Data Platform Summit 2017

Democratizing the Data Platform

By DataPlatformGeeks (erstwhile SQLServerGeeks)
August 17 – 19, 2017 (Pre-con on August 16)
Bangalore, India

Summit Report

DPG: www.DataPlatformGeeks.com
Twitter: @SQLServerGeeks
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Quick Facts

Theme: Democratizing The Data Platform
Venue: NIMHANS Convention Center
City: Bangalore
Attendance: 2700+ (Approximately 900 each day)
Companies: 250+
Speakers: 80+
Total Sessions: 200
Breakout: 80
Chalk-Talks: 60
Open-Talks: 60
Tracks: 7
Chief Guest: Shri Priyank Kharge, Honorable Minister of Information Technology, Karnataka
Keynote: Narendra Bhandari (GM, DX, Microsoft India)
Sponsors: Microsoft, HPE, SanDisk, Redgate, Quest, ScaleArc

Quick Links

Data Platform Summit Website

DPS 2017 Photos

DPS 2017 Videos

DPS 2017 Testimonials

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Special Thanks to Sponsors
Prologue

Data Platform Summit 2017 (hereinafter DPS 2017) is the third edition of Asia’s largest 3-day data & analytics learning event from DataPlatformGeeks community. The event embarked on its successful journey on August 17th and concluded on August 19th. The summit was a grand success with participation from 200+ companies, 900+ delegates per day and speakers from 16 countries. The 3-day summit was held at NIMHANS Convention Center in the silicon city of India, Bangalore (Karnataka State). DPS 2017 was inaugurated by the Hon. IT Minister of Government of Karnataka, Shri Priyank Kharge. On August 16th, a day before the summit, eight full-day training sessions were held as part of DPS 2017 Pre-Conference Seminars.

DPS 2017 Team

The success of DPS 2017 can be attributed to the continuous urge of the Indian data & analytics professionals to learn the best from the best, and to the inhuman strength & tenacity of a 90-odd squad that belonged to DataPlatformGeeks & eDominer Systems. The 90-member team that supported DPS 2017 include full-time employees of eDominer Systems, DataPlatformGeeks (DPG) core team members and the extra-ordinary young volunteers handpicked from leading colleges in Bangalore.

DPG Core Team
Amit Bansal
Manohar Punna
Prince Rastogi
Sandip Pani
Avanish Panchal
Surbhi Agarwal
Yogeshwar Phull

eDominer DPS Team
Dr. Deepti Pillai
Mamita Sinha
Satya Ramesh
Merlin Paul
Upasana Priya
Akshata Bawiskar
Lijo Matthew
Pooja, Sarala, Debadiyta, Shrutu, Sowmya, Sahana, Mohit, Eshwar, Tarakanth

Chief Guest
Mr. Priyank Kharge, Hon. IT Minister of Government of Karnataka was the Chief Guest at DPS 2017. He delivered an intriguing talk on how the government leverages analytics in its day-to-day affairs. He emphasized the role of summits like DPS 2017 in putting emerging technologies in the forefront and in policy making. Apart from applauding DataPlatformGeeks’ community work, he deeply appreciated DPGs contributions towards social causes under eDominer’s NGO, Mahadevi Foundation.

Keynote
Mr. Narendra Bhandari, General Manager, Developer Experience, Microsoft India, delivered a 45-minute keynote on how Microsoft Data Platform enables an organization to unleash the power of the data. He described how Microsoft Data Platform solutions release the potential hidden in data – whether it is on-premise, in the cloud, or at the edge – and reveal insights and opportunities to transform businesses.

Opening Address
Mr. Amit Bansal, Chairperson, Data Platform Summit, enlightened the audience on how eDominer Systems & DataPlatformGeeks fulfilled its last year’s promise of supporting six NGOs (charitable institutions/orphanages in India) from the summit revenue. Audience were delighted to realize that they too would be indirectly contributing to this noble cause.

