

Sopra Steria launches its European centre of excellence for cognitive computing

The group will tap into IBM Watson technology to help its clients create and deploy new Watson powered apps

Paris, 14 December 2015: Sopra Steria, a European leader in digital transformation, announces the launch of its European centre of excellence for cognitive information technologies. The group is entering the IBM Watson Ecosystem and will leverage the IBM Watson Developer Cloud to pilot, test and deploy new business ideas, with the aim of proposing innovative solutions embedded with Watson cognitive computing technology to its customers in support of their digital transformation initiatives.

As companies race to digitise in a complex environment consisting of new customer needs and competitive challenges, there is significant potential for cognitive systems like Watson to work with humans to augment human intelligence and scale expertise across industries. In fact, IDC predicts that by 2018, half of all consumers will interact with services based on cognitive computing on a regular basis.

Sopra Steria plans to create an IBM Watson cognitive skills centre, which will open for the first time in Lille, France in 2016. Backed by the group's business-specific expertise, its close relationships with its clients and its experience in guiding them through changes, Sopra Steria will be able to identify the most relevant applications for its clients and offer innovative, disruptive solutions as part of their digital transformation.

IBM created an open developer platform to share its cognitive computing technology and spark an ecosystem of entrepreneurs, developers, start-ups and established businesses that is represented by more than 400 ecosystem partners, over 100 of which have already introduced commercial cognitive-enabled apps, products and services to the market. Sopra Steria looks forward to being a part of this vibrant community and contributing to the development of new cognitive based apps and businesses.

The development of the center of excellence for cognitive computing technology expands upon the group's existing partnership with IBM. Sopra Steria is certified in the design, delivery and management of mission-critical solutions built on IBM software and hardware.

About Sopra Steria

Sopra Steria, European leader in digital transformation, provides one of the most comprehensive portfolios of end to end service offerings in the market: Consulting, Systems Integration, Software Development, Infrastructure Management and Business Process Services. Sopra Steria is trusted by leading private and public organisations to deliver successful transformation programmes that address their most complex and critical business challenges. Combining high quality and performance services, added-value and innovation, Sopra Steria enables its clients to make the best use of information technology. With 37,000 employees in over 20 countries, Sopra Steria had combined revenues of €3.4 billion in 2014. Sopra Steria Group (SOP) is listed on Euronext Paris (Compartment A) - ISIN: FR0000050809

For more information, please visit our website www.soprasteria.com

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