	A session trying to do everything at once
Grounded in real experience: a recovery event, a deployment, a lessons-learned	Claims or assertions without supporting evidence, data, or demonstration
A title that tells an attendee exactly what they'll leave knowing	A title that reads like a product description
Co-presented sessions that bring two perspectives into the same room	Sessions that cover the same ground attendees can find in a vendor webinar
Track 5 submissions with external, independent, or regulatory voices	Track 5 submissions that are primarily product-focused
Track 6 submissions with genuine architecture or integration depth	Track 6 submissions that are better suited to a 100- or 200-level operational track

A Few Things to Know Before You Submit

Each session is assigned to one track. If your topic could fit more than one, choose the track whose audience most needs what you're bringing – and feel free to note the overlap in your submission. The review team will help place it correctly.

Sessions are tagged with a depth level: 100 (Leadership – strategic, no platform knowledge assumed), 200 (Intermediate – working familiarity assumed), or 300 (Advanced – production experience, for Track 6 only). Choosing the right level helps the right audience find you.

AI and ResOps run as threads through every track – they're lenses, not separate topics. You don't need to frame your session as an "AI session" for it to be relevant. If your work touches either, there's a natural place for it in the submission form.

Track 5 (The Forward Horizon) is intentionally small and focused on board-level conversations about frontier AI, post-quantum, and sovereignty. Sessions here tend to work best when they bring an external or independent voice – an analyst, a regulatory perspective, or a customer whose board is asking these questions now.

If you're unsure which track fits or what format makes most sense, reach out before submitting. We'd rather help you find the right home for a strong idea than have it land in the wrong place.



KEY DATES AND CONTACTS

Submission deadline

August 1, 2026

Selection decisions communicated by

August 31, 2026

Conference dates

November 10–12, 2026, Nashville, TN

Questions about track fit or submission criteria

shift@commvault.com

Questions about partner and customer speaker recruitment

Contact your Commvault account or partner team.



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