

# Sourcing Industry Conference

September 15 - 17, 2025  
Dallas, TX




Last year, only 15% of enterprises had Generative AI pilots in production, and scaling was proving difficult for those at that point. Overcoming these challenges is still top of mind, but Agentic AI's entrance into the AI arena has introduced new priorities. With so many priorities, enterprise clients are demanding simpler, ready-built AI solutions - and less experimentation. And in this time of high economic pressure, they need to see AI driven results: efficiencies, savings, innovation and scale. Cost optimization and self-funding initiatives are more important than ever.

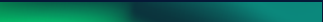
Returning for its 19th year, the **ISG Sourcing Industry Conference** brings together ISG advisors and the software, technology and service provider communities to lead through and beyond AI hype. Every year hundreds of provider attendees get actionable insight into buying behaviors, market trends and how to position products and services in an evolving technology landscape.

Join us this September in Dallas for this must-attend, intimate gathering of leaders, influencers and market shapers.

# Reasons to Attend



Get an inside-peek into the **key trends** that will shape the landscape in 2025 and beyond




**Meet one-on-one** with ISG's top advisors and thought leaders, live in Dallas



Unlock **data-driven market intelligence** to shape your customer success strategy



Understand and **proactively address** top concerns and investment priorities for your executives



Discover best-practice tips to navigate a turbulent economic environment

# Meet the Speakers



**Nidhi Alexander**

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CMO,  
Hexaware



**Wendy Anderson**

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Senior Director, Data &  
Analytics,  
Georgia Pacific



**Brandon Ashcraft**

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SVP, Head of Delivery D&S NA,  
Hexaware Technologies



**Talfred Ball**

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CTO,  
Breville



**Sameer Bhagwat**

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Vice President •  
AMERICAS,  
Capgemini America Inc.



**Shimona Chadha**

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Chief Marketing Officer,  
Persistent Systems Inc.



**Roopa Foulger**

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VP Digital and Innovation  
Development,  
OSF Healthcare System



**Manish Goyal**

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VP & Senior Partner, Global  
Leader - Enterprise Strategy & AI  
Transformation, IBM Consulting



**Lisa Graver**

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Advisor Relations,  
NTT DATA

# Meet the Speakers



**Ed Hansen**

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Founder,  
Transformation  
Enablement LLC



**Alexander Kleinman**

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Global Strategy Leader,  
Genpact



**Dr. Anurag Mairal**

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Adjunct Professor of Medicine;  
Director of Global Outreach;  
Faculty Lead, Tech Innovation,  
Stanford University



**Simon Paul**

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Vice President,  
Cognizant



**Robin Shahani**

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Senior Vice President,  
FIS



**Anika Sharma**

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North America Advisor  
Relations Leader,  
LTIMindtree



**Rachel Smith**

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Global Head of Enterprise  
Data Governance & Third-  
Party Data Solutions,  
McKesson



**Jan Erik Aase**

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Partner and Global  
Head, IPL,  
ISG



**Loren Absher**

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Director, Americas Lead  
– AI Advisory,  
ISG





**Rekha Acharya**

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Partner  
ISG



**SG Anand**

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Director - Healthcare,  
ISG



**Alex Bakker**

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Director of Primary  
Research,  
ISG



**Korey Barnard**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Ted Bedell**

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Director,  
ISG



**John Boccuzzi, Jr.**

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President, ISG  
Research,  
ISG



**Raymond Brindley**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Jon Brock**

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Director,  
ISG



**James Burke**

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Partner,  
ISG

# Meet the Speakers



**Wayne Butterfield**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Richard Chang**

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Director,  
ISG



**Ola Chowning**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Lois Coatney**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Todd Dreger**

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President, Enterprise  
Growth,  
ISG



**Tara Dulin**

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Principal Consultant,  
ISG



**Michael Fullwood**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Matteo Gallina**

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Digital Engineering  
Practice Lead,  
ISG



**Randy Geoghagan**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Paul Gottsegen**

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President,  
ISG



**Ryan Hamze**

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Director,  
ISG



**Chase Hawkins**

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Director, Partnerships  
and Alliances,  
ISG



