

Local vs. Cloud Agents

Plainly explained

What is a "local agent," actually?

It's software that lives and runs entirely on your own Mac — the same way Word or Excel does. There's no autonomous bot out on the internet acting on its own, and no company sits in the middle collecting what you type. When you run a search or generate a report, the work happens on your machine, not someone else's server.

How is that different from a "cloud agent"?

Most AI research and BD tools run on someone else's infrastructure. To use them, whatever you type in — a target name, an unpublished idea, a disclosure — travels off your computer to that company's servers to be processed. Even with a good privacy policy, that data has still left your hands.

Why does that matter for my work?

If you're evaluating an early asset, a licensing opportunity, or an idea you haven't disclosed yet, the safest version of that evaluation is one where nobody else ever sees the question. A local agent lets you search, compare, and generate a full report without any of that information leaving your computer — private by how it's built, not by a policy someone else has to honor.

Is the data real, or is this an AI guessing?

Real. OniX Agents are built to work from actual sourced records — patents that were really filed, papers that were really published, filings that really exist — not text a model generates by predicting what sounds plausible. Every result traces back to a real, checkable source, not a guess dressed up to look confident.

Does "local" mean I'm getting less than a cloud tool would give me?

No — it's the same breadth of sources (patents, literature, regulatory filings, and more), it's just processed on your own hardware instead of someone else's. What changes is where the work happens, not how much ground it covers.

What about cost?

Cloud platforms typically charge ongoing subscription and per-seat fees that scale with how much you use them and how many people need access — and usage often keeps climbing as your team grows. A local agent runs on hardware you already own, so there's no recurring cloud infrastructure built into the cost, and no surprise usage-based billing as you rely on it more.

I've used other AI agents and honestly wasn't sure I could trust them. Is that fair?

Completely fair, and you're not alone — a lot of people picture "agent" as something semi-autonomous acting on its own, which understandably feels uneasy. OniX Agents don't work that way. They only do what you ask, when you ask it, and nothing more. Each one is signed and notarized by



Apple, so your own Mac verifies it's legitimate software before it's even allowed to run — the same check Apple applies to any trusted application.

Where does this leave us?

Same real data, same depth of search, same full reports you'd expect from an enterprise cloud platform — just running on your own computer, under your control, and never leaving it. That's the whole difference, and it's the one that matters most when what you're evaluating hasn't been shared with anyone yet.