IPN No-Code/ Low-Code Tools Webinar Q&A

1. Is Roblox a low-code tool?
   1. Yes, in Roblox you can use visual tools in order to create levels, the code for these levels is connected to what visuals the user creates. Additionally, you can extend aspects of the created level with traditional coding languages. They are visually modeling to create levels and the code behind is written, they can extend if they can code.
2. Who develops low-code tools? If it is software engineers, are these the same developers that code using traditional languages?
   1. The main aspect which makes no-code/low-code tools a unique career path is that you do not need to know how to code when starting. The use of code varies between tools. The aim of no-code tools is to give users with operational experience the ability to create applications that will fit their unique requirements. Anyone from business analysis to professional developers can leverage low code tools in their day to day.
3. I am a professional teacher, how will this help me in my career path?
   1. These tools can certainly be used for personal/professional productivity - for example ClickUp, Monday.com, AirTable. Canva and Figma are also highly useful. If you have needs for building a website - many of the website builders can also be useful.
4. Can the ServiceNow IntegrationHub integrate with tools such as Google Analytics or Jira? (for example: to measure website usage)
   1. Yes absolutely. The Google Analytics snippet can be added to any front-end page thereby connecting the two applications. There are many ways to integrate ServiceNow, this includes snippets (like Google Analytics), SFTP file transfers using common file formats (i.e. CSV), Web Services (ie. REST API) and the low-code IntegrationHub spokes.
5. How to get certifications for these no-code/low-code tools?
   1. If you are already at a company you can look inwards to see if these tools are used inside your company. If so you may be able to start working with and get certifications through your existing company. If not, you may look into the various tools available and research if certifications are offered. As mentioned in the webinar both, ServiceNow and Mendix offer certification tests/ courses which can get you started!
6. Is there any way I can have a conversation with a panelist? As I am thinking about shifting in my career path using these tools.
   1. We do have a one-page summary with panelist information, there you can connect with the panelists on LinkedIn.
7. What kind of salary is expected for beginner no-code developers?
   1. The question of salary is dependent on demand and location. In areas of high demand, No Code developers can make as much as traditional developers. As a data point, Glassdoor lists the average No Code Developers salary to be $91,000.
8. If one wants to get into working with ServiceNow and gain more experience, what roles should they apply for?
   1. The best way to start would be to work with the developer instance that ServiceNow provides for free and then move on to the certifications.
   2. If you currently work in a corporate environment look for low code programs and/or talk to your boss about replacing a legacy system or manual process with a low code tool. This is a great way to get your foot in the door.
9. What are the opportunities for new (no experience) ServiceNow professionals? Will the certification be good enough to find a job?
   1. While certifications can give you a leg up in applying for a ServiceNow entry-level administrator job, you may be able to break in by familiarizing yourself with the platform and taking the free online courses.
   2. For non-technical professionals, there is a high demand for business analysts that have domain/process knowledge in a ‘back-office’ department (HR, IT, Customer Service, Facilities, Legal, Procurement, Finance etc.)
   3. If you’ve worked in an Agile environment, Scrum Masters are also in high demand.
10. What’s a good tool to develop high quality games?
    1. The nature of no-code/low-code tools is to streamline the existing development process by utilizing visual elements such as drag and drop. The Unity engine is working towards making a no-code tool for video game developers but may still need some traditional coding knowledge in order to fully customize your creations.
11. If one wants to get into working with ServiceNow and gain more experience, what roles should they apply for?
    1. If you have a degree in business/IT/IS/Computer science there are many opportunities with large consulting firms that implement ServiceNow. Associate roles typically aren’t expected to have certifications prior to applying.
    2. If you lean towards application design, getting a certification and/or taking free courses will assist you in applying for Jr. Developer or Administrator roles.
    3. If you lean towards functional/process design, domain knowledge of a back-office department (i.e. HR, IT, Customer Service, Facilities, Legal, Procurement, Finance etc.) can help you break into a Business Analyst type role.
12. Is there integration between Jira and Service now?
    1. Yes there is a low-code integration available. Also, they can be integrated bi-directionally using REST API.
13. What is required to obtain no-code/low-code jobs? Would an applicant need good computer skills?
    1. Generally, to become a no-code developer, you should be proficient in Microsoft Office Suite. While it is not required to know a programming language or IT skills to obtain these jobs, having these skills will help.
14. Is there a certification process? Are there different levels of Low code skills? For example: apprentice, intermediate, and expert?
    1. This differs across all tools, some tools like Mendix and ServiceNow do offer certifications, while others such as Airtable and Monday.com do not. The certification process can also be different in curriculum and cost between the companies. We have provided some details in a one-page document with some options for certifications, however there are many more tools that one can consider.
15. Considering the breadth and wealth of platforms available, how could one prioritize and choose what to learn and build expertise on if they want to change their careers to something like this?
    1. If you’re in a corporate environment, try to find out if your organization already uses low-code platforms. IT departments are always interested in scaling the use of them as it improves their ROI.
16. For low-code tools, is there a trend around hiring in-house talent that knows specific applications? Or do companies (governments, SMES, etc) typically hire consultants?