**Dale Hearn**

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Energy Industry Partner,  
ISG



**Bill Huber**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Stanton Jones**

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Distinguished Analyst,  
ISG



**Chris Karalis**

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Director,  
ISG



**Prashant Kelker**

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Chief Strategy Officer &  
President,  
ISG



**David Kelliher**

---

Principal Consultant,  
ISG

# Meet the Speakers



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**Bob Krohn**

Partner,  
ISG



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**Olga Kupriyanova**

Director,  
ISG



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**Jerry Lawson**

Director,  
ISG



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**John Lytle**

Director,  
ISG



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**David Menninger**

Executive Director,  
Software Research,  
ISG



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**Andy Miears**

Partner,  
ISG



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**Shriram Natarajan**

Director,  
ISG



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**Anay Nawathe**

Director,  
ISG



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**Jeff Orr**

Director of Research, IT  
& Infrastructure,  
ISG





**Chris Pattacini**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Amy Phelps**

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Business Development,  
ISG



**Sunder Pillai**

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Director,  
ISG



**Paul Reynolds**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Mike Rose**

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Director,  
ISG



**Kathy Rudy**

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Data, Analytics and  
Technology Office,  
ISG



**Sunder Sarangan**

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Executive Director,  
Research,  
ISG



**Andrew Sauter**

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Director,  
ISG



**Doug Saylor**

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Partner,  
ISG

# Meet the Speakers



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**Sarah Schaiper**

Director,  
ISG



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**Matt Shaheen**

Director,  
ISG



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**Mark Smith**

Chief Software Analyst and  
Partner,  
ISG



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**Jason Stading**

Director,  
ISG



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**Robert Stapleton**

Partner,  
ISG



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**Jenn Stein**

Partner, Life Science  
Practice Lead,  
ISG



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**Kimberly Tobias**

Partner,  
ISG



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**Randy Tucker**

Partner,  
ISG



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**Alisha VanSistine-Boss**

Principal Consultant,  
ISG



**Chuck Walker**

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Partner,  
ISG



**Mitchell Whitus**

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Principal Consultant,  
ISG



**Dennis Winkler**

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Director,  
ISG

# Summit Agenda

## Day 01 - Monday, 15 September 2025

11:00 - Registration & Light Lunch  
13:00

### 12:00 - W1A. The Evolving State of the Advisor Relations 12:25 Function

Get a firsthand look into the results of the annual 2025 ISG Advisor Relations benchmark, which provides insights into the evolving trends on how service providers fund and allocate their Advisor Relations budgets and how teams are changing to engage with third party advisors. Attain the information you need to support your annual Advisor Relations strategic plan for next year.



**Paul Reynolds**  
ISG

### W1B. Beyond Throughput: Designing for Thought – The Next Evolution of GCCs

In the age of AI, GCCs aren't chasing cost or scale anymore. They're being built to think, not just do. In this session, we reveal four bold patterns reshaping GCCs into engines of strategy, not just execution. If you're still selling talent and throughput, you'll be left behind. Learn what's coming, what enterprises will demand next, and how providers must evolve to stay in the game.



**Michael Fullwood**  
ISG



**Prashant Kelker**  
ISG



12:30 - 14:00 **1:1 Meetings with ISG Advisors**

12:30 - 12:55 **W2A. The Future of Software Research at ISG: 2026 to 2028**

The future of software research at ISG is set to evolve dramatically between 2026 and 2028, driven by AI technologies. This session outlines the changing landscape of software research and establishes a forward-looking agenda that emphasizes the critical areas of focus in the coming years. It highlights the utilization of the ISG Buyers Guide for enterprise assessment and selection processes, along with an overview of ISG Provider Intelligence and the Software Index.

- Gain insight into the Software Research Agenda for 2026 to 2028.
- Understand how the ISG Buyers Guide is the gold standard.
- Get a sneak peek into ISG Provider Intelligence with Software Index.



