AWARDS ISSUE • 52 FINALISTS • 20 WINNERS

InfoWorld Technology of the Year

The InfoWorld Technology of the Year Awards recognize

THE BEST **AND MOST** INNOVATIVE **PRODUCTS OF 2023**

Meet our finalists and winners in this special awards issue.

• AI • BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE • CLOUD

• CONTAINERS • DATA MANAGEMENT

• DATABASES • DEVOPS • DEVELOPMENT





InfoWorld celebrates the year's best products

The arrival of ChatGPT in

late 2022 and the ensuing cascade of large language models ensured that 2023 will forever be known as the year of generative AI (GenAI). With amazing speed, generative AI has rippled across the entire information technology landscape-from software development and devops tools, to data management platforms and analytics tools, to cloud security, compliance, and governance solutions.

We would expect our leading technology providers to jump on innovations like generative AI to make their products easier to use, more

powerful, and more automated. And this is certainly true of this year's candidates for InfoWorld's Technology of the Year Awards. Among the 52 finalists and 20 winners of our 2023 awards. many are harnessing artificial intelligence to redefine their product categories.

The InfoWorld Technology of the Year Awards recog-

nize the best and most innovative products in Al and machine learning, business intelligence (BI) and analytics, cloud, containers, data management, devops, and software development. Read on to meet our finalists and winners.



100x faster real-time JSON analytics.

Zero code change.



Award categories

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Operationalize Al Models at Scale

With incredible efficiency, flexibility & ease in the cloud or at the edge



InfoWorld Technology of the Year Finalist AI and Machine Learning (Development)

Wallaroo.AI **Enterprise Edition AI Production Platform**

Proud to be InfoWorld **Technology of the Year Finalist**







info@Wallaroo.AI



AI and Machine Learning: Development

FINALISTS

Quantiphi baioniq SAS Viya Wallaroo.AI ML Workload Orchestration

WINNER

SAS Viya



From the winner

SAS Viva is a cloud-native analytics and AI platform that not only fulfills the promise of AI, but also brings you speed and productivity you never imagined possible. SAS Viya enables you to scale cost-effectively, increase productivity, and innovate faster, backed by trust and transparency. It makes it possible to integrate teams and technology, enabling all users to work together successfully. Al-based automation and embedded best practices align to the needs and talents of your team, connecting all aspects of the AI and analytics life cycle and helping turn critical questions into trusted decisions.



FROM THE JUDGES:

"Based on the provided benchmark data, SAS Viya used 87% less computing when running 'like' models against linear, logistic, random forest, and gradient boosting algorithms. When training models, SAS Viya appears ahead of the competition in enhanced efficiency, cost reduction, scalability of models, and closing the time-to-insights gap."

AI and Machine Learning: Applications

FINALISTS

Algolia NeuralSearch Glean UiPath Business Automation Platform

WINNER

<u>Glean</u>



FROM THE JUDGES:

"The context for large language models here (enterprise search, knowledge base creation) is novel and useful. ... It's a genuinely useful application for LLMs, using sources of data in enterprise settings as contextual hints (e.g., GitHub vs. Slack)."



From the winner

With workplace information fragmented across tools like chat, email, document repositories, bug tracking tools, customer support systems, and internal wikis, it's no surprise that finding the right information you need to accomplish your goals can be time-consuming and difficult. Glean is an AI-powered enterprise search platform that helps you find and discover exactly the information you need right when you need it. Glean searches all of your apps across your entire company, understanding context, language, behavior, and relationships with others to find personalized answers to your questions. It surfaces knowledge and makes connections with the people who can help, so you and your team never miss a thing.

BI and Analytics

FINALISTS

AnswerRocket Max Celonis Execution Management System Kyvos Insights

WINNER

AnswerRocket Max



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FROM THE JUDGES:

"A practical, highly capable use of GenAI that should deliver significant, tangible benefits by enabling business users to rapidly and easily gain analytical insights."

