

Purpose. Create a preapproved, time-bound space to run high-speed experiments without ad hoc sign-off.

What it captures. Five things a reviewer needs in order to preapprove the space: its boundaries, standing preapprovals, automatic stop rules, data and privacy guardrails, and owner and expiry.

When to use it. When an experiment touches policy, data, or customer experience and needs to move quickly within safe limits.

Common mistake. Chartering boundaries but no automatic stop rules, which turns preapproved into unsupervised. Project Swift's stop rules ended a failing test on a per-rule basis, not by argument.

Decision rule. A sandbox without an expiry date or at least one automatic stop rule is not a sandbox; it is an open-ended exception. Renew it deliberately or let it close.

Initiative or Project

Boundaries scope, sites, duration, which flow

Standing Preapprovals

Automatic Stop Rules at least one; each halts the test without debate

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Data and Privacy Guardrails

Owner

Expiry or Renewal Date required; renew deliberately or let it close