Welcome Note
Mr. Manohar Punna, President, DataPlatformGeeks, welcomed the dignitaries & the community to DPS 2017. He spoke about the inspiring journey of DataPlatformGeeks – how a humble beginning in 2004 grew into the largest data & analytics community in India. DataPlatformGeeks (erstwhile SQLServerGeeks) has a massive following powered by countless free events and webinars that are delivered round the year imparting free education to data & analytics professionals.
Quotes & Testimonials

“A platform like DPS 2017, and of this scale, gives disruptors and thought-leaders an opportunity to meet and come-up with out-of-the-box ideas about emerging technologies and tell the Government of Karnataka, what the private sector wants...progressive policy making of the Government should also be driven by such summits...the Government wants a perfect ecosystem of Ideation-Innovation-Invention, and conferences like DPS 2017 will help in this objectives.”

Priyank Kharge, Hon. IT Minister of Government of Karnataka

“What makes DPS 2017 all the more “greater” than others is the fact that first time I am seeing a community-driven event of this magnitude – be it the line of speakers, the quality of execution, right down to the execution on the floor was truly ‘world-standard’. It was such a brilliant event, and Amit has reset the bar this time to a new high, and this will surely make others push their efforts…”

Deepak Rajendran, Community Programme Manager, Microsoft

“It has been an amazing journey all these three days... a wide variety of topics were covered... I have sent my teams to many summits, but DPS 2017 is simply adding Summit 1 + Summit 2 +... and the list goes on... great speakers, good crowd... we can see a summit of this magnitude in other countries only... not in India... I can see that people are facing challenges as to attend which sessions, as all are so very important & good...”

Dr. Sheela Siddappa, Global Delivery Head (Analytics Services), Bosch

“Wonderful experience... a very good opportunity to learn about Microsoft technologies and other products... and meeting all great speakers, sessions were very helpful in terms of knowledge-gain... I am going to implement these in our POCs... we had some hiccups in our project and with the inputs I got from DPS 2017, I am going to fix those POC...”

Arunkumar Tata Ramantha, Manager – Technology (Big Data), Sapient

“Sessions at DPS 2017 were extremely good with thought provoking ideas... content & quality of speakers are excellent at DPS 2017... Multiple tracks help us to understand how different technologies can solve our problems... I am more excited about Open-Talks & Chalk-Talks as they will give an opportunity to connect with SMEs... I can see all delegates here are taking advantage of it...”

Bala Peddigari, Technology Head – Digital Initiatives, TCS

“Excellent conference... Sessions were very interesting, a lot of good case studies were shared... I look forward to come next year.”

Manu Mahajan, Technology Architect (Power BI), Infosys

“First time I am attending DPS 2017... my experience is really good... a lot of knowledge I am taking back to my company & my projects, gave me a good time to network, get insights from others to solve my project related problems... DataPlatformGeeks should keep doing this every year without fail...”

Prasad Omanwar, Project Manager, Mphasis
“I cannot find a better platform than DPS to learn and share about what is happening around Microsoft SQL Server and related technologies. Topics cover length and breadth, one can imagine from best of the industry. I am glad Amit and team were able to run this very successfully for two consecutive years and I thank all the speakers who are contributing, this truly helps in taking the talent in India to next level.”

Lakshmana Kumar, Director, Database Administration, S&P Global Market Intelligence

“Every interaction is an opportunity to learn. This summit helped us to interact with industry masters, Technology experts & Cross-company peers, creating a forum to learn the future, infinite interactions. Would love to come back every year!”

Sivasubramanian Chandrasekar, Global Product Lead (Microsoft SQL Server), IBM

“The sound of “data” – a great inauguration of the summit followed by an interesting keynote from Microsoft. This event has been doing a great job in bringing technology and experts closer to its consumers and followers.”

Arijit Sengupta, Manager (Database & Middleware), Thomson Reuters

“I am glad that we took the right decision to send our folks to the summit... it was worth the time and money... I think this summit is one of its kind and a must attend for every techie...”

Gaurav Mathur, SME, IBM
Participation @ DPS 2017

DPS 2017 recorded the presence of 877 unique attendees including 67 top leadership members from 200+ companies on day one. Even though DPS 2017 dates fell in between a national holiday & an important festival holiday, the summit witnessed extraordinary zest & participation. Being aware of the technical learning experience from the previous summits, delegates had no qualms choosing DPS 2017 over a short vacation. The summit will also be remembered for the momentary surprise of the IT Minister of Karnataka on seeing a large crowd queuing-up for registration early morning at 8.00 am on day one.

