ASU DIVES HEADFIRST INTO DATA LAKE SOLUTIONS
MOST INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES DEVILDL TO IMPROVE THE
AVAILABILITY OF DATA ACROSS THE ASU CAMPUS

(Tempe, AZ) December 2019 - Arizona State University’s Technology Office announced today the launch of the ASU Devil DL Data Lake – a one-stop shop that empowers advanced data storage, sharing, security and analysis for users.

ASU’s faculty, staff, students and partners previously struggled to leverage data effectively. Data was scattered across multiple services, many of which were difficult or impossible to query. The launch of DevilDL, a new analytics platform that automates the gathering of data from disparate data sources into one central location, gives customers a consolidated solution for their reporting and analytical needs.

“ASU is continually finding new ways to innovate and improving the data collaboration capabilities that will power so many other solutions,” said Terrence Bite, Head of Data Operations for ASU. “We think the new data lake will foster collaboration across the university and good things will happen as a result. We have already identified a number of use cases staff is eager to implement, because they are now possible.”

DevilDL aggregates data from internal and external sources such as SalesForce, Workday, parking sensors, waste sensors, blue light pole emergency data, and much more, into one data repository. The UTO team has developed an automated service that connects the target data source and the data lake to facilitate the flow of data. The custom middleware utilizes the combination of application interfaces and various AWS services, such as AWS Lake Formation, to generate the data lake. All of the data is cataloged and made available in a way that business analysts across the ASU organization can retrieve information from and develop meaningful insights to help make better decisions across the university.

“The new data lake makes my job so much easier says,” Less Server, Director in ASU’s Registrar’s Office. “Prior to DevilDL, I was constantly running into roadblocks because the data I needed either wasn’t available or it would take weeks to access it. Now, with diverse and detailed data readily available, I have a bird’s eye view of the university which more effectively helps to shape university decisions. DevilDL enables me to gather the data I need in minutes. The extra time saved allows me to leave work in time for my son’s soccer practice!”

By leveraging DevilDL, ASU can store all of its structured and unstructured data at any scale. With access to an unprecedented amount of data at their fingertips, ASU employees ranging from analysts to big data scientists are armed with information to make better decisions across the university in areas like retention and graduation rates. The data can be used to run different types of analytics - from dashboards and visualizations to big data processing, real-time analytics, and machine learning to guide better decision making.

We are excited about the release of this new product and the impact it will have on our students and the community at large. To stay up-to-date with the latest achievements, please follow the progress at devildl.asu.edu.

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