BI AI

INNOVATION & TECH FEST

Conference Agenda

24-25 August 2026
The Marriott Hotel - Melrose Arch Johannesburg

Partners

VERINT

UrbanSoft SA
Crafting Tomorrow's Digital Solutions, Today!

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ALTRON DIGITAL BUSINESS

Qlik

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OOLIS The Data Insights People

MOYO heart of digital change

intellinexus

SIDEKICK LAB

EXCEL ACADEMY

INSIGHT CONSULTING Discover | Transform | Enable

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Day 1 Conference Programme
24 August 2026

TIME	TOPICS & SPEAKERS
09:00 - 09:15	**Welcome & Conference Opening - Day 1**
09:15 - 09:45	**The Human Signals Behind Better Business Decisions** Dr. Cecilia Dones - Founder & Chief Data Officer, 3 Standard Deviations
09:50 - 10:20	**The ROI Reckoning: Proving the Value of Your Data, Analytics and AI Investments** Samir Sharma - CEO, datazuum (UK)
10:20 - 10:45	**TEA BREAK**
10:45 - 11:15	**Leading Analytics in the Age of the Machine** Marcellino Carlo - Head of Data and Analytics, PPB Secured Lending, Standard Bank Group
	Workforce Optimisation with Purpose : Merchants' Journey to Measurable Impact Adele Van Eyssen - Head of Workforce Management, Merchants VERINT
11:20 - 11:50	**Metadata: The Real Genie in the Bottle for AI-Driven Insights** Simone Pozniak - Head: Data & Analytics, Webber Wentzel
	Your AI Is Talking to Your Data. Who Else Is Listening? Andrew Bosma - Chief Technical Officer, OQLIS Software Corporation & Robert Kendall - Chief Commercial Officer, OQLIS Software Corporation OQLIS The Data Insights People
11:55 - 12:25	**From Watching the Numbers to Moving Them** Tyrus Govender - Head of Insights and Growth Analytics, Confluent
	The Agentic Enterprise: - How Snowflake AI Is Redefining Work Cliff Ernest Wachiuri - Senior Solution Engineer, Snowflake snowflake
12:30 - 13:00	**Trust the Numbers: Closing Retail's Decision Gap** Janet McFarlane - Group Head - Data and Analytics, The Spar Group Limited
	AI in Your Business Function, Live Demo! Lee Wearne - Operations and Digital Strategy Director, Insight Consulting INSIGHT CONSULTING Discover | Transform | Enable

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Day 1 Conference Programme (cont.)
24 August 2026

TIME	TOPICS & SPEAKERS
13:00 - 14:00	**LUNCH BREAK**
14:00 - 14:30	**Building a Data Strategy in an Era of Increasing Regulation** Muzi Zim - Executive Head: Data and Analytics, Hollard & Max Chipenya - Head: IT, Hollard Zambia
	A Simpler, Safer and Smarter South Africa Theo Spickett - Executive: Data and AI - Altron Digital Business
14:35 - 15:05	**The Shifting Floor: Governing AI in Healthcare when the Rules, Risks, and Technology Keep Changing** Dr. Thabang Mathonsi - Group Head of AI Strategy & Enablement, Netcare
	Inside the 5% Club: Turning AI Ambition into Value Dion Millson - Head of AI Strategy, Connect Managed Services Ltd
15:10 - 15:55	**AI Fluency: The Missing Link Between Adoption and Impact** Dan Stillerman - Founder, Excel Academy
15:45 - 16:15	**From Data & AI Capability to Data & AI Culture: How to Embed Lasting Change Across the Group** Cayleigh O'Dwyer - Senior Manager, Data & Analytics Strategy & Culture: Chief Data & Analytics Office, Lloyds Banking Group (UK)

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Day 2 Conference Programme
25 August 2026

TIME	TOPICS & SPEAKERS
09:00 - 09:15	**Welcome & Conference Opening - Day 2**
09:15 - 09:45	**Building AI Systems People Actually Trust** Dr. Cecilia Dones - Founder & Chief Data Officer, 3 Standard Deviations
09:50 - 10:20	**Amplifying AI Impact Through Agents** Cayleigh O'Dwyer - Senior Manager, Data & Analytics Strategy & Culture: Chief Data & Analytics Office, Lloyds Banking Group (UK)
10:20 - 10:45	**TEA BREAK**
10:45 - 11:15	**Transforming Data into Value: NICIS's Stakeholder-Driven Digital Fabric** Dr. Katlego W. Phoshoko - Data Services & Applications Manager: DIRISA, CSIR **Beyond Dashboards: Unlocking Conversational Analytics with Microsoft Fabric** Iwan Rÿnders - Head of Analytics and BI, MOYO MOYO heart of digital change
11:20 - 11:50	**Building Trust in BI & AI: Lessons from a High-Stakes Audit Environment** John Mokumo - Data Analytics Manager, Auditor General of South Africa **The Future of Modern Data Architecture** Andile Bota - Enterprise Account Executive, Qlik & Ashwath Raj - Principal Solutions Architect, Qlik Qlik
11:55 - 12:25	**A Sea of Data, But What About the Origin?** Dr. Andries Botha - Senior Manager Marketing Data Analytics, Toyota South Africa Motors **The Unaudited Asset** Matthew Bernath - CEO, Sidekick Labs SIDEKICK LAB
12:25 - 13:15	**LUNCH BREAK**
13:15 - 13:45	**Data Chaos to AI: Building Data Products That Actually Deliver** Naseema Nosarka - Head of Data (Group Digital & Technology), Momentum Group

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Day 2 Conference Programme (cont.)
25 August 2026

TIME	TOPICS & SPEAKERS
13:15 - 13:45	**From Data to Intelligence: You're Building the Suit. Don't Fly It Alone** Shaylen Hira - Data Science and AI Delivery Lead, Intellinexus
13:50 - 14:20	**Panel Discussion: The Next 3 Years of Data & AI: What Should Leaders Be Preparing for Now?**
14:25 - 14:55	**From Insight to Impact: Why Better Data Doesn't Mean Better Decisions** Samir Sharma - CEO, datazuum (UK)
15:00	**Conference Close & Prize Giveaways**