Confitura Summary

For over a decade, Confitura has been opening the summer conference season by providing further knowledge from the universe of Java and JVM languages. This year, we met on the 2nd of July with the good old formula but wearing a brand new cover.

Times are changing
As a conference organiser, we know that it's not easy to fulfil all the expectations of our participants, because they're different every year. Venue, line-up, catering, contests - they all count in an attendee's eyes.

The 10th edition was full of changes - the logo was refreshed and, after years of cooperation with Warsaw University, Confitura was relocated to the Bobrowiecka Conference Centre. The promotion of the event was supported with a video - a joint production between Confitura and Darwin's Group.

As always, this was an opportunity for networking and getting to know new things. Traditionally, the presentations by Confitura were a mix of various topics: practical experience, methodologies, soft skills, new languages. That's why everyone could find something interesting.

How IT works
The core of the conference is the technical content. As usual, we listened to outstanding speakers from around Europe who presented their variety of experience gained over the years.

Sławek Sobótka shared his knowledge and told us about the daily challenges for a software architect. Wiktor Sztajerowski presented polyglot persistence - what it really looks like when we have many databases in one project. We got to know Apache Spark from Katarzyna Krawczyk, who presented us with the basics; Łukasz Kobylański and Jakub Nowacki showed us a use case (with a huge amount of unstructured text data) for this framework. We heard all about "How to deal with big data" by Kafka Streams and Apache Flink from Maciej Próchniak. Tom Kucharski shared his experiences in cloud solutions. Tom got multitenancy across and showed us how to find a balance using Angular2 Typescript with Webpack. Artur Skowroński talked about creating Microservices using Lagom Framework. Piotr Betkier presented common company libraries, done in a wise way. From Dominik Przybysz's presentation we learned how to test without Unit, TestNG, or AssertJ but with Spock instead. Karol Bialas talked about the theory and practice of Spring Data Rest and how to program less menially REST web services. We heard about good refactoring patterns from Sebastian Malaca. Adam Dubiel put the spotlight on metrics - what is worth measuring in an app and what should practical usage look like. Michał Kosmulski talked about implementation and monitoring of apps. Jakub Kubryński shared some techniques for using JPA standard in the right way. Kamil Szymański presented an automatization of coding. Krzysztof Jelski made the attendees more confident with TDD methodology. We learned about concurrency in Java for those who abuse the keyword "synchronised" from Mateusz Kaczmarek. Łukasz Strzelecki talked about clean

code, validation, and how to prepare apps for users. Marcin Ziółek and Jakub Król talked about Agile software development in big corporations – it's not as scary as you thought. Andrzej Ludwikowski gave a live demo and presentation of his experiences in Apache Cassandra.

Tasting something new
Sometimes it is essential to leave your comfort zone and take a broader view. In our agenda, Confitura always has enough space for new trends.

Kuba Marchwicki taught us how to code backend with JavaScript. Bartek Kuczyński shared his experience with Java 8. We learned how to write functional code in Java from Grzegorz Piwowarek. Milen Dyankov talked about modularity and Java 9. Paweł Byszewski gave us an introduction to Kotlin. Tomasz Kaczmarczyk tried to predict the future of web protocol standards. Bartłomiej Witczak presented practical knowledge of frontend development. Marek Śmigielski let the attendees in on a little secret about payment card cryptography and banking security. What does UX mean and why is it so important? - we heard about this from Marta Smektała. Vadim Melnyk talked about the Internet of Things and its security.

Man cannot live by code alone
Presentations which cover non-programming topics are very refreshing and relaxing, and also very popular - people were eager to interact with the speakers and the Q&A sessions were really lively.

Piotr Medyński, along with Artur Żórawski, talked about the happiness of developers and company culture, presenting some useful tools and technics for motivation. In Jacek Zadrąg's presentation, we learned how to sell software from a psychological point of view. Tomek Borek talked about hiring from the perspective of a developer and recruiter of talented juniors. Bartek Zdanowski gave a presentation about programmer activity - is it worth developing yourself by making presentations, organising events, and doing something for others, thereby doing something for yourself. Bartosz Walacik shared his brilliant idea about an OSS startup. Joanna Karczewska told us about the financial situation of developers over the next few years and some life-law-hacks.

Curtain calls
After 10 hours we had to say that it was over. Months of preparation reached the finale. Our work as a sponsor; co-organiser, Łukasz Lenart is a member of Capitula and is responsible for logistic and financial issues; Marta Smektała and Sebastian Drygalski developed the app for participants of the Conference; as speakers, Marta Smektała gave a presentation about UX and Andrzej Ludwikowski shared his knowledge of Apache Cassandra; Ida Bzowska participated as a volunteer. We were a little bit tired after a long day, so we went to an epic after party at the Level 27 Club.

That's all folks!
Confitura 2016 went down in history. 1400 participants in one place, crowded for one reason – the joy of sharing knowledge of the JVM world. It was a great success, the organisers prepared a truly excellent line-up, cool swag and an amazing atmosphere. As a multiannual partner and supporter of the event, SoftwareMill received a special statuette for our involvement in the organisation.

Bravo to the team for the huge scale of this anniversary edition. Huge congrats to Tomasz Nurkiewicz for the title of the best Confitura speaker of 2015. It was a real pleasure to be a part of this event. Hope to see you all next year!