QCon SAN FRANCISCO by InfoQ

Teams & Orgs at QCon San Francisco 2026

Sessions

What Is Incident Severity, but a Lie Agreed Upon?

Monday Nov 16

Is your incident severity a complex word problem? Do you arbitrate which severity an incident should be during the incident itself? Do you know what the difference between your severities are? Do you even have incident severity in your org?

Em Ruppe

Technical Incident Commander @Twilio, Previously @SendGrid and @Twilio, and Product and Training @Jeli.io

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Nobody Knows Everything (and That's OK): Building Alignment in Complex, Rapidly Changing Environments

Tuesday Nov 17

Successful Staff+ engineers build alignment across organizational and technical boundaries, including domains where they aren't the deepest expert.

Kaye Mason

Senior Staff Software Engineer @Meta, Previously @Google and @EA, 20+ Years in Real-Time Rendering, Spatial Computing, and Developer Platforms

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Use AI to Multiply Your Team as a Staff Engineer

Tuesday Nov 17

Most "AI for engineers" content is about typing faster. That's IC-level work. Staff engineers have a different question to answer. When everyone has AI, what does a 10x engineer look like, and where does a staff engineer's leverage come from now?

Jordan Cutler

Senior Staff Engineer and Web Tech Lead @Pinterest, Author of High Growth Engineer Newsletter

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Scaling Tech by Aligning Humans

Tuesday Nov 17

Scaling a complex technology can get messy without a clear north star or a shared technical strategy. Product strategies from different functions can each deliver impact but may lead to disconnected solutions or inadvertently introduce various forms of technical debt.

Scott Behrens

Principal Security Engineer @Netflix, Providing GenAI Technical Leadership and Upleveling Engineers on The Engineer Setlist Blog

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Transitioning From a Startup to a Mature Platform

Tuesday Nov 17

What you need to succeed in a startup with zero customers is different from what you need when you have a few thousand, and this changes many times as the company grows. Some of these changes are code and architectural changes, some are organizational changes, and some are mindset shifts.

Joy Ebertz

Principal Engineer @Imprint, Blogger, and Speaker, Previously @Harness, @Split, & @Box

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Legacy as Leverage: How Brownfield Work Builds Technical Judgment

Wednesday Nov 18

Legacy systems are often treated as a necessary evil: work to be endured rather than an opportunity to develop technical judgment.

Shine Garg

Founder of Uncharted Path Breakthroughs, Former Staff Software Engineer, 15+ Years Building and Scaling Backend, Data, Machine Learning, and Platform Systems

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No More Small Systems, How AI May Bring Large System Problems to Everyone

Wednesday Nov 18

Once you figure out how to use AI to make your organization productive, you will soon find you have a whole new set of problems. While some of those problems will be novel thanks to LLMs, many of them are just the result of there being "more stuff".

Adam Bender

Technical Lead for Enterprise Engineering @Google

Product Engineering: When code costs nothing, what's next?

Wednesday Nov 18

Coding agents produce 741% more code, and only 30% more software ships as a result. The gap is human review: people top out around 400 lines an hour and agents are not slowing down. This talk is for engineering leaders trying to decide what to do about that.

Laurie Voss

Head of Developer Relations @Arize AI, Co-Founder of npm, Inc., Developer for 30+ Years

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You Can't Read the Code Anymore - Verifying Software in the Age of AI

Wednesday Nov 18

AI writes most of the code now, so the hard part of engineering has moved from authoring to the part we're worse at - verifying. With the incentives all pushing toward shipping faster and faster - the rational move is to skim the diff, click through a little manual QA, and ship on vibes.

Omer van Kloeten

Principal Engineer @Forter, 25+ Years in Software Engineering, Now Building an AI-Agent Framework to Tame Legacy Systems and Reduce KTLO

Why Platform Teams Fail: From Developer Platforms to Agentic AI

Wednesday Nov 18

We have all seen the moment: the platform goes live, the launch deck looks sharp, the portal is polished, the golden paths are documented, and yet teams quietly continue doing things the old way.

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Shweta Vohra

Architecture Leader @Booking.com, Author of "Decoding Platform Engineering Patterns" & "Dear Software and AI Architect", 24+ Years Experience Building Cloud, Platform, and AI Systems

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When Everyone Can Code, Who Owns Production?

Wednesday Nov 18

AI is making it dramatically easier to create and change software, but writing code is only one part of the software lifecycle. Every change still needs to be deployed, observed, operated, diagnosed, and kept reliable in production.

Sanjay Singh

Staff Software Engineer @LinkedIn Specializing in Large-Scale Distributed Systems, Traffic Infrastructure, Reliability, and Zero Trust Security

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