**David Menninger**  
ISG



**Mark Smith**  
ISG

## **W2B. Who's the Best Ranked in any Market? Opening the Book on Next Level Strategic Decision Making**

ISG has introduced new strategic insights capabilities aimed at helping enterprises select best in class providers plus aiding providers to boost capability where others are ranked higher. Our new ability to take ISG Tango and deep dive every industry and cross industry IPL now enables us to help providers and Enterprises to make more strategic decisions. Learn how ISG can new better advise the entire buying cycle of the enterprise market. Attendees of this session will be given a sneak preview of strategic insights

and an overview of our new tools and processes that will improve your understanding to data gathering and analyst interaction and how it impacts sourcing plus how to more effectively communicate capabilities and differentiators with ISG Research. and an overview of our new tools and processes that will improve your understanding to data gathering and analyst interaction and how it impacts sourcing plus how to more effectively communicate capabilities and differentiators with ISG Research.



**Jan Erik Aase**  
ISG

**13:00 - 13:25     W3A. Driving Competitive Advantage: Price Strategies for IT Service Providers**

In today's challenging market, IT service providers must sharpen their pricing strategies to stay competitive and profitable. Explores how to compete effectively on price, improve margins, and deliver the value-based pricing clients expect. Discover insights on leveraging market price data, understanding industry-specific IT costs, and aligning service offerings to optimize contract structure and profitability.



**Mike Rose**  
ISG



**Andrew Sauter**  
ISG

**W3B. An Insight into ISG's Supply Chain Management Offering**

In response to the evolving demands of the global marketplace, ISG is poised to enhance its Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) offerings by incorporating Supply Chain Management (SCM) services. This strategic expansion aims to leverage ISG's existing expertise in BPO to optimize supply chain operations for clients across various industries. Through a comprehensive analysis of current SCM trends and challenges, ISG can assist clients transform their SCM capabilities

leveraging advanced technologies and best practices to streamline processes, reduce operational costs, and improve overall efficiency. This initiative is expected to not only strengthen ISG's competitive position in the BPO sector but also deliver significant value to customers by enabling greater agility and responsiveness in their supply chains. Ultimately, this expansion reflects ISG's commitment to innovation and excellence in service delivery, paving the way for sustainable growth and enhanced client satisfaction.



**David Kelliher**  
ISG



**Robert Stapleton**  
ISG

**13:30 - 13:55      W4. ISG Market Lens: Key Findings for the IT and Business Services Industry**

ISG Market Lens is conducting detailed market analysis and buyer behavior research year-round. In this session, we've consolidated some key findings that anyone at SIC needs to know. Join Alex Bakker, ISG Distinguished Analyst, as he takes you through some key findings and answers questions in this data-driven session. Be better informed about the enterprise behaviors that are driving contract activity and IT demand.



**Alex Bakker**  
ISG



**Sunder Sarangan**  
ISG

**14:15 - 14:30      CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**



**Chuck Walker**  
ISG

**14:35 - 15:05      ISG KEYNOTE: State of the Market: Software, Services & AI**

Global business uncertainty is at a decades-high, driven by trade

upheavals, geopolitical shocks, and slowing growth—putting intense pressure on enterprises. In response, companies are racing to deploy agentic and generative AI to boost productivity and reduce costs, yet meaningful ROI remains elusive. At the same time, AI is rapidly blurring the lines between software and services, fueling nonstop disruption as companies struggle to scale the rising “AI Wall.” These converging forces are set to redefine the Software & Services Market in 2026 and beyond, demanding bold strategies and agile new operating models to stay competitive. Using the intelligence from ISG Index, this session will help navigate the intertwined services and software economy.

- Understand how cost efficiency demands, and AI ambitions are shaping enterprise buying behavior—reflected in the latest software and services bookings from ISG Index.
- Learn why many enterprises are hitting the “AI Wall,” and what providers must do to help clients achieve meaningful productivity and ROI.
- Gain insight into the bold strategies, operating models, and differentiators that will separate winners from laggards in the next wave of AI disruption.



