

# PPG INDUSTRIAL TALK

## Summary

5th November 2025, Johor Bahru – marks the date when third-year Data Engineering students attended an industrial talk given by Mr. Patrick, SAP CoE Operation Stream Lead for APAC, and Ms. Sui Chin from PPG Industry. The event started by introducing the PPG as a global player in the paints, coatings, and specialty materials market. The speakers went on to demonstrate how PPG through ERP and SAP systems was cutting across all functions in the company for support in decision-making based on data, managing processes, and gaining efficiency. They also highlighted the importance of SAP S/4HANA, pointing out its leading-edge capabilities and almost instantaneous processing features. The presenters took the time to convince the students to consider a future in SAP, as the need for digital and data skills would always be there from the very beginning to the end of the talk.



## Technologies used in PPG Industries

According to the PPG Industries presentation, the company's primary Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system is SAP (Systems Applications and Products in Data Processing). The presentation covered the company's multi-phase implementation history, which includes a continuous transition from outdated systems like SAP R/3 and SAP ECC to the cutting-edge SAP S/4HANA platform. This migration was supported by a well-defined core technology landscape that included BASIS Integration for system architecture management and ABAP for backend development. The system also supports important business domains like Production Planning, Materials Management, and Financial Accounting. Lastly, the Business Warehouse data warehousing solution and the contemporary SAP Analytics Cloud (SAC), which combines business intelligence, planning, and predictive analytics into a single solution, are used in the reporting and analytics strategy.



## Individual Reflection

"The PPG Industries presentation was highly insightful, effectively illustrating the scale and complexity of ERP implementation in a global enterprise. I gained a valuable understanding of the importance of migrating from legacy platforms like SAP ECC to the advanced SAP S/4HANA, which is for efficient core business processes. Beyond the technology, I was particularly impressed by the discussion on work-life balance within PPG, motivating me to consider pursuing an internship with PPG Industries." – **Harini Sangaran**

"The industrial talk given by PPG Industry really amazed and opened my eyes regarding the fact that large companies fully depend upon technology, especially SAP and ERP systems, to properly manage their processes and data. Understanding SAP S/4HANA was a real eye-opener to me that many businesses are depending on modern systems for real-time information and that's the reason for their reliance. The speakers did not only make me aware of the growing demand for digital and data skills but also opened my eyes to SAP as a new career field and drove me to further cultivate my technical skills." – **Nabil Aflah Boo**