IA FORUM
Collectively Driving Digital Transformation Excellence

AUGUST 2025

AGENDA

MEMBER SPEAKERS

- **Adam Smykowski***, Head of Solutions & Agentic AI,* **VALLEY BANK**
- **Chirag Shah***, Global Information Security Officer & Data Protection Officer,* **MODEL N**
- **Deji Adedayo***, Intelligent Automation & Product Owner - North America,* **GORDON FOOD SERVICE**
- **Doug Shannon***, Global Intelligent Automation & GenAI Thought Leader & Global Intelligent Automation Manager,* **GLOBAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY**
- **Duffie Brunson***, Research Sabbatical & Director, Enterprise Data Oversight,* **FANNIE MAE**
- **Junaith Haja***, Senior Data Engineer,* **AMAZON**
- **Marty Samadder***, Head of Cloud CoE & Enterprise Architecture Platforms,* **NOVELIS**
- **Pabitra Saikia***, Vice President & Senior Change Delivery Lead,* **TRUIST**
- **Poornakala Sethuraman***, Ph.D., Vice President, Data Science,* **BANK OF AMERICA**
- **Rahul Bhatia***, Co-Founder & Vice President, Cloud Solutions,* **NUAAV**
- **Shankar Krishnan***, Product Management Leader - Bedrock Generative AI,* **AMAZON WEB SERVICES**
- **Sibasis Padhi***, Senior Software Engineer,* **WALMART GLOBAL TECH**
- **SriHarsha Anand Pushkala***, Director, Fraud Strategy & Analytics,* **ATLANTICUS**
- **Steve Palomino***, Managing Partner,* **PALSCOTT CONSULTING**
- **Suzanne LaLena***, Senior Vice President, Automation Engineering,* **BNY MELLON**
- **Velan Thayumanavan***, Principal Solution Architect,* **AT&T**
- **Vishal Jadhav***, Product Director,* **BLUE YONDER**

Friday, August 8| 3:00pm EST - 4:00pm EST | Zoom

ALL MEMBERS NETWORKING POWER HOUR

Join your peers for a virtual networking power hour.

Moderator: **Jules Miller***, IA Insights & Community Liaison Officer,* **IA FORUM**

Saturday, August 9 | 12:00pm EST - 1:00pm EST | Zoom

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: STRATEGIES TO ENSURE JOB SECURITY & STRATEGIC RELEVANCE FOR TECHNOLOGY LEADERS AMID CORPORATE RE-ORG & DOWNSIZING

As waves of restructuring, automation, and budget tightening reshape today's enterprise landscape, even senior-level technology leaders are finding themselves navigating uncertain ground. In this candid roundtable discussion, we'll explore what it really takes to ensure career longevity, strategic visibility, and internal indispensability in an era when no role feels immune.

From managing up and proving enterprise value, to building external influence and staying ahead of disruptive shifts, this conversation will unpack how senior-level technology professionals can proactively future-proof their careers - before someone else decides their future for them.

Topics of discussion will include, yet will not be limited to:

- Redefining Relevance - how to ensure your role evolves with the business, not away from it
- Internal Positioning - making yourself visible, cross-functional, and business-critical
- External Leverage - why your voice, brand, and network matter more than ever

Moderator: **Jules Miller***, IA Insights & Community Liaison Officer,* **IA FORUM**

Wednesday, August 13 | 3:00pm EST - 3:45pm EST | Zoom

SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION & ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: MAXIMIZING CLOUD VALUE - FROM STRATEGY TO SCALE THROUGH RESILIENCE & INNOVATION

Cloud computing is no longer just an IT strategy - it's the backbone of modern enterprise survival. As organizations navigate economic uncertainty, evolving security threats, and accelerating AI demands, the cloud has become the enabler of real-time scalability, cost efficiency, and cross-functional agility. But with complexity rising and expectations shifting, a cloud-first posture requires more than migration - it demands architectural vision, operational discipline, and business alignment.

