2019 Boston SPTechCon Conference Program Sneak Peak

(As of April 25, 2019 – all sessions and full details including times, dates and speaker bios will be available mid-May)

Advanced PowerShell for Office 365

Know the basics of PowerShell for Office 365 but want to take it further? In this session, we will look at some awesome real-life examples of how PowerShell can make our life as an admin easier, and at quite a few things that cannot be done from the User Interface! This session requires you to have basic knowledge of PowerShell for Office 365.

Getting Started with Hub Sites: How to Plan and Organize Hub Sites to Build Your Intranet

If you are wondering how to incorporate hub sites into your intranet, this is the session for you! We will review how to determine what your hub sites should be, how to make key decisions for hub site navigation (both mega-menu and local navigation), and best practices for planning and organizing hub sites. You will learn what you can do today with hub sites as well as how to position for the future so that you can build and sustain your dynamic, modern intranet.

Read all about it! Using SharePoint News to Take Employee Engagement to the Next Level

SharePoint News is a great way to keep your organization up-to-date. But do you know that you can also use SharePoint News to take engagement to the next level? This session is all about news – the key features of SharePoint News and how to use them, tips and insights to ensure your news articles are read, and approaches you can use to make sure your colleagues stay in touch with what is going on in the organization.

Collaborating with Office 365 and SharePoint Online

In this full day session, users will be provided with a high level overview of what is available in SharePoint Online and Office 365 and how to use it for everyday tasks. There will be a mixture of demonstrations and hands-on learning to practice working with many features Office 365 has to offer so that users leave with skills they can use immediately.

Approvals in Flow

Approvals alone are more than enough reason to start using Flow today! In this session, you'll learn the various methods of doing approvals in Flow and when to use each method. We'll compare doing approvals using SharePoint Designer workflows to Flow approvals. Live demos will be used to demonstrate each concept including escalating an approval when no action has been taken, sequential approvals, parallel approvals and more! Attend this session and take away the knowledge you need to immediately start using Flow for Approvals.

Microsoft Flow for SharePoint Quick Start

Microsoft Flow is the successor to SharePoint Designer Workflows. While Flow is not just a SharePoint tool, this session will focus on using Flow with SharePoint. We'll start by creating Flows from templates. Then we'll move into creating Flows from scratch. We'll explore how to do many of the operations you now perform with Designer Workflows with Flow. In addition, you'll see how to use Flow to do many tasks you could never do with Designer Workflows. We'll cover Flow approvals and how to escalate an approval. If you are new to creating Flows, this session will give you the tools you need to start creating time saving Flows immediately.

Enterprise Content Management on Office 365

Whether you're coming from files on file shares and desktops or a traditional enterprise content management system, SharePoint on-premises or Online can tame the content hydra and make you feel like you're in control of the process instead of being dragged along behind it. Learn all about the content management features in SharePoint, including those that have been in the platform for a dozen years and those that are new to the party. You'll learn about advanced features like digital loss protection, records management, retention, eDiscovery, and more. We'll also resolve any lingering concerns you may have about the ability for SharePoint to scale to address your needs and concerns about the ability to automate your processes.

Simplifying SharePoint Security

Securing your SharePoint sites doesn't need to be some black-box mystery or some mystic art practiced by monks. You can create security that works for your users' needs, and you can troubleshoot security when you can't figure out why people do – or don't - have permission. Security is built on simple concepts – but on a lot of them. We'll help you organize and understand what permissions do and don't do so you can set and manage security in your sites.

In this session, you'll identify the role of various components in the setup of SharePoint security, including permissions, permission levels, and inheritance. You'll select the appropriate agent rights assignment, whether directly to the user, through a SharePoint group, or using an Active Directory group. And you'll troubleshoot and resolve permission problems.

Introduction to AI and Cognitive Services for Microsoft 365 Developers and Information Workers

"Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning are the new buzzwords in the industry. Microsoft's vision is to make AI accessible to every enterprise, data scientist, developer, information worker, consumer and device everywhere in the world. AI has a big role to play in the enterprise space. The field of AI is progressing at a rapid pace. Without understanding the concepts behind these advanced technologies, developers and administrators will struggle to evaluate the potential impact of new tools and solutions. In this session, we will break down the concepts behind existing technologies, outline various tools available today, and discuss the direction of AI and ML for Office 365 Developers. We will cover how developers, Power Users, and Information workers can take advantages of the Microsoft's AI and Cognitive Services offerings to build real-life enterprise solutions.

