PPG INDUSTRY TALK 1

GROUP 6

INTRODUCTION

This poster provides a concise summary of the insightful talk delivered by PPG's IT team leaders, offering an exclusive look inside the technologies that helps PPG to be a global leader in the coatings industry. We will look into how PPG's global IT teams operate as a unified force, upholding the company's unique culture of collaboration and innovation across continents. This is a snapshot of the people, the purpose, and especially the technology driving PPG's success.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PPG is a global coatings company operating in 70 countries, known for its focus on innovation, sustainability, and products used in everyday items and major industries. The talk introduced PPG's IT teams, including Data Analytics, Global Infrastructure and SAP. Data Analytics uses raw data to help the business make better decisions and highlighted key skills like SQL, data modelling and MLOps. The Global Infrastructure team explained their global "Plan-Build-Run" approach, which supports PPG's systems worldwide and clarified about their multi-cloud approach to serve different regions around the world. Meanwhile, the SAP team introduced about the different modules they use and the evolution of SAP's implementation over the years. Crucially, it was also highlighted how PPG is actively cultivating local talent through its impactful internship program, showcasing the commitment to continuous development within the technology space in Malaysia. The session provided a brief overview of PPG's business, work culture, technology roles and digital capabilities.
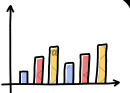
PPG INDUSTRIES
Presented by Ms Ai Ling Ooi

- A coatings company, makes paint and coatings for a variety of applications
- Conduct research to produce safer paint and new colours
- A Fortune 500 company
- Founded in 1883
- Products of PPG are used on buildings, cars, smartphones, bottled food, airplanes and maritime vessels

DATA ANALYTICS
Presented by Mr Derrick Tan

- Data alone does not mean anything
- Data analysis helps to get useful information from data
- Helps with decision making, making predictions, finding growth opportunities
- PPG's data analytics teams: Master Data, ERP analytics, Data Lake analytics, MLOps
- Some examples of data analytics are global marine vessel database and complexity analysis tool

GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE
Presented by Mr Vijaykumar Dhandapani

- PPG structures its global infrastructure using the Plan, Build, Run model
- Multi-cloud strategy: AWS (most used one), Azure, Oracle Cloud, Alibaba Cloud and own Performance Hubs
- Monitoring tools: PRTG, SolarWinds, Cisco DNA/Meraki, Veeam, Azure DevOps
- Some future IT infrastructure trends include autonomous infrastructure, AI-driven IT operations, zero-trust security models and edge computing roles.

SAP
Presented by Mr Patric Tong

SAP refers to both a product and a company founded in Germany 50 years ago.
Market Position: Ranked as the second-largest player in the industry.

- One single source of truth for all business processes
- 4 main streams: DTR, OTC, PTP, RTR
- Several key modules: FI, CO, MM, SD, PP, QM, eWM, AR, FA
- Using SAP since 1991 to SAP S/4HANA for PMC EMEA and APAC and migration to AWS in 2025

REFLECTION

The talk offered a glimpse to students on how ICT plays a major role in sustaining and growing multinational companies such as PPG. ICT professionals, including data analysts, data scientist and cloud engineers build and maintain a company's global infrastructure that enables all business operations where they transform raw data into actionable strategic insights and they implement critical security measures to protect valuable assets and ensure business continuity. By driving innovation, optimizing workflows, and facilitating global communication, ICT roles move beyond simple support to become strategic necessities that determine a company's competitive advantage and future growth across every sector. This session definitely brought motivation towards students to be innovative, precise and problem solvers when they embrace ICT roles in the future.

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