From the winner

AnswerRocket is an augmented analytics platform created on the idea that data and analytics should be accessible to all. By leveraging AI and ML technology, AnswerRocket empowers customers around the world to confidently explore, analyze, and generate insights from their enterprise data. AnswerRocket's RocketSkills allows users to leverage purpose-built advanced analytics modules that automate analysis for common use cases such as customer churn, SKU rationalization, and brand performance in minutes. RocketSkills uses AI and ML to execute workflows, produce decks, and compose data stories. The platform eliminates information barriers and democratizes data analytics within organizations by providing easily understandable data analysis.

Cloud **Compliance &** Governance

FINALISTS

Clumio Protect LightBeam PrivacyOps **Noname Posture** Management

WINNER

Clumio Protect





FROM THE JUDGES:

"Cloud-native backup with fast restore ... highly granular restore operations for flexible business continuity."

From the winner

Every company in the world has some data that they simply cannot afford to lose. Clumio helps companies ensure that this data is safe, compliant, and access-controlled. Regardless of the sourcedatabases powering applications, data lakes powering AI, or blocks and files powering business systems-Clumio helps its resident data stay immutable and resilient against cyberthreats, operational disruptions, and outages.

Cloud Cost Management

FINALISTS

Hyperglance Kubecost Unravel Platform

WINNER

Kubecost





From the winner

Kubecost is a platform providing real-time cost visibility and insights for developer and finops teams using Kubernetes. With Kubecost's Kubernetes-related cloud cost monitoring, management, and optimization illuminating unnecessary overspend, Kubecost's solution enables customers to reduce their cloud costs by as much as 70% in many cases—and keep those costs continually optimized. Importantly, customers reduce Kubernetes spending without impacting application performance. Kubecost is designed from the ground up for Kubernetes and the cloud-native ecosystem. It is tightly integrated within other technologies that are part of that ecosystem, and partnered with AWS, GCP, and Azure.

FROM THE JUDGES:

"Kubecost has firmly established itself as the de facto standard for measuring the cost of Kubernetes infrastructure, from startups to corporations. There isn't a clear alternative."

Cloud Security

FINALISTS

CrowdStrike Falcon Cloud Security Palo Alto Networks Prisma Cloud

Sysdig Secure

WINNER

Sysdig Secure



FROM THE JUDGES:

"Interesting technology offering security at runtime and using that to inform security earlier in the development life cycle."

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From the winner

The industry has been overwhelmed with fragmented solutions and theories on how to approach cloud security-until Sysdig Secure. Sysdig is a game-changing cloud-native application protection platform (CNAPP) solution that is designed to provide companies with comprehensive security for cloud-native applications, containers, and orchestration platforms. Sysdig is the first CNAPP solution to use insight from runtime to make better-informed decisions during the build/prevention phase through production. Sysdig offers a unified platform that combines multiple security functionalities, enabling enhanced security postures and unrivaled vulnerability prioritization, as well as real-time visibility into environments to proactively detect and respond to security threats, anomalies, and potential breaches.

Containers

FINALISTS

D2iQ DKP Solo.io Gloo Platform Spectro Cloud Palette

WINNER

Gloo Platform





FROM THE JUDGES:

"Gloo provides an excellent API and microservices management solution that is an essential part of any modern development organization. The overall functionality of the product is quite good and provides features that fit nearly all customers' needs."

From the winner

Gloo Platform is the industry's leading application networking platform, combining service mesh, API-GW, and multi-cloud networking into a unified platform that can enable microservice applications across any cloud. Devops and platform-engineering teams strive to reduce complexity to enable greater productivity. Gloo Platform addresses that complexity reduction through the integration of leading opensource technologies into a single, modular platform that addresses API management, zero-trust security, scaling microservices, multi-cloud networking, and industry compliance. Gloo Platform delivers a unified platform that seamlessly integrates into existing devops/ platform-engineering environments through a unified control plane, unified API, and highly automated operations framework.

