BIG DATA DUBLIN
17th June 2025

bigdatabelfast.com

Microsoft Ireland,
One Microsoft Place, South
County Business Park,
Dublin 18

09:00 – 10:00 | Registration & Networking Breakfast

Light breakfast and informal networking in the Microsoft atrium.

10:00 – 10:15 | Opening Remarks (5 minutes each)

Host: Clare Hillis, Partner, Director, Microsoft Ireland
Scott Fischaber, CEO, Analytics Engines
Neil Bowden, Business Development Manager, Dell Technologies

10:15 – 10:40 | Fireside Chat: Scaling Intelligence – DCC & Microsoft on the AI Journey

Host: Raymond Mulligan, Azure and Data & AI Specialist Lead, Microsoft Ireland
Mike Webster, Head of Digital Innovation, DCC PLC

Session Overview:
In this insightful fireside chat, Mike Webster, CEO of DCC Ireland, joins leaders from Microsoft to discuss their collaborative journey of implementing advanced AI solutions at enterprise scale. From deploying Microsoft Fabric to navigating data integration, governance, and adoption across a complex multinational business, the conversation will highlight both the strategic opportunities and technical challenges of AI transformation. Hear first-hand how DCC is leveraging cutting-edge tools to drive innovation, and gain a unique perspective from Microsoft on supporting large-scale AI implementations in highly diversified and dynamic organisations like DCC.

10:40 – 11:05 | Fireside Chat: Powering AI at Scale: From the edge of the cloud

Host: Clare Hillis, Partner, Director, Microsoft Ireland
Neil Bowden, Business Development Director, Dell Technologies

Session Overview:
In this fireside chat, Neil Bowden, Business Dev Manager for AI of Data Analytics & AI at Dell Technologies, explores how organisations can build the infrastructure needed to support AI at scale — from edge computing to cloud ecosystems. As data volumes explode and real-time decision-making becomes critical, Neil will unpack how businesses are deploying AI closer to where data is generated, while ensuring seamless integration with powerful cloud platforms. Expect insights into infrastructure strategy, hybrid architectures, and the real-world challenges of enabling fast, secure, and scalable AI across industries.

11:05 – 11:30 | AI in Action: Driving Intelligence at Scale with First Derivative an EPAM Company

Host: Anna Horner, Options Technology
Borja Ochoa Montoya, Global Head of Data, First Derivative
Tom Zglobicki, VP, Data Analytics Consulting at EPAM
Mark Barr, Chief Engineer, First Derivative

Session Overview:
In this dynamic session, senior leaders from First Derivative, an EPAM Company, will showcase how they are harnessing the power of AI to solve complex challenges and unlock real business value. From capital markets to enterprise transformation, discover how these global technology leaders are designing and deploying scalable AI solutions that deliver speed, accuracy, and competitive advantage. With deep expertise in data science, engineering, and domain-specific strategy, this conversation will explore practical applications, common pitfalls, and emerging trends at the intersection of AI, big data, and industry innovation — offering valuable insights for business and technology leaders alike.

11:30 – 11:50 | Mid-Morning Coffee Break

11:50 – 12:10 | Panel: Smarter Decisions: Using AI to reshape Publishing

Eni Oduntan, Data Scientist, Analytics Engines
Darren Ryan, CEO Deanta
Seán Halvey, Data Scientist, Analytics Engines
Patrick Shafe, Commercial Director, Deanta Global

Session Overview:
The publishing industry is undergoing a quiet revolution — and AI is at its heart. In this session, Deanta and Analytics Engines will explore how they're collaborating to apply advanced AI and machine learning techniques to transform how the publishing industry is serviced. From intelligent metadata enrichment to automated indexing, discover how complex data workflows and intelligent systems are enabling faster, smarter decision-making. This session offers a rare look into the future of publishing, where AI not only streamlines operations but fundamentally reshapes how content is published and distributed.

12:10 – 12:35 | From Belfast to the World: Scaling Global Tech from Northern Ireland

Host: Dr Aislinn Rice, Director, Analytics Engines
Stephen McKeown, Vice President, Allstate and MD, Allstate NI

Session Overview:
Join us for an exclusive fireside chat with Stephen McKeown VP of Allstate and MD of Allstate NI. This conversation promises a rare behind-the-scenes look at how Stephen has scaled a high-growth business on the global stage. We'll explore how he has driven innovation in AI and cybersecurity, navigated complex technological change, and built a culture of continuous transformation. Expect candid insights into leadership at the cutting edge of tech, the challenges of securing digital infrastructure at scale, and what it takes to stay ahead in an era of rapid disruption.

