IBM Watson Health CSO Explains Power of Augmented Intelligence in Health at ALDA Meeting

Alexandria, VA (May 5, 2017) — Dr. Shahram Ebadollahi, Vice President of Innovation and Chief Science Officer of IBM's Watson Health, told attendees at ALDA's recent Spring Meeting for Senior Executives that as the amount of healthcare-related data increases dramatically, new cognitive computing systems will be critical to making better healthcare decisions. Whereas in the past, data was organized in a structured approach in columns and databases, in the future it will have to also be extracted from vocal and twitter formats.

Compared to the Tabulating Systems Era (1900-1940) and the Programmable Systems Era (1950-Present), Dr. Ebadollahi opined that the future will be the "Era of Cognitive Computing", and cognitive systems will need to understand data and learn at scale, reason with a purpose, and interact with humans naturally. Systems also will need to be able to make decisions - when knowledge is captured, the system will need to be able to make inferences and interact with humans.

Dr. Ebadollahi examined four key components of the new era of cognitive computing: Cloud, Content, Cognitive, and Collaboration, and noted that a vast amount of untapped data could have a great impact on health, yet exists outside medical systems. The ability to access and understand this data this data will be especially important as many healthcare payments in the future will be directed to producing an outcome.

For more information regarding ALDA, contact Mike Duff, President, at 703-647-6214. More information regarding ALDA, its purposes, objectives and programs, and links to its members' websites can be found at www.thealda.org

Based on the Washington DC suburb of Alexandria, VA, ALDA is an industry trade association for companies that develop and supply life science, analytical and diagnostic products and services used to conduct research, drug discovery, QA/QC testing and diagnostics in a wide range of industries and applications. Major customer segments including pharmaceuticals, biotech, academic and government research, food safety and environmental testing, personalized medicine and diagnostics.

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