Teams Governance Through the Graph API, Flow and SharePoint 365

The collaborative power of Microsoft Teams may never be realized without attention to governance. This session will cover governance concepts as they relate to Microsoft Teams, and will demonstrate a Teams approval workflow using Flow and the Microsoft Graph API

For the Records: Retention in SharePoint Online

Records and retention in SharePoint Online are crucial features for protecting important documents that need to be archived and remain unchanged. We will examine the classic features for records management in SharePoint Online and the new Security and Compliance features made available in Office 365 Labels. These tools will allow us to define retention, classification, and records management. Our focus will be SharePoint Online, but we will see how Office 365 Groups and Microsoft Teams are impacted as well.

Managing a Project with MS Teams and Planner

Executing a project requires nimble collaboration between the project team and stakeholders. Together, they will work on tasks and produce documentation that may also need to be shared with external parties as well. This session will provide an overview of real-time collaboration on files through chat conversations, incorporating email and meetings. We will look at how Planner integrates with Teams and surfaces within the Teams application to expose task assignment and progress. We will walk through the setup of a mock project with a small project team and demo the capabilities of these tools. Our goal is for you to walk away with the knowledge of the tools you need to get started managing projects with Teams and Planner.

SharePoint vs Microsoft Teams vs Office 365 Groups: What Should I Use When?

Microsoft technology is moving at a rapid pace. New ways to work are being developed rapidly as well. A few such new tools are Office 365 Groups and Microsoft Teams. These look powerful and promising but they seem similar. Also, where do they fit with SharePoint? In this session, we will look at what each is, what their differences are, and when is the best time to use each.

Manage your Office 365 Deployments with Azure DevOPS

Organizations that are serious about DevOPS know that they need to integrate the management of their environments within Continuous Integration and Continuous Deployment pipelines. Office365DSC makes it possible for organizations to extract the configuration of their existing tenants workloads (SharePoint Online, OneDrive, Teams, etc.) and eases the process of integrating Office 365 configuration management with Azure DevOPS. Need to make a configuration change to your SharePoint Online Search configurations? Simply update your configuration within Azure DevOPS and let your CI/CD pipelines handle the rest. In this session we will do an end-to-end demo of how organizations can take an existing Office 365 tenants and integrate it with Azure DevOPS Pipelines.

Migrating to Modern SharePoint and Office 365 from Anywhere!

Is your organization thinking about migrating to Modern SharePoint online? It's not as easy as a lift and shift, especially if you are on a completely different platform! In this technical session, leran how you can create and execute a modern migration.

The Everyday Guide to Office 365 Groups (in Outlook, Yammer, & Teams)

Baffled by Office 365 Groups? Join the club. As we're all too aware, confused users mean meager adoption. This session will 1) cover what Groups are; 2) how to create and use Outlook Groups, Yammer Feeds, and Teams Chats; and 3) describe in detail how they're all related (spoiler: they're basically the same thing). Most importantly, you'll pick up use cases that demonstrate when to use which, plus some concise infographics that will help translate this nebulous concept into concrete results. There's no reason to reinvent the wheel: after this user-focused session, you'll receive the slides so you can present your colleagues the same session—tailored to your culture—without much effort. Kill the chaos, then reap the benefits of an engaged organization.

Managing Content Types in the Modern World

When the order of the day was huge, pyramid-shaped Site Collections for capabilities like Intranets, managing your Content Types was relatively easy: any Site Columns and Content Types you built in the root site were available throughout the Site Collection. When we needed more enterprise-wide information architecture, we turned to the Content Type Hub. In our new, flatter world, we need to think about information architecture differently while hanging onto the better practices of the past.

Intro to Microsoft Flow for Non-Developers

This session will introduce users to Microsoft Flow. We will discuss what Flow is, what it can do, and why an end user would be interested. We will walk through creating a couple of fun, easy flows that a user might use for daily life as well as a few business scenarios. We will cover Flow Browser application and Flow smartphone app with buttons and entry form.