This event will explore how enterprises can reframe their cloud journey from infrastructure management to strategic value creation. Through practical frameworks, current-state analysis, and real-world transformation stories, we'll explore how organizations can turn cloud into a growth engine - not just a storage solution.

Topics of discussion will include, yet will not be limited to:

- From Lift-and-Shift to Value Realization: Moving beyond migration to business-impactful cloud strategies
- Cloud-Native, Hybrid, and Multi-Cloud Models - choosing the right approach for scale, compliance, and agility
- Driving Innovation Through Cloud + AI - How cloud architecture is enabling the next generation of intelligent systems

Marty Samadder, *Head of Cloud CoE & Enterprise Architecture Platforms,* **NOVELIS**
Rahul Bhatia, *Co-Founder & Vice President, Cloud Solutions,* **NUAAV**

Friday, August 15 | 12:00pm EST - 12:45pm EST | Zoom

FIRESIDE CHAT: THE AUTONOMOUS ENTERPRISE: BUILDING A SELF-DRIVING BUSINESS WITH AI & INTELLIGENT AUTOMATION

As organizations push beyond digital transformation, the next frontier is the autonomous enterprise - a model where AI and intelligent automation take the wheel. In this session, we'll explore how leading enterprises are architecting self-optimizing operations that perceive, decide, and act in real time with minimal human intervention. Attend this event to obtain highly valuable insights into how data, AI, and process automation converge to reduce costs, enhance agility, and create scalable, intelligent systems.

Topics of discussion will include, yet will not be limited to:

- Exploring how AI-powered data sensing and analytics create real-time visibility into operations, enabling accurate situation awareness and predictive insight
- Examining the role of intelligent automation and decision logic - both human-in-the-loop and autonomous model - in guiding rapid, context-aware choices
- Demonstrating how integrated execution systems - such as RPA, autonomous workflows, and feedback-driven loops - turn decisions into continuous, self-improving business outcomes

Adam Smykowski, *Head of Solutions & Agentic AI,* **VALLEY BANK**
Junaith Haja, *Senior Data Engineer,* **AMAZON**

Thursday, August 21 | 12:00pm EST - 12:45pm EST | Zoom

PANEL DISCUSSION: AGENTIC AI - DESIGNING, DEPLOYING, AND MANAGING MULTI-AGENT SYSTEMS FOR ENTERPRISE SCALE

As AI capabilities advance, the emergence of agentic AI - autonomous systems capable of initiating and executing goals with limited oversight - is redefining how enterprises approach automation and decision-making. But building one powerful agent is no longer enough. The future lies in orchestrating multiple collaborative AI agents that interact, delegate, and self-manage across complex workflows.

This event will explore how organizations can architect multi-agent AI ecosystems that mimic distributed human teams - autonomously perceiving, reasoning, and acting across business functions - it will also address the design principles, governance frameworks, and infrastructure needed to unlock enterprise-grade performance without sacrificing control.

Topics of discussion will include, yet will not be limited to:

- What makes an AI agent *"agentic"* - and why it matters for enterprise automation
- Multi-Agent Coordination - strategies for designing, managing, and scaling systems of collaborative agents
- Governance, ethics & control - how to ensure transparency, accountability, and security in autonomous agent ecosystems

Velan Thayumanavan, *Principal Solution Architect,* **AT&T**
Sibasis Padhi, *Senior Software Engineer,* **WALMART GLOBAL TECH**
Shankar Krishnan, *Product Management Leader - Bedrock Generative AI,* **AMAZON WEB SERVICES**
Moderator: **Vishal Jadhav**, *Product Director,* **BLUE YONDER**

Friday, August 22 | 4:00pm EST - 4:45pm EST | Zoom

PANEL DISCUSSION: GENERATIVE AI & LLM SECURITY AND COMPLIANCE - NAVIGATING THE RISK LANDSCAPE OF ENTERPRISE AI ADOPTION

As generative AI and large language models (LLMs) move from experimentation to enterprise deployment, organizations must confront a new layer of risk tied to data privacy, model behavior, intellectual property exposure, and regulatory scrutiny. While the potential for productivity and innovation is massive, the security and compliance risks are just as significant - and far more complex.