Top Leadership Participation & Round Table with the IT Minister

At DPS 2017 venue, the IT Minister of Karnataka spent more than two hours, when originally his schedule was only an-hour stop at the summit on August 17th. This gave the top leaders from the industry a good opportunity to have a round table and closed-group interaction with the IT Minister. The IT Minister thanked the top leaders and applauded the efforts of DataPlatformGeeks. He was truly overwhelmed. The IT Minister promised all support from his ministry for next year’s summit, Data Platform Summit 2018.

Top Leaders @ DPS 2017
Delegate Profiles

Data Platform Summit 2017 saw a host of delegates at all levels of designation. While Database Administrators, Engineers, Developers, Consultants, Analysts, Architects and Managers were interested in attending the technical sessions based on their profile, roles & projects, Project Managers, Chief Architects, Chief Data Scientists, AVPs, VPs & CTOs were interested in networking with the senior crowd. Marketing & Sales Heads of some companies were also seen discussing with Microsoft experts, Alliance Heads & sponsors.

Leading Up To DPS 2017

While reaching out to existing community members was important, DPS 2017 core team envisaged a detailed plan to reach out to newer companies & enlarge its existing community membership. Towards this objective, DataPlatformGeeks (DPG) team organized eighteen Data Platform Day (DPD) events in various parts of India in run up to the event touching more than 2500 Data & Analytics professionals.

Geographic Distribution

DPS 2017 witnessed delegates from major cities across India. Even though, DPS 2017 was predominantly targeted towards data & analytics professionals in India, the summit witnessed participation from neighbouring countries too.
Industries/Verticals

DPS 2017 witnessed participation from major industries including IT/ITES, BFSI, Manufacturing, Retail, Healthcare, Energy, Utilities, Public Sector & more.
DPS 2017 Technology Focus

DPS 2017 Tracks

DPS 2017 covered the following technology tracks:

- Data Science (including Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence)
- Business Intelligence & Analytics
- Cloud, IoT & NoSQL
- Big Data & VLDBs
- Database Administration
- Database Development

Technology Coverage

DPS 2017 covered many innovations, technologies & subjects from Microsoft Data Stack and a couple of open source technologies.
Pre-Conference Seminars Topics

- Azure Infrastructure by Denny Cherry
- Advanced Analytics with R, Microsoft SQL Server, Power BI, and Azure Machine Learning by Chris Testa O’Neil
- Zero to Microsoft Power BI by Peter Myers
- Plan-first Querying – Writing Queries to Suit the Optimizer by Rob Farley
- Building a Database DevOps Process by Stève Jones
- Analysis of Your SQL Server Like a PRO by Uwe Ricken
- In-Memory Technologies in SQL Server – From 0 to Operational Analytics Master by Andreas Wolter
- Data Modeling and Data Visualization by Sivakumar Harinath

Learning @ DPS 2017

- **Breakout Sessions**: DPS 2017 predominantly had breakout sessions spread across the 3-days of the summit.

- **Open-Talks**: A concept adopted during last year’s summit, in Open-Talks, delegates are encouraged to talk openly about their project with the experts, with the objective to get instant solutions/knowledge on how to solve it. Open-talks are typically 30 minutes free-flowing discussion on a specific topic. No laptops, no PPTs, no demos – only discussion and Q & A. Topics are pre-decided. The objective is to make the sessions at the Summit, more interactive & result-oriented.

- **Chalk-Talks**: The concept of Chalk-Talk was introduced during SSGAS 2016. Needless to say, it became an instant hit with the audience. In this learning format, data experts write/draw/illustrate the knowledge that they intend to share, rather than follow pre-designed slides. Like Open-Talks, Chalk-Talks are 30-minute sessions focusing on conceptual & architectural understanding, that too with only a whiteboard and a marker.

- **Hands-On-Labs**: The objective of introducing HOLs was to make sure that delegates could also practically learn hundreds of topics in SQL Server & other MS data technologies during the 3-day summit. This learning delivery format was powered using SQLMaestros hand on labs.

- **Group Discussions**: At DPS 2017, the concept of group discussion was introduced so that delegates can learn by discussing with Microsoft & other experts and with delegates from other companies/verticals.

- **Ask-The-Experts**: DPS 2017 also gave the delegates an opportunity to ask open-ended questions to a panel of experts from Microsoft, MCM & MVP community. Delegates came in group to discuss their project issues with Microsoft & other experts.