Data Management: Governance

FINALISTS

Fivetran Metadata API **Integral Platform** Teleskope

WINNER

Teleskope





FROM THE JUDGES:

"Teleskope can help companies that are most exposed to compliance mandates better cope with regulatory requirements, thanks to innovative use of LLM technology."

Teleskope is a modern data protection platform that automates data security, privacy, and compliance at scale to help organizations comply with regulations like GDPR and CCPA. The high-performance platform can, within minutes, seamlessly monitor cloud and SaaS data stores to provide a comprehensive inventory of assetsincluding hidden onesas well as their security and compliance risks. Its advanced classification engine, powered by a large language model and rules engine, is able to adapt to reach unique data storesidentifying sensitive data and its associated personas such as employees or customers.

From the winner

Data Management: Integration

FINALISTS

Airbyte Open Source and **Airbyte Cloud**

Cleo Integration Cloud

SnapLogic Intelligent **Integration Platform**

WINNER

SnapLogic Intelligent **Integration Platform**



Integration

FROM THE JUDGES:

"Nice use of generative AI. Linking systems together is complex and therefore making this easier is a bonus. This will drive results."



From the winner

Our vision is to continually remove the friction from integration by significantly improving the ease and speed of integration via SnapGPT, the industry's first and only generative AI-driven integration solution. SnapGPT accelerates business transformation by enabling citizen developers and IT professionals to streamline data pipeline and integration workflow development using a natural language, ChatGPTlike interface. SnapGPT allows users to generate fully functional integrations, synthetic test data, and complex SQL queries. The solution also offers the ability to fine-tune data mapping and transformations. Users can ask SnapGPT for help creating integrations, choosing connectors, prebuilt templates, or patterns for their use case, or describing/documenting existing integrations.

Data Management: Pipelines

FINALISTS

Acceldata Data Observability Platform

Ascend Data Pipeline Automation Platform

Matillion Data Productivity Cloud

WINNER

Acceldata Data Observability Platform





FROM THE JUDGES:

"Support for a broad variety of data platforms. ... powerful analysis of events and behavior in multi-stage pipelines. ... some open-source components."

From the winner

The Acceldata Data **Observability Platform is** an enterprise data observability platform for the modern data stack. The platform provides comprehensive visibility, giving data teams the real-time information they need to identify and prevent issues and make data stacks reliable. The Acceldata Data **Observability Platform** supports a wide range of data sources such as Snowflake, Databricks, Hadoop, Amazon Athena, Amazon Redshift, Azure Data Lake, Google BigQuery, MySQL, and PostgreSQL. The Acceldata platform provides insights into compute and infrastructure, reliability, pipelines, and users.

Data Management: Streaming

FINALISTS

Confluent Cloud Redpanda

WINNER

Confluent Cloud





FROM THE JUDGES:

"The ability to simplify that task of managing an open-source system is achieved with Confluent Cloud and done while still allowing the solution to be managed and scalable."

From the winner

Confluent Cloud is the only fully managed, cloud-native data streaming platform. Built and operated by the original creators of Apache Kafka, Confluent Cloud makes running Kafka almost effortless, whether companies are running a few applications or using it as a central nervous system that acts as the source of truth for all data. Confluent Cloud enables customers to shift away from point-in-time batch processing, allowing them to utilize real-time data from a continuous stream of events. With Confluent Cloud, organizations can harness the full power of Apache Kafka while avoiding the headaches of infrastructure management and can focus on what matters most: driving business value for customers and stakeholders.

Databases

FINALISTS

DataStax Astra DB Imply Polaris SingleStore SingleStoreDB

WINNER

SingleStore SingleStoreDB



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FROM THE JUDGES:

"SingleStoreDB offers tremendous performance for a number of different workload types. This is a very innovative product that builds from the current software stack, while providing important new functionality that has clear value to the business."