**Stanton Jones**  
ISG



**Mark Smith**  
ISG

**15:10 - 15:40 ISG PREDICTS: The Next Five Years in Services:  
Rebuilding the Enterprise Stack for the Intelligence  
Economy**

As AI, cloud, and data converge, enterprises aren't just modernizing - they're rewiring. Explore how the next five years will reshape everything from infrastructure and applications to ERP, sourcing, and value delivery. What happens to our services when software becomes autonomous, data becomes decision-making, and services shift from people to outcomes? ISG's Prashant Kelker will provoke



the ambition and urgency to rethink how we build, sell, and operate technology. If you're a tech leader, platform builder, or service provider - this is your map to the future.



**Prashant Kelker**

ISG

15:40 - **Networking Break**  
16:00

16:00 - **1:1 Meetings with ISG Advisors**  
18:00

16:00 - **13A. Vertical Industry Insights: Manufacturing**  
16:30

ISG's vertical leaders provide insight into the market, their observations of the challenges, and our vision of the future in this market.



**John Lytle**

ISG

## **13B. OCM for Sourcing Helps to Prevent Value Leakage!**

When organizations outsource IT or business functions, they aim to achieve cost reduction, cost avoidance, and value creation—but these goals can be undermined without the right change management approach. Explore how strategic OCM planning and targeted people enablement minimize value leakage, drive adoption of new operating models, and strengthen client-provider partnerships. How can you overcome resistance, reduce cognitive load through clear, consistent messaging, and empower retained teams for long-term success?



**Tara Dulin**

ISG



**Randy Geoghagan**

ISG



**Alisha VanSistine-Boss**  
ISG

## 13C. The Application Landscape

The enterprise applications landscape is undergoing rapid change, shaped by new technologies, economic pressures, and shifting market demands. Enterprises now seek greater intelligence, fluidity, and transparency across their operational value streams and application ecosystems. They expect providers to unlock more value from existing platforms, data assets, and complementary solutions—while delivering outcomes, not just services. This session will level-set realistic enterprise expectations, outline what providers can and should deliver to meet these evolving needs, and explore how providers can guide enterprises toward higher levels of AI adoption.



**Shriram Natarajan**  
ISG



**Chuck Walker**  
ISG

## 13D. Collaborative and Agentic AI Software: Future of Work is Now

The rapid rise of AI is transforming how people connect, communicate, and collaborate—reshaping both the workforce and the customer experience. How are collaboration and communications software intersecting with the growth of AI, and what does it mean for the future of work? Examine the emergence of collaborative AI platforms and their impact on productivity, creativity, and decision-making across teams. As AI agents and digital assistants become more intelligent and proactive, they are poised to redefine roles, workflows, and interactions in both business and IT environments. The evolution of legacy collaboration and productivity tools is changing, and Agentic AI is being embedded into modern collaborative platforms. Even the future of CPaaS platforms will

enable smarter, more dynamic engagement across workforces and to customers and consumers.



**Mark Smith**

ISG

16:45 -  
17:15

## **14A. Vertical Industry Insights: Consumer Services**

ISG's vertical leaders provide insight into the market, their observations of the challenges, and our vision of the future in this market.



**Sunder Pillai**

ISG

## **14B. PANEL: Pitch Perfect: Tips to Win Your FutureSource RFP**

Discover best practices for navigating the ISG FutureSource process and gain practical tips for success while learning how to avoid common pitfalls during the RFP phase, and explore why the FutureSource approach drives better outcomes for both providers and clients.



**Mitchell Whitus**

ISG



**Nidhi Alexander**

Hexaware



**Sameer Bhagwat**

Capgemini America  
Inc.



**Lisa Graver**

NTT DATA

## **14C. The Price of Performance: IT Spend, Productivity, and Quality Trends**

As client expectations, inflation, and delivery models evolve, accurate service costing is key to staying competitive. Explore IT spending

trends, pricing strategies, and service performance in an AI-enabled world. How can data-driven pricing and performance insights fuel differentiation and stronger client partnerships in 2025 and beyond.

- What are the latest market pricing trends shaping IT services in 2025?
- How are enterprise needs and priorities shifting in an AI-enabled world?
- How are providers adjusting delivery models to effectively balance costs, service quality, and capability?