This event will explore how to operationalize responsible AI - balancing innovation with governance. From prompt injection to data leakage, and from model hallucinations to global regulatory alignment, we'll unpack what enterprises must do now to ensure secure, compliant, and scalable use of generative AI tools.

Topics of discussion will include, yet will not be limited to:

- Core threats & vulnerabilities in LLM and generative AI systems
- Enterprise-grade governance models for security, privacy, and compliance
- Regulatory readiness in the face of emerging AI legislation and global standards

Chirag Shah, *Global Information Security Officer & Data Protection Officer,* **MODEL N**
Suzanne LaLena, *Senior Vice President, Automation Engineering,* **BNY MELLON**
Moderator: **Doug Shannon**, *Global Intelligent Automation & GenAI Thought Leader & Global Intelligent Automation Manager,* **GLOBAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY**

Tuesday, August 26 | 5:00pm EST - 5:30pm EST | Zoom

SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION: MACHINE LEARNING IN FRAUD DETECTION - STRATEGY, DESIGN & OVERSIGHT

As fraud tactics grow more sophisticated, traditional rule-based detection systems struggle to keep up with the speed and complexity of modern threats. Machine learning offers a powerful new approach - one that adapts in real time, identifies subtle patterns, and scales with your enterprise. But implementing ML for fraud detection isn't just a plug-and-play solution; it requires thoughtful design, constant tuning, and cross-functional oversight to ensure accuracy, explainability, and compliance.

This event will explore how organizations can move from reactive detection to proactive prevention by embedding ML across key touchpoints in the fraud lifecycle. It will also examine core model design strategies, data challenges, governance requirements, and best practices for managing these systems at scale - turning risk management into a competitive advantage.

Topics of discussion will include, yet will not be limited to:

- ML in Action - how supervised and unsupervised models detect known and emerging fraud patterns
- System Design & Data Strategy - what it takes to build and train fraud models that evolve
- Managing for Accuracy, Bias & Compliance - operationalizing fraud ML in regulated, high-risk environments

SriHarsha Anand Pushkala, *Director, Fraud Strategy & Analytics,* **ATLANTICUS**

Thursday, August 28 | 3:00pm EST - 3:45pm EST | Zoom

PANEL DISCUSSION: THE EMERGING TECHNOLOGY LANDSCAPE - WHAT TO ADOPT & AVOID AND HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE NEXT WAVE OF COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

The pace of technological change is accelerating - and so are the stakes. From AI-driven automation and quantum computing to synthetic data, spatial computing, and next-gen cybersecurity, a new class of emerging technologies is beginning to reshape industries, business models, and workforce expectations. But with opportunity comes uncertainty - which technologies matter most? What will they cost to adopt and integrate? What risks are involved - and are you building the right talent pipeline to keep up?

This event will explore how senior-level technology leaders can anticipate disruption, assess investment strategies, and build readiness now - rather than play catch-up later. With a practical lens on risk, cost, talent, and competitive positioning, we'll dive into how to spot signal from noise and create a tech-forward roadmap that balances innovation with business reality.
Topics of discussion include, yet will not be limited to:

- A clear-eyed look at the technologies that are shaping the future - and the ones that are more hype than value
- How to assess investment readiness, adoption timelines, and the real price of being early vs. being late
- What roles, skills, and capabilities you'll need to stay competitive in the next 1 - 3 years

Deji Adedayo, *Intelligent Automation & Product Owner - North America,* **GORDON FOOD SERVICE**
Pabitra Saikia, *Vice President & Senior Change Delivery Lead,* **TRUIST**
Poornakala Sethuraman, *Ph.D., Vice President, Data Science,* **BANK OF AMERICA**
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