12:35 – 12:55 | Bottom-Up Meets Top-Down: The Northern Ireland AI Innovation Convergence

Host: Laura McClean, Senior Tech Executive
David Crozier, CEO, Artificial Intelligence Collaboration Centre
Rob Grundy, Director of Innovation Partnerships, Catalyst
Stephen McCabe, Interim CEO, Momentum One Zero

Session Overview:
In this session, AICC, Momentum One Zero, and Catalyst explore how Northern Ireland is cultivating a world-class AI ecosystem that bridges cutting-edge research with real-world business impact. Backed by over £86M in investment and supported by two academic giants — Ulster University and Queen's University Belfast — this collaboration is fuelling innovation across borders. With growing all-island and US partnerships, the initiative is unlocking new opportunities for industry, accelerating digital transformation, and strengthening the economy. Discover how these organisations are shaping the future of AI and driving meaningful change from the lab to the boardroom — and beyond.

12:55 – 13:15 | Fireside Chat: Moneyball 2.0: Using AI to Scout and Recruit Elite Athletes

Host: Nigel Cunningham, Lead, Microsoft NI
Gareth Quinn, MD EMEA, Teamworks

Session Overview:
What if data could spot the next superstar before anyone else? In this session, we hear from Gareth Quinn, serial entrepreneur and General Manager, EMEA at Teamworks, the global leader in sports tech. From his early startup journey to his current work driving AI-led innovation in elite sport, Gareth will share how Teamworks is transforming how top teams identify, evaluate, and recruit talent. Learn how advanced analytics and machine learning are reshaping scouting by turning performance data into strategic insight — and why the future of elite sport may depend as much on algorithms as athleticism.

13:15 – 13:50 | Networking Lunch Break (45 mins)

13:50 – 14:15 | Fireside Chat: What Can We Expect for the Future of AI and How It Will Impact How We Work and Live

Host: Roisin Finnegan, Senior Tech Executive
Scott Fischaber, CEO, Analytics Engines
Kieran McCorry, National Technology Officer, Microsoft Ireland
Paul Hill, Managing Director, DailyPay NI

Session Overview:
As AI continues to evolve at a rapid pace, this keynote session will explore the profound transformations it is set to bring across every aspect of work and life. From redefining job roles and decision-making to reshaping industries and everyday experiences, we'll examine what the future may hold — and the choices we face as we shape it. This session will also address big-picture questions around ethics, trust, regulation, and societal impact, offering insights from leading thinkers on how AI can be a force for good in a complex, fast-changing world

14:15 – 14:35 | Smart Planning: How AI is Reinventing Public Consultation

Theresa Cloonan, Head of Information Systems, Dún Laoghaire & Rathdown County Council
Callum Mullan-Young, Data Scientist, Analytics Engines
Michael Casement, Account Technology Strategist, Microsoft

Session Overview:
Creating an AI tool for local government:
Discover how cutting-edge AI is revolutionising local government consultations! This presentation unveils an innovative tool that transforms public planning processes. By harnessing artificial intelligence to streamline feedback analysis and automate time-consuming tasks while professional planners remain firmly in control, combining AI-powered insights with their irreplaceable expertise and judgment. This isn't about replacing human wisdom—it's about supercharging it.

14:35 – 15:00 | Panel: Trust, Risk & AI: Navigating Innovation in Regulated Industries

Host: Lucinda Creighton, CEO, Vulcan Consulting
Kevin McGuinness, Head of Global Solutions, Napier AI
Mark Barr, Chief Engineer, First Derivative
Shane Ryan (President of Irish Pharmaceutical Healthcare Association IPHA and General Manager of Takeda Ireland

Session Overview:
As AI reshapes industries at speed, highly regulated sectors like capital markets and pharmaceuticals face a unique dilemma: how to embrace innovation without compromising trust, safety, or compliance. This session will explore the complex tension between accelerating AI adoption and maintaining rigorous oversight. From algorithmic bias in financial modelling to explainability challenges in drug discovery, we'll dive into the regulatory grey areas emerging in the wake of AI disruption. Join leading experts as they discuss how organisations in capital markets and big pharma are navigating risk, building accountable systems, and setting new standards for responsible AI governance.

15:00 – 15:05 | Closing Remarks

15:05 - 16:00 | Networking Reception

Drinks and post-conference networking

» Industry Stakeholders