ARTICLE

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TALENT TALK EVENT

HOW AI IS SHAPING THE FUTURE OF PROCUREMENT

Yesterday I went along to the TalentTalk Live event held at Landsec's office in London. The topic was "How AI is shaping the future of Procurement."

I can hear you from here. You're thinking "Hang on a minute Sam... what did you do that for? You don't work in Procurement."

Yep, you got me. I don't. But I do work with them. I support leaders of Procurement Teams to think about their people plans. So, as a business partner, it made perfect sense to go along and hear their thoughts. (P.S. Not going to lie, it was also a great opportunity to catch up with some ex-work colleagues too.)

What did I take away from the evening?

 \cdot Let's start with the obvious one. The impact of AI isn't confined to one team, group of people or a specific role. We all have similar concerns, priorities and questions irrespective of the team we lead, manage or work within. We just might be coming at it from different perspectives or areas of expertise.

• Drawing on that expertise to collaborate with teams across the organisation is important, especially if you're implementing any kind of digital transformation. And don't forget that Procurement can help you think about your business case.

 \cdot There were brilliant soundbites from the panel. My favourite from Sam de Frates (VP Procurement at Mars) was "automate the simple, simplify the complex". Simply obvious in itself!

• Last but by no means least... it was brilliant to hear the panel talk about the power and importance of the human connection and how we shouldn't lose that. I totally loved that one



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