

Interview with Mr. Chris Kelly

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Interviewee: Chris Kelly, Forecasting & Planning Manager at Toyota Motors North America

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Interview:

We began by discussing Mr. Kelly's background. Mr. Kelly graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor's of Science in Computer Science. He later went to the University of Miami to get his Masters in Music Engineering. Mr. Kelly then worked at Texas Instruments as an Android Product Software Engineer where he worked on enabling multimedia support in Android on OMAP4/5 platforms and worked on audio compression and how that worked with different chipsets. He then worked at Texas Instruments as an Android Multimedia Software Architect, where he worked with enabling differentiated embedded devices. He then worked at Thursby Software Systems where he worked on developing an application that could allow various organizations to allow their employees bring in their devices to use while retaining the security of the organization. He also worked on building smart card technologies for mobile devices. Afterwards, Mr. Kelly at Thursby Software Systems was an Engineering Manager, where he led a team to create products on Mac, iOS, and Android.

Mr. Kelly currently is a Forecasting & Planning Manager at Toyota Motors North America, which is now headquartered in Plano, TX. As the Forecast and Planning Manager at Toyota, Mr. Kelly is responsible for the development of the portfolios suite of Demand and Supply Application used around the company. He works with the applications that analyzes large amounts of data in order to predict the demand of consumers looking at patterns from old data and sales and also estimates the expected output from the factories in order to ensure that there is an equal amount of demand and Supply. These systems ensure that minimal revenue is lost, as cars left sitting in lots are losing value as well as excess cars stored in warehouses.

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We then discussed what Mr. Kelly are upcoming technologies that could have a major impact on the tech industry. Mr. Kelly mentioned that VR, AR, MR, and other experience-enhancing technologies will continue to be developed for general consumer usage and development. But, he mentioned that he believed that Artificial Intelligence will be a major player with a huge impact in the enterprise and corporate consumer base. He mentioned how Big Data was already being incorporated to predict potential outcomes, however, it still takes an analyst to determine what those outcomes mean and how to avoid them. With the introduction of Artificial Intelligence will allow decisions to become more and more accurate and eventually not be limited to just calculating the estimated output but also provide potential options and alternatives that could be taken to ensure success.

Overall, talking to Mr. Kelly was a great learning opportunity, as I was able to gain exposure to corporate and enterprise technology and how it interacts with analytics. I learned about major components of Demand and Supply Portfolio Applications and the current technologies being used to enhance Data Analytics and maximize efficient production on a large scale; I also got Mr. Kelly's insight on where technology could be headed and how it could be used in corporate environments.