**Chris Karalis**  
ISG



**Mike Rose**  
ISG

## 14D. The Next Cloud and Cyber Reality: Integration, Sovereignty, and AI at Scale

The practical application of Cloud Computing software is essential for evolving IT and enterprise services over the next five years. Explore the critical landscape of Public, Private, Hybrid and Sovereign clouds, providing insights into Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS), Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) and Software-as-a-Service (SaaS). What are the implications of evolving cloud platforms on enterprise cybersecurity and the requirements for seamlessly interconnecting diverse cloud environments? Discover the transformative role of sovereign clouds, focusing on regulatory requirements and the emerging GPU-as-a-Service and uncover how Generative AI (GenAI) and Agentic AI are revolutionizing the ways cloud services augment enterprise needs will equip you with the knowledge to understand if your offerings will meet the next generation of IT needs.



**Jeff Orr**  
ISG



17:30 -  
18:00

## 15A. Vertical Industry Insights: Financial Services

ISG's vertical leaders provide insight into the market, their observations of the challenges, and our vision of the future in this market.



**Lois Coatney**  
ISG

## 15B. The Impact of AI Ops on IT Services Pricing

Our analysis of 150+ case studies and insights from 15 leading service providers reveals the game-changing impact of AI Ops in IT managed services. Automation, predictive capacity forecasting, and performance optimization are no longer emerging trends—they're becoming the standard. These AI-driven capabilities are delivering higher service levels, reduced downtime, and stronger customer satisfaction. In this session, we'll unpack how AI Ops is reshaping managed services pricing across both infrastructure and application domains—and what it means for the future of IT operations.

- How do you leverage AIOps to experience productivity improvements and cost reductions between 30-58%?
- How are these emerging transformations manifesting in significant IT managed services price reductions?
- How can you redefine your operating model to embrace the business value of AI Ops benefits in IT sourcing?



**Ted Bedell**  
ISG



**Mike Rose**  
ISG

## 15C. The Quantum Threat: Bigger than Y2K, When Will it REALLY Impact your Organization?

The advancements in Quantum computing are occurring at significantly higher pace than expected as recently as 2 years ago.

This poses significant threats to organizations from a Cybersecurity and a competitive revenue perspective. Learn about the start of Quantum computing, and what your organization should be doing about this NOW!



**Doug Saylor**  
ISG

## 15D. The Future of Data: A Tower of Software Value for IT and Business

As enterprises strive to gain differentiation through data and AI, the architecture required to support data and AI systems is undergoing a radical transformation. What are the software architecture, platforms and capabilities required to fulfill emerging data and AI requirements? Examine the role of real-time data with event-driven architecture as well as streaming data processing and analytics, identifying when it is the “right-time” for investment and impact. Discover how data platforms are evolving to meet the demands of next-generation agentic applications, and why data management is essential for enabling governance, integration and intelligence across public and private cloud-centric environments to meet efficiency and data sovereignty requirements. How can data operations software can simplify collaboration between IT and business teams, empowering more agile and intelligent decision-making across the enterprise?



**David Menninger**  
ISG

18:00 - **Welcome Reception**  
19:30

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## Day 02 - Tuesday, 16 September 2025

08:00 - **Breakfast**  
09:00

08:45 - **CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**  
08:50



**Chuck Walker**  
ISG

08:55 - **PANEL: Evolution of AI in Health Sciences**  
09:25

AI is reshaping healthcare, driving advances in diagnostics, personalized treatment, and operational efficiency. In clinical settings, AI outperforms humans in detecting early-stage cancers, extracts insights from notes, predicts patient deterioration, and powers remote monitoring. In non-clinical areas, providers and payers use GenAI and agentic AI to optimize costs and streamline administration. While challenges around data privacy and bias remain, AI adoption is accelerating, with record investments and mainstream implementation across global health systems.

- How can you improve know-how on implementation of data-oriented services that address core healthcare needs?
- How would AI need to process unstructured data and imaging data?
- How can technology assist in personalized and pro-active care?



