

Enabling UK businesses to unlock the value of big data



Hartree Centre
Science & Technology Facilities Council



Working with techUK, the Science and Technology Facilities Council's (STFC) Hartree® Centre sponsored a series of Big Data in Action Roadshows to demonstrate the value of big data analytics and encourage adoption of these technologies in UK industry.

Challenge

Over the next five years, it is estimated that the value of big data and data analytics to the UK economy could accumulate to £322 billion¹. Businesses across the country are facing the pressures of a data overload, with organisations of all sizes routinely collecting data but many unsure how to extract the most value from their datasets. This is coupled with a big data skills gap as companies struggle to find the right skills to implement new data analytics strategies and practices². The Hartree Centre, home to myriad big data analytics technologies and expertise, is always looking for ways to drive data innovation and foster a culture of knowledge sharing about big data in industry.

Solution

Alongside the Federation of Small Businesses, Pro-Manchester, Manchester Informatics and Business Cloud, the STFC Hartree Centre provided sponsorship for a series of techUK Big Data in Action Roadshows. Held in Bristol, London and Manchester, these regional events provided the opportunity for SMEs to develop a greater understanding of big data tools and techniques – and of how they can be used to gain value for their business. One-to-one sessions with experts were available for delegates, and case studies highlighted how big data analytics is already making a difference in many industries, such as greater diagnosis accuracy in the healthcare industry.

Benefits

This series of Big Data in Action Roadshows encouraged UK business leaders from large and small organisations alike to take the first steps to implement big data strategies in their companies and sectors. The events helped to ensure that businesses attending had an opportunity to gain access to the knowledge and support needed to form big data collaborations, and provided a springboard to put big data into action across various UK regions and industries.

"The techUK Big Data in Action roadshows brought together local digital communities, industry and academic experts and big data specialists to discuss challenges, share learning and identify areas that offer great potential for big data and data analytics. The attendees have taken away an understanding of big data that will allow them to apply these technologies in their businesses and reap the economic benefits."

– Michael Gleaves, Deputy Director, Hartree Centre

¹Hogan, O and Holdgate, L (2016) | *The Value of Big Data and the Internet of Things to the UK Economy*

²TechUK (2016) | *Understanding, Demystifying and Addressing the UK's Big Data Skills Gap*

Work with us

We collaborate with industrial clients and research partners on projects that create insights and value using high performance computing, big data analytics, simulation and modelling.

By combining our world-class facilities with access to our specialists and computational scientists, we can enable your organisation to produce better outcomes, products and services more quickly and cost-effectively than through conventional R&D workflows.

With our partners we are developing the next generation of supercomputing architectures and software, combining existing best practice with innovation to deliver faster, cooler and more sustainable solutions capable of meeting the challenges of data intensive computing.

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