

2025 Session Abstracts

Code for IBM i in 2025 – Liam Allan

Code for IBM i has changed a lot over the past two years. We've added more than a dozen enhancements and it's easy to miss them. We'll show off the brand new things you've missed for RPGLE, the database extension and more. Plus, we'll throw in things the community has been working on to make Visual Studio Code better for IBM i.

Get Going with Git – Patrick Behr

A beginner's look at source change management with Git. We'll cover all the basic concepts and workflow that will get you up and running with Git in no time. Git is the most popular change management software around, and is also becoming a very popular choice on IBM i.

1. Understand local and remote repositories
2. The local workflow and file status
3. Branching, merging, and collaborating with others

IBM i on PowerVS with Live Demo – Jeff Boleman

For this session we will focus on DR target options using IBM Power Virtual Server. Discover the methods and best practices for hosting your IBM Power DR workloads in the IBM Power Virtual Server Public Cloud. We will focus on IBM i options including networking, storage, backup and replication. Session includes a live demonstration!

RPG Unit Testing Made Easy In VS Code – Sanjula Ganepola

Join us for an in-depth look at the new IBM i Testing extension for VS Code. In this session, we will demonstrate how you can not only write and execute RPGUnit test suites directly within the editor, but also generate test stubs to simplify the process of getting started. We will cover the basics of the RPGUnit test framework, guide you through the installation process, showcase how easy it is to write a test suite, and demonstrate how to execute tests with code coverage. If you are looking to adopt new and modern tooling, come check out this exciting addition to the IBM i development ecosystem in VS Code.

Simon's Top 10 SQL Favorites – Updated for TechCon25 – Simon Hutchinson

IBM Champion Simon Hutchinson has written a lot about modern Db2 for i and SQL on his blog. In this session he will take you through his top 10 favorites. You will have to attend to learn what these cool SQL tricks and tips are! He always keeps this up to date with his favorites from every new release and Technology Refresh.

AI-Powered Development : Your IBM i Copilot (or Claude, or ChatGPT, etc.) – Aaron Magid

AI is transforming software development across all platforms, and IBM i is no exception. But how do you effectively leverage these powerful tools while maintaining the high standards IBM i users expect? In this session, we'll cut through the hype and show you practical applications of AI in daily IBM i development. From code generation to documentation to testing to cool new AI-based application capabilities, you'll see real-world examples of how AI can enhance productivity while preserving code quality. We'll demonstrate best practices for AI integration and provide guidance for successful implementation in your environment.

IBM i Security – What's New in IBM i 7.6 - Tim Mullenbach

Come learn about the security features included in the latest operating system release IBM i 7.6. Whether exciting, mundane, or even a little scary to consider, there is something that will pique your interest.

Power11 for IBM i – Brandon Pederson

IBM Power11 is here. Power11 is autonomous IT for the AI era we are living in. It enables zero planned downtime for system maintenance and increased cyber resiliency for ever-growing security threats. In this session, Brandon Pederson, IBM i and Power Product Marketing Manager, will overview the new Power11 portfolio. You'll learn the latest features and capabilities of the platform and how they benefit IBM i applications and workloads.

What You Need to Do to Be AI-Ready: Testing for Trust, Resilience, and Compliance – Pascal Polverini

As enterprises explore AI to modernize applications, accelerate development, and drive innovation, one crucial question remains largely unanswered: Can you trust the outcomes?

In this session, we'll uncover what being truly AI-ready means — not from a theoretical or experimental perspective, but from the ground up: testing, validation, and automation. We'll show how organizations can only scale AI if they have the right testing architecture in place to support trust, traceability, and resilience — especially in hybrid environments that include IBM i systems or IBM i only.

You will learn:

1. Why test automation is no longer a QA luxury, but a strategic AI enabler
2. The 7 levels of automation maturity, and why you must reach the top to be AI-ready

Best Practices for the IBM i Security Administrator - Steve Riedmueller

Know you should be managing your IBM i Security implementation but don't know where to start or what all needs to be checked? This session will provide you with a checklist of the areas of the operating system that should be checked on a regular basis. Steve will explain why it's important to perform these checks along with the risks of not maintaining your security configuration. The Run SQL Script file used during the demo will be provided with the handouts. Several enhancements / changes provided in IBM i 7.5 and 7.6 that assist the Security Administrator will also be discussed.

Why It's an Exciting Time for IBM i - Steve Will

IBM has recently had several big announcements related to IBM i. There's news about 7.6, new Power systems on the way, support for IBM i in Power Virtual Server, and of course IBM watsonx Code Assistant for i. Steve Will, IBM i CTO and Chief Architect will cover the news, show the direction of IBM i, and explain why the excitement is justified.

What's New in the World of AI – Joseph Wright

The field of AI is evolving at an unprecedented pace. This session will provide an up-to-the-minute look at the latest AI advancements, including OpenAI's latest models, DeepSeek R1, and leading competitors. We'll explore benchmarks, IBM's upcoming RPG Coding Assistant, and key trends like AI Agents and Chain of Thought reasoning.