    1. For Mendix, what I’ve seen is most companies in the US will hire outside consultants to get the project started, usually directly through Mendix or a Mendix partner. They will also train in-house personnel on the platform to eventually take over and/or will hire and train new Mendix developers to maintain the applications for the long term. Outside of the US, in Europe, South Africa, Middle East, and India there is a healthier culture for consultants and Mendix consulting firms.
    2. For ServiceNow, typically consultants perform initial and or large implementations followed by companies choosing to purchase managed services (i.e. other contractors) or building a full in-house team to scale.
17. How long did it take to build the Employee Vaccination application?
    1. 1 week, the development was done using email and text as the primary drivers of information
18. How do these platforms handle data security and privacy for sensitive information?
    1. With Mendix, the cloud service is built on Cloud Foundry and AWS. Your application has its own physical database so there’s no chance of any data contamination and you can choose which AWS region to deploy your application to abide by local privacy laws.While the cloud providers ensure a level of security, Mendix provides a robust security model and it’s up to the developer to implement the right security for the data they are collecting and storing. This includes granular control of access to attributes within the data model entities. The platform provides the tools, but it’s up to the developer to use them and the company to build a policy around proper storage and disposal of personal data.
19. Is ServiceNow in the top of the low code environment? Also, can it work with Cloud Databases and Cyber Security?
    1. With the variety of tools available there is no clear top spot for no-code/low-code tools. Companies like ServiceNow, Mendix, Salesforce, and Airtable all have multibillion dollar valuations!
20. Is ServiceNow used worldwide? What other tools are popular worldwide?
    1. ServiceNow is used worldwide in both commercial and government spaces.
21. Can Airtable connect with legacy databases such as Oracle, MS SQL, etc.? (meaning build a mobile-first application which accesses existing data)
    1. Airtable has many 3rd party developers who have created their own solutions to connect Airtable to Oracle other databases
22. Is Airtable like JIRA?
    1. You can use AirTable to accomplish some activities like Jira (in terms of issue and task management) - but fundamentally AirTable is more flexible - a very powerful spreadsheet or a lightly powered database with all sorts of integrations and workflow automations.
23. The Mendix IDE looks quite powerful! However, does it have a “promotion process”? (meaning: start out in a Dev environment, then promote to testing area for acceptance testing, then promote to Production, etc.)
    1. Yes, in a licensed node you would be provided with Test, Acceptance, and Production environments so you could move your code through development and testing cycles and promote as you see fit.
24. Is low code like modular programming?
    1. No-code/low-code tools are ways to create a variety of solutions primarily using visual interfaces. Modular programming is the concept of separating a program's functions into independent pieces or building blocks, each containing all the parts needed to execute a single aspect of the functionality. The concepts of modular programming can be used with no-code tools in order to speed up development even further.
25. Considering the breadth and wealth of platforms available, how could one prioritize and choose what to learn and build expertise on if they want to change their careers to something like this?
    1. I think there are a few pathways.
       1. Start Experimenting
          1. There are numerous tools - I’d suggest spending a few hours to browse through several, watch some videos and see what interests you - and where you think you can apply one of them right away. Start working on personal projects with tools like AirTable, Monday.com, Clickup, Canva, Figma. Glideapps.com is a nice tool to play around with using google sheets to produce simple mobile apps. Bubble.io is a tool that is quite interesting to build some simple and more complex web apps.
       2. Start Freelancing
          1. Start exploring assignments and projects on a site like upwork.com. Perhaps doing some for free or very cheap to get started. There are numerous assignments in tools like AirTable, Bubble, Webflow.
       3. Pursue Certifications
          1. If you want to make a definitive pathway into a new career getting into enterprise application development for example - getting certified in ServiceNow or Mendix could be a great place to start. Speaking to Amyn or Imran can help here.
26. QA automation tester vs ServiceNow developer? Which is better?
    1. These are two separate roles in an organization, a ServiceNow developer will focus on creating and maintaining applications, while a QA automation tester/developer will focus on creating and maintaining applications that will be used to ensure the functionality of applications usually created by a separate team. There is no clear answer to which position is better, they both fulfill important roles in the process of launching a product.
27. Are there summer work opportunities with low code?
    1. Companies like eXp Realty, Avertra, and even Mendix themselves are usually hiring Mendix developers. Avertra and Mendix will allow you to start at an entry level and learn the platform along the way.
    2. All the large consulting firms have internship opportunities in their low code implementation practices.
28. Are there good future career opportunities for Microsoft Power Platform?
    1. I think there can be good opportunities in applications of these areas - I’ve seen a number of job opportunities for powerBI for example.
29. Any cool low-code/no code tools that would be useful for someone trying to break into Data Analytics? Or should I just focus on Python and SQL? I’ve used Alteryx and it was wonderful!
    1. Great low code tools for data analytics include Tableau, Qlik, and the like which allow you to explore data sets and create robust visualizations without much coding needed.
30. Is this an option for international students?
    1. Yes, these positions are available across multiple companies
31. With platforms and services offering no code/low code - how will that impact enterprise solutions like SAP?
    1. They are partners! SAP offers a low code tool to rebuild core modules in their platform and it’s actually white-labeled Mendix! Many cloud services are offering better ways to focus on the content of your product without dealing with the overhead and that includes programming in some cases. Another example of this synergy is Amazon Honeycode. That’s their flavor of low code tools to build and deploy apps in the cloud without programming.