

Cortex Research launches Vera 1.5, a UK-built frontier AI model taking on US AI giants

The launch marks a significant milestone for domestic AI development, positioning the UK as an emerging leader in secure, sovereign artificial intelligence.



Vera 1.5

London, United Kingdom Feb 5, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - [Cortex Research](#) today announced **Vera 1.5**, a frontier-scale AI model developed and operated entirely within the UK jurisdiction. Vera 1.5 is designed to deliver strong reasoning and software engineering performance while allowing organisations to retain clear legal and operational control over sensitive data.

The release reflects Cortex Research's approach to building high-performance AI systems that are aligned with sovereign infrastructure, security, and long-term deployability in UK regulated environments.

Sovereign infrastructure by design

Many organisations today rely on AI systems governed by foreign legal regimes, creating uncertainty around data access, regulatory compliance, and jurisdictional control.

Vera 1.5 is deployed exclusively on UK-based infrastructure and operates under UK legal protections. This allows enterprises and public-sector organisations to use advanced AI capabilities while maintaining clarity over where data is processed, stored, and governed.

The model is designed to support deployment in environments with strict regulatory and security requirements, including finance, healthcare, defence, and government.

Vera 1.5 is engineered for complex reasoning, software development, and agentic workflows. It demonstrates strong performance across a range of established technical benchmarks:

- **98.8% on τ^2 -Bench**, measuring agentic reasoning
- **94.8% on AIME 2025**, evaluating advanced mathematical reasoning
- **89.2% on LiveCodeBench**, assessing coding and algorithmic performance
- **85.9% on GPQA Diamond**, measuring scientific reasoning
- **72.1% on SWE-Bench Verified**, validating real-world software engineering capability

Together, these results place Vera 1.5 among the leading models across analytical and technical domains.

Enterprise deployment

Vera 1.5 is designed for deployment in settings where privacy, governance, and auditability are primary requirements.

Cortex Research is continuously pursuing industry-standard security and compliance certifications, including ISO 27001, Cyber Essentials Plus, and SOC 2 Type II, to support enterprise and public-sector adoption.

"Organisations should not have to choose between frontier-level AI capability and sovereign control " said Tudor Iustin, CEO and Founder of Cortex Research

"Vera 1.5 reflects our focus on building advanced AI systems that operate within trusted UK legal frameworks while delivering strong technical performance."

Cortex Research will continue to advance Vera through ongoing research into reasoning, reliability, and secure deployment architectures.

Media Contact

Cortex Research

*****@cortexresearch.ac.uk

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