UNDERSTANDING DATA LAKES

WHAT IS A DATA LAKE?
Data lake is one place to put all the data enterprises may want to use, including structured and unstructured data.

HOW DO DATA LAKES WORK?
The concept can be compared to a water body, a lake, where water flows in, filling up a reservoir and flows out.

1. **STRUCTURED DATA**
   - Information in rows and columns
   - Easily ordered and processed with data mining tools
   - Examples: emails, spreadsheets, social media content

2. **UNSTRUCTURED DATA**
   - Raw, unorganized data
   - Examples: PDF files, images, video and audio, social media tools

3. The reservoir of water is a dataset, where you run analytics on all the data.

4. The outflow of water is the analyzed data. Through this process, you are able to "sift" through all the data quickly to gain key business insights.

DO YOU KNOW?
- The information in the Digital Universe will grow 10 times by 2020.
- In the last 10 years, companies have started using data lakes to deal with enormous amounts of data.
- Data lakes help reveal complex business issues and build predictive models to address these. Companies ranging from restaurants to mining corporations use data lake solutions in their everyday analytics.

WHO IS USING DATA LAKES?

- **BUSINESS & DATA ANALYSTS**
  - Analyze reports on specific data in the organization to provide business insight

- **DATA ARCHITECTS**
  - Responsible for designing, creating, deploying and managing an organization’s data architecture

- **DATA SCIENTISTS & APP DEVELOPERS**
  - Perform statistical analysis on big data to identify trends, solve business problems and optimize performance

WHY ARE DATA LAKES IMPORTANT?

- **BUILD APPLICATIONS**
  - Platform for businesses to get at the data and quickly build the views, and data-driven applications they really need

- **FLEXIBILITY & ACCESSIBILITY**
  - Provide flexibility and accessibility in moving large amounts of data from data warehouse to perform analytics

- **RETAIN DATA AUTHENTICITY**
  - Data Lakes allow you to store and analyze the information in different formats, retaining data authenticity

- **SPEED**
  - Ability to sift through immense quantities of data quickly

- **EXPLORE & ANALYZE**
  - Ability to explore and analyze data to derive business value and benefit