“The Future Computed: AI and Manufacturing” is the next book in The Future Computed series, Microsoft’s ongoing contribution to the discussion on AI and its role in society.

The book features stories from industry leaders and policymakers from around the world, sharing insights into how customers can progress their AI journey. It also sets out suggestions about how countries can build competitive manufacturing sectors while ethically delivering AI and addressing short-term disruption.

Check out below for the six key learnings from the book.

The global launch for the book will take place mid-May. To pre-order your free copy, speak with a partner on progressing your AI journey, or to build an enabling policy landscape in your country, email: futcomp@microsoft.com

1. Manufacturers are already seizing and, in some cases, leading the industrial AI opportunity. Manufacturing is again leading the way in embracing new tech, using AI to optimize processes and deliver new products.

2. AI is a journey. Microsoft has developed a guide to help companies begin and progress their AI initiatives.

3. Central to digital transformation is cultural transformation. To realize the value of AI, the entire organization must work to create a seamless information supply chain inside companies.

4. Those closest to the workforce are the most sensitive and attentive to AI’s impact on it. Their focus is to create a better company and more opportunity.

5. But there will be disruption and dislocation. Jobs in manufacturing will require new skills, and short-term disruption must be addressed. We need a new partnership for workforce development with technology providers, industry, government, learning institutions, and labor organizations.

6. Next-generation policies and laws are needed for next-generation technologies. New rules and new laws are needed to build trust in technology and guide responsible innovation.