

Who's Who Factsheet



A GUIDE TO DATA IN SCOTLAND

Scotland boasts one of the most sophisticated landscapes for data science and a growing pool of talented data professionals. There are over 150 companies engaged in creating data centred solutions in key Scottish industries such as financial services, oil & gas, healthcare and the public sector. This has established Scotland as a leading marketplace for top data science services and skills. As such, it continues to attract overseas investment.

Scotland is also uniquely rich in academic resources. For example, the University of Edinburgh's School of Informatics is a world-leader in data science research with several specialised hubs established to pioneer innovations in data science.

WHO'S WHO IN THE SCOTTISH DATA LANDSCAPE

INDUSTRY

ARIDHIA

health data analytics platform provider
www.aridhia.com

Aridhia is a health data analytics firm based in Edinburgh and Glasgow's Queen Elizabeth University hospital. Aridhia builds collaborative data analytics platforms to tackle complex data challenges from multiple sources using multiple data sets. Aridhia worked with NHS Glasgow and Clyde, and academics to investigate real-time data in patients with traumatic brain injuries. This project has helped dramatically reduce the processing time of this data from 16 hours to 48 minutes, allowing for faster clinical decision making and treatments.

AQUILA INSIGHTS

data analysis and platform provider
www.aquilainsight.com

Aquila Insights works with businesses to help analyse data and automate the process so it becomes a part of day-to-day information gathering. By developing a customisable data analytics platform for businesses and supporting analysis requirements, Aquila roadmaps a way for businesses to derive commercial value from their data. For example, Aquila worked with a telecoms company to provide an understanding of the company's reach and performance by delivering automated reports. These reports informed the company about how to communicate with key stakeholders and saved the business 240 days per year in resourcing.

BARRACHD

data services provider
www.barrachd.co.uk

Barrachd helps businesses and organisations gain more from the data they already have using predictive analytics. By forecasting what is ahead, businesses can predict and prevent problems before they happen. Barrachd builds platforms that deliver insights in a visual, easy-to-understand format. Working with Intergen, a business which builds and operates power stations across the world, Barrachd implemented a system to monitor credit risk exposure and reduce the risk. The accuracy of data analysis via the platform saved Intergen £225,000 in the first three weeks.

SKYSCANNER FOR BUSINESS

travel analytics and data provider
www.en.business.skyscanner.net

Edinburgh-headquartered Skyscanner is a global metasearch engine for travel information that generates colossal and valuable amounts of data. Through the Skyscanner for Business programme, Skyscanner allows its data and analytics tools and platforms to be integrated into other businesses. For example, Skyscanner worked with MSN to deliver an easy flight search solution with a comprehensive global reach met through localised, quality content.

THINKANALYTICS

real-time personalised TV recommendations provider
www.thinkanalytics.com

ThinkAnalytics is the leading provider of real-time personalised content recommendations. ThinkAnalytics uses technology to recommend TV programmes and films on Smart TVs where consumers are presented with a menu of choices. The service is the most widely deployed service operating in over 38 countries worldwide.

ECOMETRICA

data sustainability experts
www.ecometrica.com

Ecometrica uses satellite Earth observation data to help large companies and governments measure and manage their global climate change impacts. For example, Ecometrica enabled Associated British Foods (ABF) to identify and maintain their carbon emissions in multiple countries. This helped ABF remain compliant with UK Mandatory Carbon Reporting and solved their emissions reporting issues.

GLOBAL PLAYERS IN SCOTLAND

AMAZON DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

software development centre
www.amazondc.com

Online retail giant, Amazon, has based a development centre in Edinburgh. Teams of developers and designers create software solutions using data science which are implemented across Amazon's global network. The Edinburgh Development Centre constantly improves on, innovates and enhances Amazon's world-class software used by millions of customers every day.

JP MORGAN GLASGOW TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

www.jpmorgan.com/country/uk/en/jpmorgan

In Glasgow, JP Morgan employ over 1,300 staff including data scientists and software developers. Established in the city for over 16 years, the JP Morgan Glasgow Technology Centre is where the bank's mobile centre of excellence for the development of iOS and Android apps is based. Identified as one of the bank's 13 strategic hubs, the Glasgow site works closely in data solutions and software development.

SAS

www.sas.com

SAS is an international leader in data analytics and software. The global business has sites in 138 countries worldwide and in 2014 opened a centre of excellence in Scotland. The research and development site is based in Glasgow and is focussed primarily on using data analytics to tackle financial fraud and crime across the world.

ACADEMIA

THE BAYES CENTRE FOR DATA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The BCDST is a new £40m Data Technology Institute based at the University of Edinburgh and set to open in 2018. That was established to drive forward data innovation in Scotland and beyond. The Institute will bring together the university's existing world class data strengths across several department within the College of Science and Engineering. The University is seeking to promote positive disruption through the ideas brought about by greater collaboration between schools within the university. It also seeks to strengthen strategic research relationships with global and local Scottish businesses at the leading edge of data science. An industry engagement programme is a fundamental component of this focus on data science. Similar initiatives are planned in the university's two other colleges: Arts Humanities and Social Sciences and Medicine & Veterinary Medicine where the university also has considerable strengths in health and medicine related data science.