**SG Anand**  
ISG



**Wayne Butterfield**  
ISG



**Dr. Anurag Mairal**  
Stanford University



**Rachel Smith**  
McKesson

## 09:30 - 10:00 **PANEL: Next-GenAI Driven Cost Optimization**

This session brings together clients and service provider practitioners to discuss cutting edge cost optimization strategies through AI. Explore emerging and maturing AI solutions that drive cost optimization across IT, manufacturing, and SG&A expenses and discuss practical strategies toward driving adoption to enhance efficiency and competitiveness in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

- Learn how 2025 has brought new advances in maturing AI tools and strategies.
- Gain actionable insights on how GenAI-driven services translate into tangible cost reductions and operational efficiencies.
- Understand how to leverage client/service provider partnerships to accelerate scalable, GenAI-powered solutions, ensuring sustained cost competitiveness in a dynamic economic environment.



**Bill Huber**  
ISG



**Wendy Anderson**  
Georgia Pacific



**Manish Goyal**  
IBM Consulting



**Ed Hansen**  
Transformation  
Enablement LLC



**Alexander Kleinman**  
Genpact



**Simon Paul**  
Cognizant

## 10:00 - 10:15 **Networking Break**

## 10:15 - 12:15 **1:1 Meetings with ISG Advisors**

## 10:15 - 10:45 **21A. Vertical Industry Insights: Insurance**



ISG's vertical leaders provide insight into the market, their observations of the challenges, and our vision of the future in this market.



**Dennis Winkler**  
ISG

## 21B. Why Should Service Providers Engage with Software Providers?

Artificial intelligence and agents are set to disrupt the software industry and not just from the multitude of futuristic use cases that will affect end users in every department of a company. Software providers are counting on promoting AI and agentic AI as a way to reduce implementation costs, speed time to value and reduce software migration risk. This threatens to displace a significant percentage of the traditional sources of income for service providers. Software company roadmaps point to a world where service providers revenue from traditional activities will be a fraction of what they are today, but new opportunities open up. In a period of rapid change, service providers should act strategically to forge broader and deeper relationships with software providers.

In the new world of AI, what strategies should service providers adopt to avoid disruption?



**Alex Bakker**  
ISG

## 21C. Vertical Industry Insights: Energy & Utilities

ISG's vertical leaders provide insight into the market, their observations of the challenges, and our vision of the future in this market.



**Korey Barnard**  
Partner



**Dale Hearn**  
ISG

11:00 -  
11:30

## 22A. Vertical Industry Insights: Life Sciences

ISG's vertical leaders provide insight into the market, their observations of the challenges, and our vision of the future in this market.



**Michael Fullwood**  
ISG



**Randy Tucker**  
ISG

## 22B. Agentic AI and Future of Business Applications: Everything Changes

The integration of Agentic AI is set to redefine the future of business applications, transforming front to back-office operations. This radical shift is reshaping enterprise evaluations of business software. As organizations adapt to these changes, a new paradigm for business and industry software research emerges.

- How does AI-infused software boost productivity and upskill the workforce while enhancing the user experience?
- Where does AI change the way business software works?
- What do enterprises need in business applications for the future with AI?



**Mark Smith**  
ISG

## 22C. Agentic Readiness: The Rise of Sourcing for Data Tower

Despite the hype around GenAI, one challenge keeps surfacing: data. Backed by recent ISG research, this session explores the internal and provider-side gaps that are preventing organizations from fully activating their AI strategies. We will also introduce the concept of the "data tower," a framework emerging from this research, and explore its growing relevance in an AI-driven enterprise landscape.



**Loren Absher**  
ISG



**Alex Bakker**  
ISG

11:45 -  
12:15

## 23A. Vertical Industry Insights: Healthcare

ISG's vertical leaders provide insight into the market, their observations of the challenges, and our vision of the future in this market.



**James Burke**  
ISG

## 23B. Today's Industry 5.0 and the Future of Decentralized Dark Factories

Lights-out manufacturing sets the stage for the realization of Decentralized Dark Factories, promoting a completely hands-off approach to smart manufacturing. What do today's trending technologies in Industry 4.0/5.0 promise?

- What's required for an Industry 5.0 transformation?
- What adoption and implementation challenges will you face to reach the era of Dark Factories?