From the winner

SingleStore Kai (with MongoDB compatibility) turbocharges analytics on JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) data and enables vector-based similarity searches for MongoDB applications. This is important as JSON data is one of the most prevalent data types in the modern world, yet NoSQL applications like MongoDB are not able to quickly do analytics on this data. Specifically, SingleStoreDB supports vectors and fast vector similarity search using dot_product and euclidean_distance functions. And with the launch of SingleStore Kai, developers can now utilize the vector and AI capabilities on JSON collections within MongoDB. Developers who are familiar with MongoDB can easily power fast analytics on SingleStoreDB without having to learn a new set of tools or APIsand can continue to use the same MongoDB tools, drivers, skill sets, and ecosystem their customers are most familiar with.

Devops: Delivery

FINALISTS

Onfleet Mirantis Lagoon

WINNER

Onfleet



FROM THE JUDGES:

"Great real-time integrated technology for last-mile delivery, showing strong business impact."

From the winner

Onfleet's platform helps companies manage deliveries and capture the analytics they need to grow their business. Onfleet's last-mile delivery management software solution helps customers achieve cost reduction, efficiency, and sustainability objectives that become critical as demand for delivery increases. Onfleet is the preferred delivery management software solution for companies wanting to provide a superior delivery experience while maximizing efficiencies. We are known for our comprehensive yet easy-to-use solution, powerful reporting and analytics, and interoperability with other technologies.



Devops: **Observability**

FINALISTS

Grafana Cloud Honeycomb Observability Platform

WINNER

Honeycomb Observability Platform



FROM THE JUDGES:

"Honeycomb's ability to store and query high cardinality and high dimensionality data truly sets it apart. Particularly impressive is the attention to business value, with features like QoS alerts and AI-generated queries. The query assistant alone will save users countless hours of troubleshooting."



From the winner

Honeycomb's platform aims to ease the burden of building and monitoring complex software. With Honeycomb, organizations spend less time debugging and firefighting so they can focus on what really matters-innovating and delivering new features for better experiences. This year, Honeycomb launched Query Assistant, the first fully executing natural language querying using generative AI for observability. Leveraging **OpenAl**, Query Assistant enables developers at all levels to ask questions in plain English instead of a query language, dramatically scaling the platform's query power while making it possible for everyone on an engineering team to understand code behavior and performance.

Devops: Productivity

FINALISTS

Gradle Develocity LinearB

WINNER

Gradle Develocity





FROM THE JUDGES:

"Multiple technology innovations address a core problem for large development shops becoming data-driven in helping developers become efficient in addressing software build issues and tests. ... The innovation is its datadriven approach and how it connects to dev tools to identify causes of issues."

From the winner

Develocity (formerly Gradle Enterprise) improves developer productivity and the developer experience by addressing key developer productivity points of friction, frustrations, and bottlenecks associated with the build and test process. This directly and positively impacts several strategic business outcomes ... including faster time to market for revenuegenerating software products and services and mission-critical operational improvements; reduced cost of software development; better quality digital services and brand experience; and improved ability to attract and retain developer talent by providing a better developer experience.

Devops: **Security**

FINALISTS

Arnica Application Security Platform

CrowdStrike Falcon LogScale

Edgio Web Application and API Protection

WINNER

Arnica Application Security Platform





From the winner

Arnica provides companies with a behavior-based platform for supply chain and application security. Arnica is the first comprehensive pipeline-less security solution to identify and prevent risks associated with your developers, code, and application in real time. Arnica's platform provides full coverage through native integrations into GitHub, Azure DevOps, and Bitbucket, enabling hard-coded secrets mitigation, anomaly detection, excessive permissions mitigation, and code risk security across SAST, IAC, SCA, and third-party package reputation scanning. Mitigation actions are served up to developers via chatops integrations with tools like Slack and Microsoft Teams.

FROM THE **JUDGES:** "Integrated into workflow at the developer level with options for admin notification. ... a highly granular solution for software supply chain security."