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS

www.ed.ac.uk/informatics

The University of Edinburgh's School of Informatics delivers more world leading research in informatics than anywhere else in the UK. Integrated with the school, and contributing to Scotland's reputation as a world class centre for data excellence, is The Alan Turing Institute - the national institute for data science, comprised of four other universities including Cambridge, Oxford, UCL, and Warwick

EDINBURGH PARALLEL COMPUTING CENTRE (EPCC).

EPCC is one of Europe's leading supercomputing centres and is based at the University of Edinburgh. EPCC is a leading European centre of excellence in advanced research, technology transfer, and provides high-performance computing services and data analytics to academia and industry.

THE SCOTTISH INFORMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE ALLIANCE

www.sicsa.ac.uk

The Scottish Informatics and Computer Science Alliance (SICSA) is a Scottish Funding Council (SFC) funded Research Pool, established in 2008. SICSA is a collaboration of 14 Scottish Universities, which promotes international excellence in University-led research, education, and knowledge exchange for Scottish Informatics and Computer Science. The key areas of expertise within SICSA member institutions includes:

Artificial Intelligence, Cyber-Physical Systems, Cyber Security, Data Science, Human-Computer Interaction, Networking and Systems, Theory, Modelling and Computation

SICSA provides a portfolio of funding aimed at supporting researchers at all levels across Scotland. Furthermore, SICSA organises a lively programme of events, usually free of charge for participants and open to all sectors.

For more information on SICSA please visit www.sicsa.ac.uk or email admin@sicsa.ac.uk.

DATA RESEARCH

URBAN BIG DATA CENTRE

www.ubdc.ac.uk

The Urban Big Data Centre (URBDC) is funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council and is a facility that brings together the expertise of urban social scientists, data scientists and statisticians from the University of Glasgow and seven partner universities. URBDC provides urban related data, analysis and research; offers specialist consultation and facilitates partnerships with organisations to support innovative solutions for urban issues.

By harnessing the potential of big data, URBDC aims to develop solutions for environmentally sustainable, economically resilient and socially just cities.

FARR INSTITUTE

www.farrinstitute.org

The Farr Institute is based at a number of Scottish universities including University of Aberdeen, University of Dundee, University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow, University of St Andrews and University of Strathclyde. It is a UK-wide research collaboration funded by a consortium of ten organisations led by the Medical Research Council. It provides health data, enables collaborative research projects and offers consultancy and training.

The Farr Institute is committed to delivering high-quality, cutting-edge research using big data to advance the health and care of patients and the public. For example, The Farr Institute is working alongside university researchers in Scotland to examine 96,000 GP records to identify common, early indicators of dementia by using statistical techniques.

USHER INSTITUTE

www.ed.ac.uk/usher

The Usher Institute is one of five research institutes in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine at the University of Edinburgh.

Through research, innovation, knowledge exchange and education the Usher Institute aims to improve the health of individuals and populations both locally and globally.

The Usher Institute is composed of an interdisciplinary innovation community, which ranges from experts in sociology, governance and economics to statistics, informatics and computer science.

PUBLIC SECTOR

THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

www.gov.scot

The data opportunity has been recognised and championed by the Scottish Government. It has set out two commitments:

- Make data as open and accessible as possible
- Drive efficiency and affordability in the provision of services to citizens

The Scottish Government aims to improve services for the public, society, and businesses by encouraging academia, industries and the public sector to use data.

SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE / SCOTTISH DEVELOPMENT INTERNATIONAL

www.scottish-enterprise.com

www.sdi.co.uk

As an agency of the Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise and its international trade and investment arm, Scottish Development International (SDI), focus on supporting Scotland's home-grown business growth and encouraging international trade and investment. Data-driven innovation is a key priority for Scottish Enterprise in supporting these aims.

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS ENTERPRISE

www.hie.co.uk

Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) is an economic and community development agency implementing Scotland's Economic Strategy across a region which covers more than half the country. HIE supports hundreds of client businesses and social enterprises, strengthens communities, develops growth sectors, and invests in infrastructure to create a more competitive and low carbon region. HIE works in collaboration with national partners to drive data benefits, offering practical support and inspiration to our communities to adopt digital strategies and technologies.

THE DATA LAB

www.thedatalab.com

The Data Lab is one of eight Scottish Funding Council Innovation Centres. It helps businesses innovate through data science by providing guidance and facilitating partnerships between industry and academia.

The Data Lab's objectives are specific to leveraging data opportunities, but are supported by the network and interconnectivity of all the Innovation Centres.

The Data Lab has three main objectives:

1. To enable collaborative innovation between industry and academia by finding and funding academic partnerships with one of Scotland's leading institutions.
2. Develop skills and training to build a pipeline of data science talent by funding data science focused MSc places.
3. Grow the data science community in Scotland through collider events such as Data Talent Scotland which brings together data science students, data enthusiasts, universities, and businesses from across Scotland as well as regular data science meet-ups.

More information on the Innovations Centres can be found here: www.innovationcentres.scot.

EDINBURGH AND SOUTH EAST SCOTLAND CITY REGION DEAL

www.acceleratinggrowth.org.uk

Following a Science & Innovation Audit confirming the region's strengths in this area, a partnership of several local authorities and the region's universities are in the process of seeking funding from the Scottish and UK Governments to implement a strategy that includes data-driven innovation hubs to lead to significant growth for the local economy and further develop the region's strengths in data technologies.