**Ryan Hamze**  
ISG

## 23C. AI Market with Agentic and GenAI: New Software Universe

The emergence of Agentic and Generative AI is ushering in a new era for the AI software market, fundamentally reshaping the software universe. Investigate the evolving data foundations that support enterprise AI applications, alongside significant transformations in cloud computing and platforms for business software. As enterprises

adapt, they are redefining criteria for evaluating AI and IT software solutions. We will address future directions in AI and IT software research, emphasizing key insights.



**David Menninger**

ISG

**12:15 - Lunch**  
**13:15**

**13:15 - KEYNOTE: AI First to AI Last: The Future of a Rapidly**  
**13:45 Transforming Economy**

We are entering a new era—one where the pace of AI-driven transformation will make past technological shifts seem like slow motion. In this keynote, we will explore “AI First to AI Last”, a journey through a rapidly evolving economy where artificial intelligence moves from being a competitive differentiator to becoming the invisible operating fabric of businesses and industries.

Drawing parallels to the layered realities in the film *Inception*, we will examine how AI will fundamentally reshape sourcing at multiple levels—some visible, some systemic, and some imperceptible at first glance. Like all transformative technologies, AI today risks being overestimated in the short term but profoundly underestimated in its long-term impact.

As technology providers rapidly pivot to support hybrid ecosystems of human workflows, humans-in-the-loop, and AI-driven decision engines, the very structure of complex services and commercial pricing models will evolve. New forms of value will emerge—driven by AI autonomy, human-AI collaboration, and dynamic sourcing ecosystems.

This keynote will provide cutting-edge research, emerging use cases, and a strategic vision for navigating this rapidly changing landscape. Attendees will leave with a practical roadmap to evolve from AI-first

adoption to AI-first integration, preparing their organizations to lead in the AI-saturated economy of the future.



**Dr. Anurag Mairal**  
Stanford University

**13:50 - 14:10 ISG INSIGHTS: Women at the Forefront of AI: How AI Equalizes, Accelerates and Enables Leadership**

As AI transforms every industry, it's critical that women are not only included—but leading the way. Explores the power of representation in shaping the future of AI, spotlighting women who are driving innovation across their fields. We'll examine how AI is redefining leadership itself, moving away from traditional hierarchies toward more empathetic, collaborative, and inclusive models—where women's natural leadership strengths align with the moment. AI is enabling women to lead with greater impact. Join us for an inspiring conversation about how women are building a more equitable, creative, and powerful AI future—for everyone.



**Lois Coatney**  
ISG



**Kimberly Tobias**  
ISG



**Shimona Chadha**  
Persistent Systems  
Inc.



**Anika Sharma**  
LTIMindtree

**14:15 - 14:40 Fireside Chat: Reality of AI from the Software Industry Promises: Lessons Learned**

The evolving landscape of AI is significantly transforming business and IT operations, yet the reality often diverges from the promises presented by software providers. Explore the critical role of services in adapting software to align with real-world business needs and identify gaps in current offerings from software and service providers.



- What are the essential elements required from AI technologies to foster IT success in business contexts.
- How are enterprises dealing with the promises and reality of AI?
- Where will AI change workplace and business productivity?



**Mark Smith**  
ISG



**Talfred Ball**  
Breville

**14:40 - 15:00**     **Networking Break**

**15:00 - 17:30**     **1:1 Meetings with ISG Advisors**

**15:00 - 15:30**     **24A. GenAI Trends Fuel New Partnership Models in Smart Manufacturing**

Based on emerging GenAI trends, new themes are reshaping the manufacturing landscape, driving transformation across operations and business models. Explore today's strategic priorities for adopting GenAI in manufacturing and examine the critical role service providers play in scaling innovation, enabling manufacturers to move from pilot initiatives to widespread adoption.



**Ryan Hamze**  
ISG

**24C. Client Goals and Agentic Realities: The New Frontier for Provider & Software Delivery**

As AI agents shift from theoretical promise to practical implementation, service and software providers are facing a new challenge: reconciling client business goals with the unpredictable behavior, autonomy, and complexity of agentic systems. How is



**Loren Absher**  
ISG



**Olga Kupriyanova**  
ISG

the emergence of AI agents transforming delivery models, project architectures, and client expectations? What are the lessons learned so far?

