

Why an Event-Native Mindset is Now Essential for Data Architecture

In Gartner's Symposium Presentation "Strategic Trends in Application Platforms and Architecture" Distinguished VP Analyst Yefim Natis proposes that it is not enough for businesses today to be "ready to change," but instead, companies need to be "ready to act" in real-time and understand the context of the action. Simply being prepared to respond to change is not sufficient in today's fast-paced and constantly evolving business environment. Organizations need to be able to anticipate and proactively respond to changes in order to stay competitive.

But how can a business create a data architecture that supports 'ready to act' applications and systems? Gartner suggests that by embracing an Event-Native Mindset and an Event-Driven Architecture organizations can create an enterprise nervous system that delivers continuous intelligence and keeps the business always ready.

Applying an Event-Native Mindset to Data Modeling

Consider for a moment that everything that happens within a business environment is an event, and every event impacts an entity or is carried out by an entity. An entity in this context is a core business concept like a customer, patient or product. Everything a patient does – getting diagnosed, visiting a specialist, being discharged or receiving a prescription – is an event. Anything that happens to a business' customer, from making purchases, returns or calling for support, is an event. When products are created, tested, and updated, these activities are also events.

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