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## Dr. Adrian Thompson

### Chief AI & Innovation Officer

Dr. Adrian Thompson serves as Chief AI & Innovation Officer at Slingshot Aerospace, bringing more than 25 years of experience designing, validating, and deploying AI-driven systems across autonomous vehicles, aerospace, and defense. He is known for bridging advanced machine learning, embedded AI, and large-scale data systems with the rigorous safety, validation, and operational discipline required in mission-critical environments.

Prior to joining Slingshot, Adrian was Vice President of Systems & Safety Engineering at TuSimple, where he led a global organization responsible for AI safety, autonomy systems, and data validation for Class 8 autonomous trucking platforms. He oversaw large-scale simulation, hardware-in-the-loop testing, and AI validation frameworks supporting real-world deployment of autonomous vehicles, and helped define the architecture and safety roadmap for TuSimple's autonomy stack.

Earlier in his career, Adrian held senior leadership roles at Waymo and Uber Advanced Technologies Group, where he led teams responsible for AI/ML-driven behavior modeling, decision-making, system validation, and fleet-scale data integration across hundreds of autonomous vehicles operating in real-world conditions. His work focused on turning massive volumes of operational data into reliable, deployable AI systems.

Before entering the autonomy sector, Adrian led advanced sensing, data, and AI-enabled systems across aerospace and defense programs at L3 Technologies, GE Aviation, and United Technologies Research Center, spanning infrared sensors, propulsion systems, and intelligent control platforms for NASA, missile defense, and aviation applications.

Adrian holds a Ph.D. in Control and Embedded Systems from the University of Toronto and an MBA in Strategy and Analytic Finance from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.