Jay Kreps
Co-Founder and CEO
Confluent

What is event streaming?
Event streaming is really a new way of thinking about data. Traditional databases are kind of a pile where data goes to sit and it waits for a human to click something on a screen and look up some value. The idea is instead to treat data as something that's always occurring. As customer experiences happen, as the business operates, there's a stream of events of things that are happening, and the ability to react to that, to process it, to plug it into other systems, this is becoming really core to how companies manage data at scale.

What are the fundamental technological innovations that led to the creation of Confluent?
Confluent started around an open-sourced project called Apache Kafka, which was really foundational in this area of managing and processing and working with event streams. It builds on a whole foundation of database technology and distributed systems technology that makes it possible to do this across even the largest of companies at massive scale.