FDE BRIEF / FIELD WORKSHEET / 01

Make one decision inspectable.

Choose one decision from your production work. In twenty minutes, record what happened, what you owned, and what the evidence supports.

Write “unknown,” “not measured,” “planned,” or “not shareable” where needed. This is a case-study tool, not an employer hiring rubric.

Project / generic workflow

Decision I owned

My role and time boundary

What I am permitted to share

Five rows of evidence

Evidence row	My account	Evidence and limitation
1. Workflow / baseline Who did the work before? What comparison did you test?		
2. Own decision / scope What was yours? Which alternatives, collaborators, and approvals mattered?		
3. Evaluation / failure What failure changed the design? What remains unresolved?		
4. Operation / adoption Who ran it and handled exceptions? What use did you observe?		
5. Wider reuse What did another team actually adopt? How do you know?		

Weakest row

Next evidence to recover, with owner

Your two-minute account

The workflow was ____. I owned the decision to ____ because ____. I worked with ____ on ____. We observed ____. Another team used ____. The remaining limitation is ____. *Omit any part you cannot substantiate.*

Keeping the operator in the loop.

> **Entirely fictional.** This invented case demonstrates the structure. The deployment, pilot, artifacts, and second adopter below are not reader history, research findings, measured results, or evidence about an employer.

Workflow: support-case resolution. **Decision:** retain human approval before account writes. The engineer owned the technical boundary; the support lead owned operating policy; a platform engineer helped implement enforcement. Only a generic diagram and synthetic failure case would be shared.

Filled example: one decision and its limits

Evidence row	Example account	Example evidence and limitation
1. Workflow / baseline	Operators manually reviewed cases and changed accounts. The team compared that process with assisted review requiring approval.	Comparison plan and review notes. The pilot did not establish a measured time saving.
2. Own decision / scope	I retained approval for every write, aligned it with the support lead, and implemented enforcement with the platform engineer.	Decision record with alternatives and owners. The team's implementation is not solely my work.
3. Evaluation / failure	A stale policy caused an incorrect proposal. We added a synthetic test and checked that writes required approval.	Test design and observed result. One case cannot cover all policy conflicts; reviewers can also fail.
4. Operation / adoption	Operators used the workflow in a bounded pilot. The support lead owned exceptions and could pause assisted review.	Pilot records and handoff acceptance. They establish bounded use, not broad adoption or productivity gains.
5. Wider reuse	A second team used the failure-case template in its own review. It did not adopt the whole application.	That team's completed review record. One instance of reuse is not an organization-wide standard.

Weakest row: baseline.

The pilot owner could agree on a comparable review sample and measurement method before making a time-saving claim.

Share the decision, within your permissions.

Label synthetic examples and redrawn diagrams. Leave out customer identities, private prompts, credentials, internal logs, and proprietary code. An unavailable artifact is a limitation to disclose; it is not proof of the result.

Why these rows

The format is FDE Brief's synthesis, informed by the official Anthropic Staff FDE and OpenAI AI Infra FDE role descriptions, checked October 27, 2026. Role descriptions do not establish this worksheet as a hiring requirement or define a universal Principal bar.