

2025 Speaker Biographies



Liam Allan
IBM
Software Advocate
X: @notesofbarry

Liam Allan, an IBM Champion, helps IBM i development teams modernize their applications and bridge the gap between traditional and modern development practices. Founder of Works of Barry, he specializes in DevOps, RPG, ILE, Node.js, PHP, PASE and open source. He also supports the community by creating open source tools — such as the ILEditor — that make IBM i development more intuitive for the next generation. His passion is to bring IBM i and the world of open-source closer together.



Patrick Behr
Seiden Group
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/patrick-behr
X: [@P_Behr](#)

With top-notch programming, database, and analysis skills, IBM Champion Patrick Behr has worked on IBM i (and its predecessors) for the entirety of his 20-year IT career. Initially focusing on RPG and Db2, he then expanded his skillset to include application and database modernization as well as web development for IBM i. His technical specialties span RPGLE, SQL, APIs, Node.js, PHP, HTML, CSS, Javascript, IWS, VS Code, and more. As a COMMON Speaker of Merit and Bronze medal winner, Patrick speaks at conferences and user groups across the country. He also serves as Vice President Conference Chair for the [OCEAN User Group](#).



Jeff Boleman, M.S.C.S.

IBM

Principal SME – PowerVS and RISE with SAP

IBM – US National Market (All Regions)

Costa Mesa, CA, USA

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jeffboleman/>

Jeff Boleman is a subject matter expert (SME) in IBM Power Virtual Server solutions for US National Market customers, specializing in IBM i, AIX, and Linux. With over 25 years of experience, his expertise spans systems architecture, HPC, operating systems, networking, high-performance storage, IaaS, and HADR. Jeff also shares his knowledge as an adjunct professor at Concordia University Irvine, where he teaches networking, operating systems, and senior software development.



Sanjula Ganepola

IBM

Software Developer

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sanjulaganepola/>

Sanjula Ganepola is a Software Developer at IBM working on IBM i application development tools. As an open-source advocate, he is an active contributor and maintainer of several Visual Studio Code extensions including IBM i Project Explorer, Code for IBM i, IBM i Testing, Source Orbit, and much more.



Simon Hutchinson

RPGPGM.COM

Author

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Simon Hutchinson has been writing his highly acclaimed IBM i blog, [RPGPGM.COM](https://www.rpgpgm.com), for eleven years sharing his knowledge, experience, and giving many detailed examples of the latest RPG, SQL, and CL. His work has led him to be recognized by IBM as an IBM Champion for Power and IBM i Community Advocate. He is a subject matter expert for COMMON North America, awarded the John Earle Speaker Scholarship in 2023 in recognition for his contribution to the community, and Gold medal speaker. Since its founding Simon has been the president of the [Central Texas IBM i User Group](#) (CTXiUG).



Aaron Magid

Eradani

Chief Architect

Website: <https://eradani.com/>

Aaron Magid, Chief Architect at Eradani, has over a decade of experience in software development and technology. He specializes in modernizing legacy systems like IBM i/AS400 using Python, Node.js, and Java. Aaron excels in bridging old and new technologies together for clients, helping them connect modern solutions to existing systems. His previous roles include Lead Cloud Systems Engineer at CTI Smart Systems and Co-Owner and Director of Product Development at BigPie, Inc.



Tim Mullenbach

IBM i Security Business Architect

IBM

Tim Mullenbach is a Senior Software Engineer at IBM Rochester. He spent his first 20+ IBM years with the IBM i Sockets and System TLS development team prior to transitioning to the IBM i Security Business Architect role in 2018.



Brandon Pederson

IBM

Worldwide IBM i and Power Product Marketing Manager

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Brandon Pederson is the Product Marketing Manager for the IBM i and Power scale-out server portfolio. In this role, he is responsible for all cross-marketing activities for the platform, including messaging, competitive differentiation, positioning, new product launches, sales and channel enablement, digital, and more. Prior to his current role, he was Content Marketing Manager for the WebSphere portfolio and Content and Community Manager for Power Systems. Brandon has been with IBM since 2014 and holds an MBA from Baylor University.



Pascal Polverini

Polverini & Partners

Founder and CTO

Through a broad range of products, services and infrastructure optimization, Pascal Polverini leads his international team to face complex business challenges, solve problems, manage critical issues and grant results with innovative IT solutions for all those companies running on IBM i.

Pascal and his company are renowned for helping IBM i-centric businesses modernize their testing activities (functional and workload) with a fully automated approach, also enabling AI processes implementation.

During his more than 3 decades of deep experience on IBM i around the world, Pascal is also involved in:

- IBM i Advisory Council member since 2005
- OpenPOWER Foundation Associate since 2015
- Modernization Redbooks Author
- IBM Champion in Data & AI - 2020
- Enterprise Design Thinking certified expert
- Register of technological innovation experts - MIMIT

In his private life, Pascal enjoys painting and is passionate about philosophy, physics, literature and the table.



Steve Riedmueller

Kisco Systems

Director of IBM i Security Services

Website: www.kisco.com

Administration/Engineering role since 2001. He has developed an expertise in system security, performance, communications, and various IBM and 3rd-party software packages including WAS, MQ, Apache, OnDemand, LANSa, Zend, Synon, and more. Steve holds a B.S. from Rutgers University. In recent years Steve has become a COMMON and WMCPA speaker, an N2i mentor, and the N2i committee lead. In the world of IBM i technology, Steve is passionate about process improvement. He enjoys leveraging IBM i SQL Services for administration/operations tasks such as security and performance, as well as automation. In his free time Steve enjoys StarCraft 2, weightlifting, and traveling.



Steve Will

IBM

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Steve is the CTO and Chief Architect for the IBM i Operating System. Spending the past fourteen years of his IBM career in this position, he has become an award-winning speaker, author of the influential blog "You and i," (<https://bit.ly/You-and-i-blog>) and is one of the most sought-after voices at customer briefings and events. Steve has worked on IBM i and its predecessors since before the creation of the AS/400, and is currently responsible for setting the strategy of the IBM i operating system, as well as deciding which enhancements will be implemented. In his role, he talks to clients and partners, explaining the direction of the platform, and discussing requirements for the future of IBM i with users around the world.



Joseph Wright

Wright 400 Inc.

IT Consultant

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Joseph Wright is a seasoned IBM i programmer with over a decade of experience in RPG programming. At the age of 18, he started his journey in the IBM i world and has been constantly learning and absorbing knowledge since then. Joseph currently runs Wright 400 Inc (@Wright4i), a consulting company for IBM i, where he helps companies modernize their RPG code and leverage the latest technologies. Joseph is a strong supporter of open-source programming languages and believes in the power of community-driven innovation. He has been involved in major modernization projects at several companies with great success, demonstrating how modern RPG programming can be efficient, easier to learn for junior programmers, and meet all the goals demanded by organizations.