- **Scheduled Interactions**: DPS 2017 also offered its delegates a dedicated time to spend with some select speakers in a way never seen before.
Epilogue

Data Platform Summit 2017 was the largest and the only Data Platform Conference in Asia focusing on Microsoft Data Technologies + Open Source – a full 3-day conference with more than 200+ Breakout Sessions, Open-Talks & Chalk-Talks and deep dive pre-con sessions on SQL Server, BI & Analytics, Cloud, Big Data & related technologies. This was a unique conference comprising of multiple tracks on Database Administration, Database Development, Business Intelligence, Cloud & Big Data. There was a special focus on Machine Learning & AI. The sessions scale out on knowledge level from 200 through 500 from data experts around the globe. The conference was for the Data/Analytics community to learn new skills and technologies and enhance existing skills. The conference also hosted MCMs, MVPs and Microsoft experts. Hundreds of attendees had the unique opportunity to network with their peers/colleagues, Microsoft experts, global speakers and with Sponsors and Exhibitors.

80+ speakers from across the globe were the stalwarts at Data Platform Summit 2017. SQL Product Team members from Microsoft Corp, Redmond (USA) flew down to Bangalore to deliver advanced sessions on latest technologies. Apart from Program Managers & Data Architects, the conference also witnessed full participation from SQL CAT & TIGER team of Microsoft (Redmond). Speakers travelled from 16+ nations. It was the first time, India witnessed a unique gathering of 10 Microsoft Certified Masters under one roof for three full days.
Annexure – 1: Delegate Profiles @ DPS 2017

Advance Database Administrator
AM
Analyst IT
Analytics Manager
Analytics Product Manager
Android Developer
App architect - DB
Application Development Team Lead
Application Engineer
Apps Programmer Analyst Architect
Architect - Cloud Services
Assistant Consultant
Assistant Manager
Assistant Manager - Analytics
Assistant Vice President
Associate Consultant
Associate database engineer
Associate Dev manager
Associate Director
Associate Director Technology
Associate General Manager
Associate Manager
Associate Manager Databases
Associate Product Manager
Associate Tech lead
Associate Technical Architect
Associate Technical Lead
Associate Vice President
Associative Software Engineer BI Architect
BI Consultant
Bigdata Developer
Business Analyst
Business Intelligence Developer CEO
Chief Architect
Chief Data Scientist
Chief Manager IT
CIO
Cloud Platforms CoE Manager
CLOUD SOLUTIONS ARCHITECT
Co-Founder
Consultant
Consultant – Advanced Analytics
Consulting Engineer
CTO
Data Analytics Architect

Data Platform Architect
Data Scientist
Database Administrator
DATABASE ARCH.
Database Architect
Database Consultant
DATABASE DEVELOPER
Database Lead
Database Specialist
Database Supervisor
DB Administrator
DB Architect
DBA
DBA Manager
DBA Team Leader
Delivery Exec
Delivery Manager
Department Head
Deputy General Manager
Deputy General Manager - IT
DEPUTY MANAGER
Deputy Manager - IT
Deputy Sr Manager
Dev Manager
Developer
Director
Director - Technology
Director- IT Leadership
Director, Data and Business Intelligence
DWH Developer(Lead)
Engineer
Engineering Manager
Enterprise Architect
ETL Developer
Executive Director
Expert Database Administrator
Expert Quality Engineer
Expert Software Engineer
Global Head - Microsoft Cloud Business
GM - Corporate Strategy & Business Controls (IT)
Head - Business Analytics
Head - India Sales
Head of Operations
ICT Database & Backup Support
Implementation Specialist
IND IT Support Specialist II

India IT Tech Ops Lead
India Head for QA
IT Analyst
IT CONSULTANT
IT Director
IT Engineer
IT Manager
Junior Programmer Analyst
Lead - Database
Lead - People Operations
Lead Analyst
Lead Application Administrator
Lead BL
Lead BL developer
Lead Data Architect
Lead Database Administrator
Lead database developer
lead database engineer
Lead Engineer
Lead Software Developer
Lead Software Engineer
Lead SW Engineer
Management Trainee
Manager
Manager - Analytics and Information Management Services
Manager - Data Design & Build
Manager - Database
Manager - Information Platforms
Manager - IT
Manager - Reporting
Manager - System Administration
Manager Compliance
Manager - IT infrastructure operations
Manager IV
Manager Software Development
Manager, IT Applications
Manager, Software Engineering Manager-7B
Manager-Technology
MANAGING DIRECTOR
Module Lead
MSBI Lead
PA/SSE
PMTS
Practice Director
Practice Head
Annexure – 2: Speakers @ DPS 2017