Devops: Testing

FINALISTS

Copado Robotic Testing Tricentis Testim

WINNER

Copado Robotic Testing





FROM THE JUDGES:

"Excellent tech that has already proven successful. If GenAI can now be infused totally, this will boost [Copado] to even greater heights."

From the winner

Backed by Salesforce Ventures and Insight Venture Partners, Copado helps development teams build end-to-end digital transformation for 1.200+ global brands like Coca-Cola, T-Mobile, Medtronic, and Volkswagen. Copado has a 4.99 star rating on the Salesforce AppExchange and is proven to drive 20X more frequent releases, 95% less downtime, 10X faster testing, and 20% greater productivity. Each month, Copado processes 50 million devops transactions and upskills 60,000+ tech professionals on the world's largest devops community. Copado also announced strategic partnerships with IBM and Veeva and now has the largest low-code devops ecosystem with more than 150 partners.

Software Development: Tools

FINALISTS

Mirantis Lens Tabnine Enterprise

WINNER

Tabnine Enterprise





FROM THE JUDGES:

"Tabnine Enterprise delivers GenAl innovation in software development, an area that is fertile ground for GenAl capabilities and where there is likely to be much more activity in the near future. Code privacy is a significant plus, as is economical pricing."

From the winner

Tabnine is the first company to build and use large language models to enable developers to write, test, and scale code for enterprises. What's more, Tabnine, through significant engineering breakthroughs, was able to build a solution efficient enough to run on a laptop without GPUs. A standout differentiator for Tabnine is code privacy. Tabnine never stores or shares any of its user's code. Any action that shares code with the Tabnine servers for the purpose of private code models (part of the enterprise offering) requires explicit optin. Tabnine does not retain any user code beyond the immediate time frame required for training models. Private code models created by Tabnine Enterprise are only accessible to team members.

Software Development: Platforms

FINALISTS

Oracle APEX

Vercel

WINNER

Oracle APEX



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FROM THE JUDGES:

"Build applications on the cloud in a web browser with AI assistance, with zero coding and zero code generation, with everything defined in metadata, right on top of your existing data or a new data model? Sounds like the future of software development."

From the winner

Oracle APEX is the world's most popular enterprise low-code application platform. It enables you to build scalable and secure cloud and mobile apps with world-class features 20X faster with 100X less code. Oracle APEX delivers the most productive way to develop and deploy mobile and web apps everywhere—on the cloud and on-premises.



Software Development: Services

FINALISTS

Frontegg Identity Platform ngrok Platform

WINNER

ngrok Platform



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FROM THE JUDGES:

"ngrok uses a great approach with simplified API-first ingress-as-a-service. This affords quick access to any application or service without having to change their code. They balanced security with resiliency all in one offering."

From the winner

ngrok is a simplified API-first ingress-as-a-service that adds connectivity, security, and observability to apps in one line. Users can make any application, device, or service globally available in seconds without changing their code and it works with the tools developers already love and are already using. ngrok wraps the complexity of authentication, remote management, load balancing, and even the unpredictable nature of the network itself into a programmable component embeddable into any stack. ngrok is built for global scale with security, resiliency, programmability, and extensibility in one place. It supports a growing number of integrations with libraries including Python, JavaScript, Go, and Rust; a Kubernetes Ingress Controller; and a Docker Desktop Extension.

About the judges

Stan Gibson is an award-winning editor, writer, and speaker, with 40 years' experience covering information technology. Formerly executive editor of eWEEK and PC Week, and senior editor at Computerworld, he is currently an Adjunct Analyst at IDC. As principal of Stan Gibson Communications, he writes for many web sites, including CIO.com, and is a popular host for online events.

Kieran Gilmurray is CEO of Digital Automation and Robotics Ltd. In this role, Kieran helps businesses use AI, data analytics, Generative AI, ChatGPT, intelligent automation, RPA, and LinkedIn to beat their competition.

