

DAVE COPLIN

Author of Futures, Technology Alchemist, Re-imaginer of Business, Human Revolutionary, Chief Envisioning Officer at Microsoft and Founder of The Envisioners

Dave Coplin told his Mum that one day he would be the CEO of a big company. Today, he proudly holds the title of ‘Chief Envisioning Officer’ – an unusual title he gifted himself to describe what he does, *helping organisations and individuals envision the full potential that technology offers of a modern, digital society by focusing not on the technology itself, but on the humans who use it.*

Dave has a tell-it-as-he-sees-it style and a light-hearted approach, which his audiences enjoy as he helps them think differently. This results in him being recognised as one of the most influential people in the digital industry – nominated as one of the [Drum's Digerati](#) (2013, 2014) [BIMA's Hot 100](#) (2013) and the Digital Marketing Show's "Class of 2014".



Technology geekdom is in Dave's DNA; a life-long Star Trek fan and a former CrystalMAze winner all contribute to the friendly, bearded, pony-tailed technology alchemist we know today. His appearance at Destination Star Trek saw him take to the stage to talk about a subject close to his heart – how technology, and even innovations referenced in Star Trek, are being brought to life now, changing the way we live and work forever.

With over 25 years under his belt in the technology industry and through his day job with Microsoft, Dave has been at the forefront of conversations around how individuals and organisations can benefit from the transformational potential that technology offers, rather than simply using it to do the same things only slightly better. *Dave's mission is to make people reconsider their relationship with technology and how it can help them work smarter, not harder.*

Bringing some much-needed new and exciting thinking to the IT industry and the world of work, Dave has written two books ***Business Reimagined*** and ***The Rise of the Humans*** (published by Harriman House) which discuss the need to rethink how we use technology to make it work for us, not against us. Both books have sold well over 12,500 copies combined in the past year. He is currently working on his third book.

The Rise of the Humans (2014) shines a light on a cultural phenomenon threatening to overwhelm us – the deluge of digital information which surrounds us in work and in life. Dave argues that the sheer volume of information that we're presented with often prevents us from ever going deep into subjects, and constrains us from getting the much needed headspace to think. He claims this deluge consequently often leads us to snack on data in a way that's unhealthy for our minds, working styles and, most importantly, our lives.

Dave's work as a published thought leader has allowed him to start a new conversation with audiences that resonates broadly at all levels within organisations and individuals about the changing nature of work which requires even greater levels of flexibility, collaboration, creativity and innovation. With a loyal audience on social media (c5,000 twitter followers, Klout Score = 60), Dave is a prominent and regular voice at leading industry events and platforms including the RSA, WorkTech, and Cloud World Forum.

His [RSA Animate](#) video on the need to re-imagine work has generated over 600,000 YouTube hits to date. His point of view resonates widely. Recent feedback from a regional Financial Service Commission highlights this, "*It is not often you get to listen to someone without a sales pitch thrown in.*"

Through addressing the intersection of modern society and technology through his public speaking and published works, Dave is spearheading the development of the UK's IT and digital industries by helping people to understand and aspire to greater outcomes from our use of technology.



Dave is an authority in the industry, on a broad range of topics and a regular contributor in UK and Pan-EMEA media including the BBC, The Telegraph and The Guardian on topics from the future of education, privacy and on-line safety, right through to the Big Data rock stars and the impact of Machine Learning.

"We need strategies and tools that help us better to cope with information – and focus on what matters. But how do we sift through what's important and what's not? How do we decide when to tune in when and when to tune out?"

The Rise of the Humans, Dave Coplin, 2014

"I believe that within every individual inside an organisation lies an "intrapreneur" – a part of them with an innate desire to make things better either directly for themselves, or indirectly by making their organisation better. Our main cultural challenge is how organisations not only create an environment that supports this, but equally how they learn to live with the occasional chaos that can come with it."

The Rise of the Humans, Dave Coplin, 2014

What people say about Dave Coplin as a speaker and presenter:

"Excellent! Dave was a brilliant and inspired choice for our audience. Feedback has been great. We'd certainly recommend Dave. Special thanks to DBA for recommending him and for their excellent pre-event support– you can't improve on perfection!"