Abhishek Narain (Microsoft)
Ajay Jagannathan (Microsoft)
Akbar Farishta (Microsoft)
Amit Banerjee (Microsoft)
Amit Bansal
Amit Khandelwal (Microsoft)
André Melancia
Andreas Wolter
Anupama Natarajan
Avanish Panchal
Avinash Kumar
Chris Testa-O Neill (Microsoft)
Deepak Rajendran (Microsoft)
Deepthi Anantharam (Microsoft)
Deepti Pillai
Denny Cherry
Denzil Ribeiro (Microsoft)
Dilip George
Don Castelino (Microsoft)
Guru Charan B (Microsoft)
Hamish Watson
Hariharan Rajendran (Microsoft)
Hitesh Chouhan
Prince Rastogi
Rahulinder Singh (Microsoft)
Ramu Raghavan
Rangarajan Srirangam (Microsoft)
Rob Farley
Sandip Pani
Sandy Winarko (Microsoft)
Sanjay Mishra (Microsoft)
Santosh Goli (Microsoft)
Satya Jayanty
Satya Ramesh
Selvakumar Rajakumar (Microsoft)
Sheela Siddappa
Shweta Gupta (Microsoft)
Siva Harinath (Microsoft)

Jimmy May
Joe Yong (Microsoft)
Joey D Antoni
Karen Lopez
Karthick Krishnamurthy
Madhan Gajendran (Microsoft)
Mahendraprasad Dubey (Microsoft)
Mandar Inamdar (Microsoft)
Manish Sharma (Microsoft)
Manjunatha V
Manohar Punna
Mohammed Malik (Microsoft)
Murilo Miranda
Muthukumaran Arumugan (Microsoft)
Nagaraj Venkatesan
Narendra Angane (Microsoft)
Nikhil Patel (Microsoft)
Parikshit Savjani (Microsoft)
Patrick Flynn
Peter Myers
Pooja Kamath (Microsoft)
Pranab Majumdar (Microsoft)
SK Thilakan
Sourabh De (Microsoft)
Sravan Saluru (Microsoft)
Sriharsha Narasimhan
Steve Jones
Subramani Paramasivam
Sudhakar Sannakkayala (Microsoft)
Sudhir Rawat (Microsoft)
Sumit Sarabhai (Microsoft)
Tejas Shah (Microsoft)
Uwe Ricken
Victor Isaakov
Vijay Rodrigues (Microsoft)
Yogeshwar Phull
Annexure – 3: Historical Background

SQL community initiatives were started in 2004 by Amit Bansal. He travelled the length and breadth of India delivering free sessions on SQL Server. The organic growth led to the formation of SQLServerGeeks (SSG) in 2010 which gave a professional shape and structure to the community work.

An outcome of persistent efforts and indomitable perseverance resulted in Asia’s First SQL Conference in the year 2015. At SQLServerGeeks Annual Summit 2015 (SSGAS 2015), 50+ speakers delivered 70+ sessions in 5 tracks across 3 days for 800+ attendees—a remarkable beginning!

Continuing the success, SQLServerGeeks Annual Summit 2016 (SSGAS 2016) witnessed a bigger and better conference. 3 days, 5 tracks, 70+ speakers, 130+ sessions, 800+ attendees – the learning event was a grand success and embarked its position as a signature tech event of India. The data & analytics professionals in India learnt from the who’s who of the industry. Microsoft SQL CAT Team, SQL TIGER Team, Global Black Belt Team, Product Engineers from Redmond, USA – name it and they were there.

The visionary keynotes from the Corporate Vice Presidents of Microsoft Data Group (Redmond, USA) were an icing on the cake. Overall, an unmatched & unparalleled learning & networking experience.

With changing times, SQLServerGeeks (SSG) has transformed into DataPlatformGeeks (DPG), a broader version covering 30+ technologies in Microsoft Data Platform stack. And thus, the third edition of Asia’s largest SQL conference, was renamed, Data Platform Summit.