

AGENDA

The End of Trial and Error in Manufacturing: Simulate First, Build with Confidence

Executive Dinner

SPEAKERS



Gilbert Heise
Director of
Innovation &
Transformation
Volkswagen



Mathias Schakat
Global Head of
Digital Operations
Schnellecke Logistics



Sebastian Meyer
Associate Partner
Reply



Jens Boonen
Managing Partner
Reply



Maxim Stoljar
Business Unit
Manager and Head
of Spatial Computing
Reply



Pallavi Chari
WW GTM Lead
Physical AI and
Digital Twins
AWS

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THE END OF TRIAL AND ERROR IN MANUFACTURING: SIMULATE FIRST, BUILD WITH CONFIDENCE



April 21, 2026

8:00 AM-10:00 AM

Central European Time

This executive breakfast roundtable is designed as a focused, off-the-record conversation among manufacturing leaders tackling one of the industry's most pressing challenges: how to make faster, more informed operational decisions in increasingly complex environments. Rather than a product discussion, the session will open with a concise, experience-driven perspective on a fundamental shift underway—how leading manufacturers are moving beyond reactive decision-making toward the ability to model, test, and validate changes before they are implemented on the production floor.

The discussion will explore the root causes of costly decisions, including fragmented data, siloed systems, and disconnected teams, and how integrating operational data across machines, processes, and supply chains can significantly improve decision quality and speed. Leaders will also examine what it takes to evolve from reactive to

predictive and ultimately prescriptive operations—without large-scale disruption—as well as the measurable business impact, with many organizations realizing 5–15% EBITDA improvements through gains in uptime, quality, and efficiency.

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