Aaron Goldberg is a renowned industry analyst, writer, and visionary with 40+ years of B2B tech experience. He has worked with all levels of management at IT vendors, along with CIOs and IT executives at end-customer organizations. His focus centers on identifying the business value of technology solutions.

Richard Heimann is an accomplished Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer with expertise in AI strategy, cybersecurity, and ethics, leading organizations like SilverSky and Cybraics to integrate Al into their products and services effectively, achieving significant business growth and industry recognition. His leadership has resulted in successful AI deployments, fostered innovation, and contributed to the broader field through teaching, advisory roles, and published works on AI and data science.

Rajesh Jethwa has spent 20 years delivering tailor-made multimillion-pound software for global enterprise organizations. He now helps organizations transform, innovate, and scale. At Digiterre, Raj consults with global financial services, energy, and commodities trading organizations. As CTO, he oversees teams that address complex data and software engineering challenges. Additionally, he advises on enterprise agility, technology strategy, and digital transformation.



Get up to 50% more AI workloads for the same cost with platform specific AI for:

>>< snowflake®

Big Query Google Cloud



unravel

Data Observability and FinOps Platform

unraveldata.com

databricks

Peter Nichol is chief technology officer with OROCA Innovations. Peter is a CTO, 4X author, MIT Sloan, and Yale School of Management speaker dedicated to helping organizations connect strategy to execution to maximize company performance. His career has focused on driving and quantifying business value by championing disruptive technologies such as data analytics, blockchain, data science, and artificial intelligence.

Igor Oliveira is Partner, Technology at Work & Co. He is a senior software developer fascinated by the underlying essence of computer concepts with a passion for open source as a development model. His focus is on systematic problem solving. In his past life, Igor was a software engineer at Samsung and Nokia.

Vishal Parekh is an innovative software architect/engineer with proven managerial expertise. He has an excellent track record of architecting, designing, managing, building, and delivering highly reliable and scalable systems across diverse domains, including cloud-based solutions, internet/ enterprise products, and financial systems. Vishal is passionate toward holistic well-being through daily yoga and meditation practices.

Dr. Rebecca Parsons recently took the role of CTO Emerita after serving as CTO for Thoughtworks for many years. She continues to pursue her interests in evolutionary architecture, responsible technology (particularly responsible AI), and parallel and distributed systems. She recently co-authored the second edition of the book Building Evolutionary Architectures.

Ramprakash Ramamoorthy leads the AI efforts for Zoho Corporation. Ramprakash has been instrumental in setting up Zoho's AI platform from scratch. He comes with a rich 11+ years of experience in building AI for the enterprise at Zoho, The AI platform currently serves over 5 billion requests a month and is growing strong. He is a passionate leader with a levelheaded approach to emerging technologies and a sought-after speaker at tech conferences.

Isaac Sacolick is president of StarCIO, a technology leadership company that guides organizations on mentoring digital trailblazers and building digital transformation core competencies. He is the author of *Digital Trailblazer* and the Amazon bestseller Driving *Digital* and speaks about agile planning, devops, data science,

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Scott Schober is president and CEO of Berkeley Varitronics Systems, a 50-year-old provider of advanced, world-class wireless test and security solutions. He is the author of three bestselling security books: Hacked Again, Cybersecurity is Everybody's Business, and Senior Cyber. Scott is a highly sought-after author and expert for live security events, media appearances, and commentary on the topics of ransomware, wireless threats, drone surveillance and hacking, cybersecurity for consumers, and small business.

Serdar Yegulalp is a senior writer at InfoWorld, covering software development and operations tools, the Python ecosystem, machine learning, containerization, and reviews of products in those categories. Before joining InfoWorld, Serdar wrote for the original Windows Magazine, InformationWeek, the briefly resurrected *Byte*, and a slew of other publications. When he's not covering IT, he's writing SF and fantasy published under his own personal imprint, Infinimata Press.

EDITORIAL

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