SECP1513
TECHNOLOGY & INFORMATION SYSTEM
SECTION 05

UTM Faculty of Computing
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA

ASSIGNMENT 2: INDUSTRY TALK

INDUSTRY TALK

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PPG is a well-known industry that provides paints, coatings and specialty materials to almost every manufacturer in the world. This industry talk highlighted how PPG's IT Department operates through several key teams including Data Analytics, Global Infrastructure, and SAP to support global business operations. Each team contributes by improving data driven decisions, managing cloud infrastructure, and integrating core business processes into a unified system.
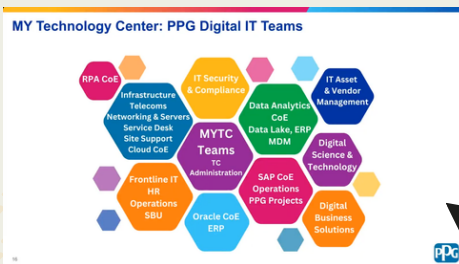
INTRODUCTION

The PPG IT Department is globally managed through specialized Centers of Excellence (CoE). These CoEs manage crucial areas like SAP/ERP system, Data Analytics, Infrastructure (moving to Cloud), and Cybersecurity, focusing on leveraging digital technology to support and innovate PPG's worldwide business operations
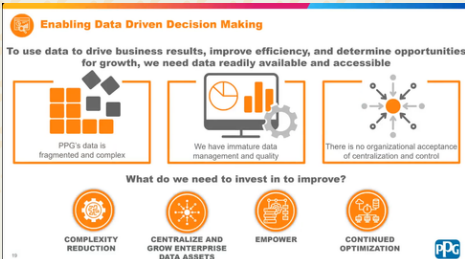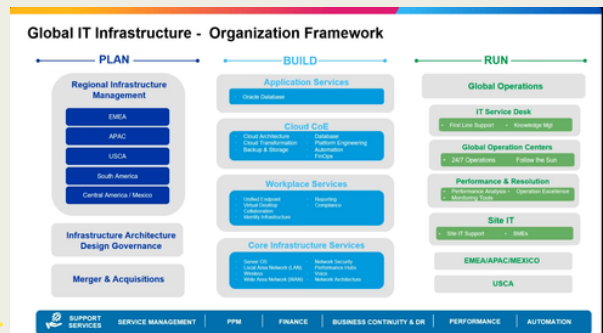
Image Source

CONTENTS

Perhaps the backbone of PPG Industries' global connectivity is its Digital IT Teams, which comprise of many departments, 3 of which, Data Analytics, Global Infrastructure and SAP, are discussed during the Industry Talk by each representative.

MY Technology Center: PPG Digital IT Teams

Global Infrastructure manages cloud computing and cloud servers within PPG. There are many branches of PPG all round the world which are all connected together via a cloud server specifically made for PPG's daily IT operations to ensure coherence and smooth communication between IT teams from different regions.

Enabling Data Driven Decision Making

The Data Analytics team is responsible for gathering data and making smart decisions based on it to improve business prosperity. The team gathers complex, unrelated data from all departments, categorises it and infers the relationships between each data for strategic and long-term planning of the company itself.

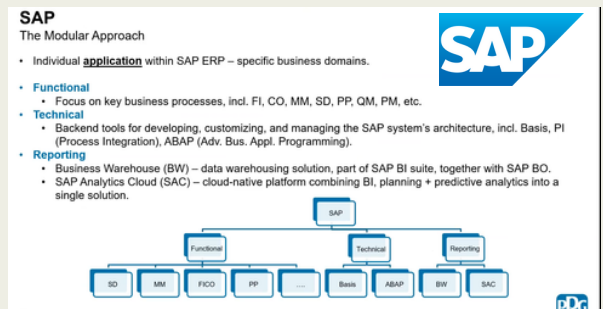Global IT Infrastructure - Organization Framework

REFLECTION

From the PPG industry talk, we can conclude that there are several key job requirements that are needed across all departments. First, employees must have strong technical knowledge to understand the materials, processes, and operations within the company. Good communication skills are also essential because every department needs clear coordination to maintain smooth workflow. The speakers also highlighted the importance of problem-solving and critical thinking, as many daily tasks involve identifying issues and finding effective solutions. Lastly, a curious, open mind is needed by employers so that we can grow as a person throughout employment.

We also realised that the expectations in the industries are quite different from what we learn in the classroom. Hearing real-life experiences from the speakers helped us understand the challenges and responsibilities that professionals face daily. We learnt that the role of IT jobs in all industries can help to achieve business prosperity, connectivity and, as a result, improve daily company operations from top level management to bottm level management.

Overall, the session inspired us to critically think about our career paths and what we need to have on in order to succeed in our field. It was a very beneficial and eye-opening talk as it gave us students opportunities to talk to IT specialists about the current trend of the technology world.

SAP — The Modular Approach

Image Source

SAP Team is involved with designing information systems to integrate core PPG business processes into one unified system. It implements the ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) system to achieve this. The modular approach of SAP ensures smooth data and transaction flow within the process flow of PPG which involves customer purchases, product manufacturing, financial reporting and materials acquisition, each of which are subsystems under a unified information system.
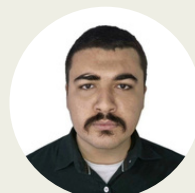
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