

OVERVIEW OF PPG, DATA ANALYTICS, INFRASTRUCTURE, SAP



SECP1513 : TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION SYSTEM (SECTION 2)



INTRODUCTION

PPG's global operations are powered by its Digital IT teams at the MY Technology Centre. PPG is a global leader dedicated to safeguarding and beautifying the world. The SAP Centre of Excellence (CoE), which is standardising global business processes through the deployment of the S/4HANA Enterprise Resource Planning system, IT Infrastructure & Vendor Management, which secures and scales the critical network and computing environment with a focus on Cloud Architecture and WAN/LAN connectivity, and the Data Analytics Centre of Excellence (CoE), which uses cutting-edge SQL, Python, and Data Visualisation techniques to transform raw data into strategic business intelligence, are the three main pillars of this digital foundation. These roles are crucial for maintaining operational excellence and bolstering PPG's worldwide reach.

INDIVIDUAL REFLECTIONS

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The PPG talk showed me how IT, data, and ERP systems drive real business value. It's not just about knowing tools like cloud or AI but knowing how to use them to keep operations efficient. This inspires me to focus not only on skill-building but also on real-world application so can apply them meaningfully.



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PPG talk showed how they drive improvement, the company cultivates teams with both technical and business skill; data analytics experts translate insights into action, while infrastructure teams manage cloud and security platform. They also briefing how academic exercise provide the foundational theory and critical thinking skills needed to diagnose and solve complex, real-world industry problem.



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PPG presentation makes me see the technology as a strategic business driver. I gained the insight that the entire tech architecture from IT Infrastructure's global stability to the SAP CoE's standardization across 70+ countries, and the Data Analytics CoE's conversion of raw data into strategic assets. My motivation is now to master these technical layers to ensure I can deliver meaningful and high-impact business value on a global scale.



DATA ANALYTICS

Data analytics at PPG enables data-driven decisions by transforming business signals into actionable insights, supported by an integrated ecosystem that encompasses master data management, ERP analytics, data lake analytics, and MLOps. For examples, the Marine Hull Navigator and the Supply Chain Control Tower showed me how data can predict risks and help the company reduce costs. I realized that data analytics is not just about graph. This part of talks highlights the essential role to enhance skills in SQL, visualization tools, data modelling and cloud-based analytics platforms.

GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE



PPG uses a cloud-first approach which means that most of their systems run on cloud platforms like Azure, AWS, Oracle Cloud and Alibaba Cloud with monitoring tools like Datadog, SolarWinds and Meraki to check the system's health and respond any issues quickly. The "follow-the-sun" setup also showed us how global teamwork works in real companies, where different regions take turns to provide support. This infrastructure follows the Plan-Build-Run which Plan focuses on global IT strategy, Build delivers cloud-native solutions, and Run maintains 24/7 operational reliability. This integrated approach highlights how cloud technology and robust infrastructure are essential for enterprise-scale operations.



SAP ENTERPRISE SYSTEMS

SAP which is the central system that integrates all major business processes in PPG such as purchasing, production planning, customer orders, logistics and financial reporting. This shows how one system can link so many departments together and keep all information updated in real time, highlighting the essential of integrated systems for large companies to minimize errors and maintain smooth operations. The "Connect PPG" project demonstrated how cloud-based SAP can improve speed and collaboration, reflecting the practical application of ERP systems in the industry.

SUMMARY

This presentation introduced PPG, a global paints and coatings company, through its Malaysia-based IT teams, who highlighted the company's diverse product applications in everything from buildings and cars to electronics. The IT leads from Data Analytics, Global Infrastructure, and the SAP Center of Excellence explained their roles in enabling data-driven decisions with predictive tools, managing a multi-cloud "cloud-only" infrastructure, and unifying global business processes on a single SAP platform. The session concluded by promoting PPG's culture and successful internship program in Malaysia, which offers hands-on experience with global projects and strong potential for conversion to full-time employment, emphasizing professional growth within a supportive and diverse environment.

