



DevConf 2016 CFP Guidelines

1. SUBMISSION PROCESS

Review this CFP Guidelines document completely before submitting your proposal.

1. To begin your submission, download the CFP submission document file at <http://www.DevConf.co.za/public/docs/CFP-Template.txt>
2. After you have read through all of the CFP guidelines and are ready to begin, edit the file in your favorite text editor.
3. Once you are happy with your submission save the file using the following naming format: DC16-LASTNAME-FIRSTNAME.txt (e.g. if your name was Mark Pearl you would name the file as follows: DC16-PEARL-MARK.txt)
4. Email the file to submission@devconf.co.za - you will receive an email within 48 hours notifying you that we have received your submission, if you do not receive this notification please follow up with us.

Should you want to update your submission at any point in time during the submission process, please follow the same steps for making an initial submission.

2. TIPS FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

- Be authentic! Your peers need original presentation ideas that focus real-world scenarios, relevant examples, and knowledge transfer.
- Give your proposal a simple and straightforward title. Clever or inappropriate titles make it harder for people to figure out what you're really talking about.
- All talks are limited to 30 minutes, make sure you don't try to cover too much content in that time – identify the 2 or 3 things you want people to take home.
- Keep proposals free of marketing and sales. We have a dedicated sponsor track open to content more sales focused. Find out more about sponsorship opportunities.
- Keep things practical and relevant.
- Keep the audience in mind: The audience will be professional developers and already pretty smart. We are specifically focusing on corporate developers, so they may not attend many conferences or be up to date with the latest technology. We want them to go away and be more productive and be more excited about software development. We are expecting 300 to 400 people to attend and we expect the sessions will be between 40 and 200 people.
- Explain why people will want to attend: is your topic gaining traction? Is it critical to modern business? Will attendees learn how to use it, program it, or just what it is?
- Repeated talks from the conference circuit are less likely to be appealing. The conference has a limited number of slots, and if attendees can see the same talk somewhere else, why should they come see you at this one? If you speak at a lot of events, be sure to note why this presentation is different.
- Don't assume that your company's name buys you credibility. If you're talking about something important that you have specific knowledge of because of what your company does, spell that out in the description.
- We welcome sessions for attendees with a variety of skill levels. Consider proposing a number of different skill-level sessions, and please indicate the experience and knowledge level of the audience that you are targeting: novice, intermediate, or expert.

3. TRACK OUTLINES

NB: *There is no restriction on specific programming languages, databases platform or infrastructure tools HOWEVER preference will be given to sessions suitable to corporate, large scale, or high load environments and sessions that focus at the underlying principles (using specific languages, databases or tools to demonstrate these principles).*

Track 1: Crafting Code

Sessions with a direct focus on code. Appropriate topics could include working with legacy code, refactoring, principles and practices to improve code design, details in programming languages that are often overlooked.

Keywords: Object Oriented Design, SOLID, Patterns, Functional & Lambdas, Test Driven Development, Legacy Code, Security, Legacy Systems, Refactoring, Software Craftsmanship, C++, C#, Java, Python, Scala.

Track 2: Persistence

Sessions focused around persistence. Appropriate topics could include best practices with relational databases, transitioning to NoSQL databases, working with data as a programmer, handling schema migrations.

Keywords: General SQL, performance, working with Big Data, DB Anti-Patterns, SQL Server, Oracle DB, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Neo4J.

Track 3: DevOps & Automation

Sessions focused around the culture, environment and tools used for building, testing, and releasing software rapidly, frequently, and more reliably. Experience reports on what worked, what didn't and why.

Keywords: Continuous Integration, Continuous Deployment, Chef, Puppet, Octopus Deploy, Docker, Slack, Jenkins, VSTS, GitHub, Ansible, Test Driven Infrastructure, Docker, Slack, TFS, TeamCity, Jenkins, Go CI, Rational

Track 4: Tools & Experiences

Sessions focused around the tools that make developers productive be they software (Visual Studio or Eclipse), hardware input devices, office layout or soft skills like mentoring, dealing with diversity and working in teams.

Keywords: Mentoring, Dealing with Diversity, Productivity Practices, Working in Teams, Git, Visual Studio Tips & Techniques, Vim, Eclipse, NetBeans.

4. SUBMISSION PROCESS TIMELINE

The DevConf 2016 Conference Review Team have set the following timelines for submission, review and selection of the DevConf 2016 Program:

- CFP opens for submissions – **14 December 2015**
- CFP closes for submissions – **18 January 2016**
- Final Review – **19 January 2016 to 22 January 2016**
- Accepted & Rejected notifications sent out by – **23 January 2016**
- Deadline for accepted speakers to confirm – **1 February 2015**
- Final program announced – **2 February 2015**

Submissions

We will be open for submissions for several weeks so that potential speakers may submit their proposals in time for feedback. During this time reviews will be conducted on the proposals.

Review

Final review of all submissions received and draft of the program.

Once the program has been finalized, accepted and rejected notifications will be sent out to all submitters.

5. COMPENSATION POLICY

Note: Regretfully, we cannot offer splitting or transferring compensation to non-presenters.

Conference Access

We are pleased to offer One (1) Complimentary Registration per presenter.

Accommodation Compensation

We have a limited fund to contribute towards accommodation for international and "out of town" presenters. Should accommodation assistance be a requirement for you to be able to present at DevConf, please indicate on your talk submissions.

Travel/Airfare Compensation

We have a limited fund to contribute towards economy flights for international and local speakers, which will be communicated to accepted speakers.

Should travel assistance be a requirement for you to be able to present at DevConf, please indicate on your talk submissions.

Optional workshops

If you would like to run a workshop on the Monday preceding the event (7th March), we are able to assist with venue organisation and promotion through the event and user groups involved. Quotes for venues will be provided on request. You are able to charge directly for this event or make it a free workshop.