**15:45 - 16:15     25A. Why ERP Programs Fail — and How Proactive Risk Management Can Save Yours**

Successfully delivering value in complex, multi-project ERP transformation programs require more than just robust planning and execution — it demands a proactive approach to identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks across both IT and Business domains. Explore a structured Risk Advisory Framework tailored for large-scale ERP programs and discover why this is critical, how it helps de-risk implementations for both you and your clients, and the tangible outcomes it enables.



**Jon Brock**  
ISG

**25C. Enterprise Challenges with Provider Solutions when Deploying AI**

When it comes to AI, we as an industry are often finding ourselves in uncharted waters. This session shares real-world lessons from teams navigating the uncertainty of developing and delivering AI solutions in client-facing environments. Gain practical insights you can apply immediately to your next engagement—whether you're scoping an AI project, managing risk, or aligning stakeholders.



**Loren Absher**  
ISG



**Olga Kupriyanova**  
ISG

## 25D. IT and Platforms: The Future is Radically Different

The future promises integrated platforms that streamline functions across all departments, each managed and used efficiently by IT to support business. How can enterprises achieve operational excellence through effective Service and Operations Management tailored to meet departmental needs? Learn the importance of task automation and process intelligence as they play a crucial role in accelerating workflow efficiency and reducing bottlenecks and navigate the intersection of application and development platforms while harnessing the power of AI for innovation. The introduction of Agentic AI is set to revolutionize IT services interoperability, transforming how enterprises collaborate internally and externally.



**Shriram Natarajan**  
ISG



**Jeff Orr**  
ISG

16:30 -  
17:00

## 26A. Decrypting Decisions: How Security Teams Identify the Best Security Solution

As the security solution market continues to expand and evolve, organizations are confronted with the increasingly difficult task of assessing the most suitable solutions. At the same time providers face challenges in effectively communicating their value propositions. Explore the evaluation process to discern the ideal cybersecurity solution from a myriad of options and gain valuable insights into the criteria and methodologies employed to identify and select solutions.

- Identify the factors clients prioritize when choosing security solutions.
- Discover ways providers can facilitate the evaluation process.
- Gain an insight into clients' security provider strategies that influence the selection.



**Jeff Orr**  
ISG



**Jason Stading**  
ISG

## 26B. PANEL: Fluidity, Intelligence and ROI from Applications

Enterprise value reaches its full potential when platforms, providers, and enterprises work in sync—but achieving that alignment is becoming increasingly complex. Rapid technological change, mismatched expectations, and unexpected friction points are creating new challenges. Hear directly from platform leaders, providers, and enterprises on how to harness fluidity and intelligence to drive ROI in today's evolving application ecosystem. Explore what it takes to bring these forces together effectively—and spotlight the pitfalls and anti-patterns to avoid.



**Shriram Natarajan**  
ISG



**Brandon Ashcraft**  
Hexaware Technologies



**Roopa Foulger**  
OSF Healthcare  
Systems



**Robin Shahani**  
FIS

## 26D. The New Economics of Pricing Service Contract with Agentic AI



**Loren Absher**  
ISG

17:00 - Reception  
19:00

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## Day 03 - Wednesday, 6 October 2021

07:30      Buses depart for Coyote Ridge promptly

08:00 -    Breakfast for non-Golfers  
09:00

08:30 -    Golf at Coyote Ridge  
13:00

09:00 -    1:1 Meetings with ISG Advisors  
12:00

12:00 -    Lunch  
13:00

20:00 -    Sourcing Industry Awards Dinner by Invitation  
23:00

- \* Paragon Awards
- \* IPL Awards
- \* Star of Excellence
- \* Software Industry Awards



# Conference Venue



## The Westin Dallas Stonebriar Golf Resort & Spa

1549 Legacy Drive, Frisco  
TX 75034  
(972) 668-8000

The Westin Dallas Stonebriar Golf Resort & Spa is located 19 miles from Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and 16 miles from Dallas Love Field. Complimentary parking is available onsite.