Get started with Microsoft Whiteboard: A new way to create and collaborate in the cloud

Microsoft Whiteboard is a free-form, intelligent canvas where your team can ideate, iterate, and work together in person or remotely, across multiple devices. Come find out how to get started with Whiteboard, and how best to use it to enhance teamwork in your organization.

Six Steps for a Successful Teams Pilot

Teams has the potential to permanently change how organizations communicate & collaborate but how do you get started? Stop by to learn six proven steps to successfully pilot Teams. We'll share how to start with the end in mind, how to focus on small victory laps, how to shift learning and support, how to split governance, how to show more than tell to drive adoption! Expect an insight-packed learning experience based on a real-world case study from a 100K+ user organization in Public Sector.

"Wait, Am I A Developer Now?": An Expert SharePoint Administrator's Guide To Beginner's PowerApps

I know you. You're an experience SharePoint administrator who has seen some "stuff." You've handled migrations, "requests" from power users, and the SharePoint Configuration Wizard. You've configured User Profile Services, managed web apps, and installed dubious third party apps at the request of Management. You, my friend, are amazing. You felt like you could handle anything SharePoint threw at you.

And then along came PowerApps.

Practical Tips for Migrating SharePoint Customizations to Office 365

When planning a migration of SharePoint on-premises environment to Office 365, the first thing that comes to mind is organizations often focus mainly on their content - all the documents and items stored across their libraries and lists. Of course, why wouldn't they? It's the reason that they started using SharePoint anyways. But in many cases, the SharePoint environment that has been well adopted and his highly use will include some level of customizations to help meet specific business needs. These may include forms and workflows, scheduled timer jobs, custom look and feel, business logic to interface with other line of business solutions, to name a few.

Building the next-gen intranet with SharePoint and Office 365

With the new releases and features coming to Office 365 building a modern intranet on a dynamic, enterprise grade cloud-based platform needs to have a plan and governance. In this session, join me to learn about modern team sites, communication sites, hub sites – and the newly released webparts with a little touch to PowerApps & Flow. Learn real world scenarios and best practices for information architecture and governance, so that you can build an intranet that delivers significant value to your businesses.

Become a Microsoft Teams Rockstar

Microsoft technology is moving at a rapid pace, join my session for building step-by-step, common Microsoft Teams collaboration advantages and perform live Teams usage scenarios. By using channels, tabs, bots, the command bar, extensibility options with PowerApps and Team's modern collaboration features, watch how your collaboration goes from meh to magnificent. With this session learn how to utilize Team's features to quickly, comprehensively and effectively to create the HUB for collaboration among your users and solve important real-world issues that require an immediate, rich featured collaboration platform.

Introduction to Office 365 Security : Configure, Manage and Monitor

Moving data and applications to cloud companies represents new security and need new approaches to IT security. In this session, we'll cover new stacks in Office365 Security, so you will gain the ability to secure your environment. We'll discover the Office 365 and Azure security features that secure your organization's services, endpoints, and information. Finally, you will explore how to leverage your updated skills to monitor and respond to security incidents. When you're done with this session, you will have the knowledge of Office 365 security needed to keep your organization safe & secure in the cloud.

Top 10 tips to successfully migrate to SharePoint Server 2019

With this ultimate guide, come and learn about different methods & techniques to successfully migrate to SharePoint Server 2019, the next stop on the on-premises journey for SharePoint as it has been designed to meet the demands of modern workstyles. In this session, we have a lot of new information for admins, sharing what's new and coming in the next on-premises version of SharePoint - with insights on hybrid and real-world scenario's on migrations too.

Mastering Modern Authentication and Authorization Techniques for SharePoint, Office 365 and Azure AD Applications

In the cloud-first era, application development for SharePoint, Office 365 and Azure AD requires strong working knowledge of modern authentication and authorization techniques across multiple platforms. in this deep-dive session, developers will learn how to create secure, cloud-ready applications using OAuth, ADAL, and Azure AD to communication with the Microsoft Graph, SharePoint and other cloud-connected services.

Enterprise Content Management (ECM) Solutions in Office 365 and SharePoint

Enterprise content management continues to be a vital area of focus in many organizations. Take a guided tour through a wealth of new features for document management, records, retention, discovery, and disposition in SharePoint Online/2016 and learn how to leverage them in your organization.

