

SINGAPORE DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT

27-29 June 2018

22 June 2018

Fact Sheet

INAUGURAL SINGAPORE DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT OPENS UP NEW AVENUES OF COLLABORATION

INTRODUCTION

1. Disruptive changes brought about by the Fourth Industrial Revolution have opened up vast opportunities to innovate and collaborate. To boost knowledge exchange and explore new frontiers of partnership and growth amidst swift technological advancements, Singapore's Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA) has organised the inaugural Singapore Defence Technology Summit (Tech Summit) from 27 to 29 June 2018. Some 400 leading thought leaders, policymakers, industry CEOs and CTOs, academics and entrepreneurs from over 15 countries will convene to explore new ways to innovate and build collaborations.
2. The theme for this inaugural Tech Summit is "Impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution on Defence and Security". The Tech Summit pulls together the collective expertise of 38 global experts and luminaries to lead a series of plenary and breakout sessions on key opportunities and challenges in today's landscape. The sessions will provide rich perspectives and spur insightful discussions on key drivers of change in unmanned technologies, big data, cybersecurity, and artificial intelligence among others.
3. Delegates represent the government and commercial sectors as well as academia, including the United Kingdom's Ministry of Defence (MOD), the United States Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Centre, the United States Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Israel's Directorate of Defense Research and Development, Singapore's Ministry of Defence, the World Economic Forum, IronNet Cybersecurity, Samsung, SenseTime, Tata Communications and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

4. Welcome address. Singapore Minister for Defence Dr Ng Eng Hen will deliver the welcome address on 27 June 2018.

5. Conference opening ceremony. Singapore Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security Mr Teo Chee Hean will give the keynote address on 28 June 2018.

6. Plenary sessions. The Tech Summit will kick off with three plenary sessions on 28 June 2018.

- *Plenary Session 1: Opportunities and Challenges for Defence and Security*

Today's hyper-connected world is characterised by quick and easy access to information and ideas. This has resulted in changes to the nature of defence and security threats and the distribution of power, be it geographically or from state to non-state actors. This plenary session will focus on exploring the opportunities and challenges of today's hyper-connected world, and the technological needs for defence and security.

- *Plenary Session 2: Technological Advancements and Disruptions*

This plenary session will centre on the potential of emerging technologies in presenting opportunities, challenges and uncertainties. The discussions will be framed against the backdrop where these technologies are becoming more accessible to individuals and non-state actors.

- *Plenary Session 3: Innovation Through Collaboration*

Having touched on the needs and offerings of technology with the first two plenary sessions, this plenary session will focus on innovation through collaboration. This heavy emphasis is placed on collaboration because it has become a key enabler – one that will allow organisations to leverage myriad innovations from diverse sources and also one that will enable organisations to tackle common security challenges. In addition, this plenary session will examine the implications of technology security on collaboration.

7. Breakout sessions. The last day of the Tech Summit, 29 June, will feature a series of breakout sessions. These have been designed to allow participants to delve deeper into specific tech domains that are shaping the 4th IR, and discuss how emerging tech can be used to overcome specific challenges.

- *Breakout Session 1: Realising the Potential of Autonomous Systems*

This session will focus on autonomous systems powered by artificial intelligence (AI). These systems are set to play an increasing role in today's world as they reduce manpower, expedite decision making and take over dangerous tasks. This plenary session will discuss the considerations for deploying autonomous systems, in addition to the prospect of warfare driven by AI and autonomous systems.

- *Breakout Session 2: Finding the Terrorist in Big and Small Data*

The proliferation of commercial sensors and digitalisation generates a tremendous amount of data on human activity. This breakout session will look at how these data could be harnessed and fused to pre-empt terrorist attacks. It will also examine the extent to which data mining can be utilised to deal with security challenges.

- *Breakout Session 3: Forging a New Cyber Security Paradigm*

This breakout session will centre on cybersecurity. As systems gets increasingly connected and autonomous, the impact of cyberattacks is set to increase as well. However, we are also seeing great advancements in technological innovations such as data analytics, AI and blockchain, which could be exploited to mitigate cyber threats. This session will discuss how organisations can respond and deal with cyber threats more effectively and efficiently with a new cyber paradigm.

8. Summary plenary. The six plenary sessions and breakout sessions will culminate in a summary plenary, which will synthesise all the insights gained. This will distil key ideas that will shape the future technological landscape, and discuss strategies to stay agile and adaptable.

9. Tech showcase. There will be an exhibition showcasing the innovative use of emerging technologies across a myriad of applications and developments, including:

- Singapore Technological Ecosystem
- Internet of Things and Digitalisation

- Robotics and Automation
- Cybersecurity and Quantum Technology
- Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics

10. Site visits. The Tech Summit will feature visits to some of Singapore’s key technology centres to share initiatives and efforts that are shaping our development.

11. Please refer to the separate factsheets for more details.

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About Defence Science and Technology Agency

The Defence Science and Technology Agency, or DSTA in short, (国防科技局), is a statutory board set up under the Ministry of Defence (MINDEF). It implements defence technology plans, acquires defence material and develops defence infrastructure for MINDEF.

DSTA provides leading-edge technological solutions to the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) by tapping the best technologies and fostering an environment of creativity and innovation for defence applications. It also builds up a strong community of engineers and scientists from the universities, research institutes, government and industry to serve the defence needs of the nation. For more information, please visit www.dsta.gov.sg.