Toby Babb, MD, Harrington Starr Ltd, London, June 2015 (Business Breakfast for 200 Fin-Tech executives from broad range of UK and international companies)

"I really appreciated Dave involving himself so much in the event and making himself available to attendees for the evening (and beyond...)." **CEO, CIPD, London**

“Dave Coplin delivered an inspiring and engaging keynote at our PPMA National Conference attended by over 300 Chief Executives, senior directors, managers and guests from across the UK and North America.

From the start of the keynote until the end, Dave created an interactive environment that kept the delegates engaged throughout, with his informative and enthusiastic delivery. Feedback from delegates has been amazing and I’ve had many comments from many delegates about how much they enjoyed Dave’s session.... it was funny, enlightening, thought-provoking, entertaining and educational.

I look forward to working with Dave more in the future, and to seeing him present at another Conference soon”.

Barry Pirie, President, Public Service Manager’s Association (PPMA) Annual Conference, Bristol, UK, May 2015

“Very good – many thanks”

The Economist Talent Summit, London June 2015

(Panel session discussing the future of work, inspiring the next generation, and topics which UK and global C-Suite leaders are tackling now and in the future)

Audience feedback from individual delegates:

“This guy was outstanding. He should be bottled...”

“Dave Coplin was one informative and interesting geek... Brilliant!”

"Highly entertaining, informative and relevant Dave is a fantastic presenter who made what could have been a dry subject, extremely interesting and relevant. Gave me food for thought."

“The session was great - really, really enjoyed it! Dave was really engaging and his content was incredibly interesting, delivered with personality and passion (which makes all the difference!)”

“Dave’s views were thought-provoking and conveyed with energy, conviction and a warm humour. I liked that he made me ask questions of myself and what and how I do things not only at work, but that blend of work and home life. What really came across was the total and absolute need to change and do things differently in everything we do.”

“Dave reminded me of someone : it’s the insight he brings and the authentic way he communicates that makes you think he’s somehow got hold of some info from the future and brought it back and almost makes you think he is looking back at us from the future. In 50 years time we’ll all say "Wow, weren't we funny back then!" He’s like the modern Marty McFly - and my favourite line *"I guess you guys aren't ready for this yet.... but your kids will love it!"*

“There are thought leaders, visionaries and futurologists – and then there’s Dave Coplin. For a deeply considered, imaginative and inspiring talk that places people (remember them?) at the very heart of the technology revolution, Dave’s your man. Outstanding, and unreservedly recommended”.

Press Endorsements

“Describing himself as a “naïve optimist”, he sees a world in which technology exists to enable us humans to do things differently and better. While the report makes for some gloomy reading, Coplin himself already sees signs that businesses are thinking about what they are asking of their people in terms of constant connection and responding to the constant stream of data. The key, he believes, is for leaders to move away from “coping mechanisms” that are flawed and to instead confront the issue head-on. “We talk about having too much information like it’s a problem,” he says, adding that businesses should be thinking of how they can use that information better.”

Roger Trapp, Forbes

“As the Chief Envisioning Officer— a job title with no claim to being serious (“I always wanted to be a CEO,” he joked), Coplin uses his position and experience to do show a different future. His recent book, [The Rise of the Humans] does some envisioning, giving you a more cheerful view of how to cope with the world of work and the flood of information than the usual headlines. It’s also a good high-level survey of the research and writing on these areas, and it’s written in a friendly and accessible style that doesn’t assume you use any particular brand of technology, studded with personal anecdotes and discursions into what serendipity really means (it’s more Sherlock Holmes than winning the lottery).

You might also be infected by Coplin’s sense of optimism: the idea that technology should be an enabler and an amplifier, a rising tide that lifts everyone — as long as we don’t sleepwalk into our future.”

Mary Branscombe, ZDNet

Books

Business Reimagined: why work isn’t working and what you can do about it (Harriman House 2013)

The Rise of the Humans: How to outsmart the digital deluge (Harriman House 2014)

Please also see Dave’s website www.theenvisioners.com

Dave is exclusively available through DBA Speakers

**For more information and to check Dave’s availability, please email
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