Modern Application Development for Office 365 and SharePoint

Progress can sometimes be difficult. Unlike times past, when developers had limited options for building Office and SharePoint solutions, the current landscape offers a confusing array of options for building on-premises, cloud and hybrid solutions. From SharePoint add-ins to Azure web applications, there is a lot to know about how, when, where and why to use each development model. In this full day interactive workshop, we will explore each option, discuss the pros and cons, determine the optimal conditions for each, and see them in action with a series of deep-dive demonstrations. You will learn the pre-requisites for building modern Office and SharePoint applications, gain exposure to the tools and platforms, walk through detailed use cases and equip yourself with the knowledge of not only how to create apps and add-ins but also which to use in each situation.

Turn the Dial to 11 with Microsoft Teams and SharePoint Provisioning Strategies

Communication and collaboration solutions powered by Microsoft Teams and SharePoint empower self-service team and site creation, yet both platforms may be extended with provisioning strategies.

Learn how and most importantly when to use provisioning options including PowerApps, Flow, PowerShell, Site Designs, Templates, Azure, and PnP to turn up the dial and deliver to your organization structured provisioning processes that will drive adoption while maintaining a manageable tenant.

eDiscovery - Understanding Requests for Search, Preservation and Collection with a Focus on Office 365

Information technology professionals face a growing number of requests to identify, preserve and collect emails and SharePoint data. Office 365 and SharePoint administrators are increasingly being asked to work on legal-related assignments. investigators, human resources managers, and attorneys will request IT's help to identify, preserve and collect emails and SharePoint and OneDrive data. What do they want? How can Office 365's security and compliance features help you? IT wants to get the job done as quickly and painlessly while protecting the organization's data. You do not need a law degree or paralegal certificate to work on legal matters; but, basic knowledge about the legal team's work is required to be successful with the Microsoft eDiscovery features in the Microsoft 365 Security & Compliance Center.

Office 365 is more than SharePoint

For the record, Office 365 is more than just SharePoint ;). It's more than just email and Skype as well! In this informative session, we'll walk through the capabilities of Office 365 and its suite of features through use cases of how O365 can support your employees. Document management and sites are awesome in SharePoint, but what about chat, video streaming, reporting, automation, project management and so many other capabilities your O365 has to offer? Whether your brand new and kicking the tires or O365 is an old hat for you, I can guarantee you'll find this session packed with new information and help you refresh your expectations on O365!

Let A.I. and M.L. Take Content Moderation to the Next Level

The potential of SharePoint is abundant and now with Flow you can do even more. However, with more power comes more responsibility and this is where Cognitive Services can help. In this session we'll see how the Computer Vision and Content Moderator Flow connectors can help monitor the images and text that are used in SharePoint and identify personal information, Adult and Racy content.

PowerApps and Flow - A One-Stop Shop for Social Media Communication.

With the increasing number of data connections available, PowerApps with flow makes the cross-platform functionality easier than it has ever been. It's because of this reason PowerApps can be a used as a central base used to send out communications to social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, Yammer, Slack and LinkedIn. This session includes a live demo and walk-through on how a single PowerApp can be used to send announcements. We'll also see how Flow captures social media content and using Cognitive Services detects sentiment values to help analyze. Finally, we'll see how Flow can post the comments on Microsoft teams as a central location to discuss the content.

Developing Bots for Teams and SharePoint

Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella said, "Bots are the new apps," and indeed chatbots are the latest big thing in user interface technology. A quick learning curve, mobile friendliness, and ability to work alongside groups of people in chat applications makes them a natural for today's workforce. You can write Bots for Microsoft Teams; with a little extra work you can even show them on a SharePoint page.

In this session you'll learn how to write Bots in Microsoft Azure, and how to expose them in Teams and SharePoint. You'll learn about the Azure Bot Framework, which allows you to write a Bot once and use it in many applications. You'll also learn how to structure your Bots with Dialogs, how to enrich them with Adaptive Cards, and how to add natural language understanding with LUIS, a part of Azure cognitive services. Don't miss this opportunity to add Bot development to your repertoire!

Azure Security for the SharePoint Developers and Admins

When SharePoint moved to the cloud, it switched from Active Directory to Azure for user and application identities. This is extra confusing because there three versions of Azure security in use, and they're quite different from traditional approaches such as Kerberos or SAML.

This session will demystify Azure security for technical professionals working with SharePoint Online.