SINGAPORE DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT
26-28 June 2019

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News Release

SINGAPORE DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT ADVANCES GLOBAL DIALOGUE ON TECHNOLOGICAL DISRUPTION

Breakthroughs in technology are disrupting governments, businesses and societies across the world at an unprecedented pace. Technological proliferation – in areas like artificial intelligence (AI), sensors and drones – has opened up opportunities for collaboration and innovation on a wider scale, as well as created challenges governing their use and propagation. Governments and corporations are seeking new ways and strategies to collectively find a way forward and navigate an increasingly complex environment.

To provide a global platform for the discussion of these key issues and promote the exchange of ideas for a smarter and safer world, Singapore's Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA) is organising the second Singapore Defence Technology Summit (Tech Summit) from 26 to 28 June 2019.

Centred on the theme, "Proliferation of Technology and its Implications on Defence, Security and Society", this year's summit will see some 400 global thought leaders from 23 countries, including USA, UK, France, China, Estonia, Japan, Russia, South Korea and Brunei. A total of 42 speakers and moderators will take part in robust exchange across panel discussions and sessions, with meetings and calls arranged on the sidelines of the summit. Delegates include leading defence technology policymakers, national armament directors, chief technology officers, industry CEOs, academics and entrepreneurs.

Speaking at the Tech Summit's opening dinner, Singapore's Minister for Defence Dr Ng Eng Hen highlighted the need for countries and their militaries to adapt to newer, non-conventional challenges. He said, "There will have to be closer interactions between the operational units and the defence technology community, such as yourselves, to optimise resources and improve responsiveness… The militaries that will serve this generation will have to deal with traditional rivalries, as well as expanded challenges related to terrorism, cyberspace, outer

space, and the forces of nature. Increasingly, we will need the power of technology to amplify our efforts and improve our effectiveness to deal with such challenges."

Expanding on insights from last year's inaugural run, a series of panel discussions will examine key technologies such as AI, sensors and drones pioneered by the military but increasingly driven by commercial entities.

The summit will explore advances in neuroengineering and space, along with the potential impact that they bring.

In addition, the event features an exhibition showcasing the innovative use of emerging technologies across a myriad of applications and developments, including augmented reality, robotics, satellites and neurotechnology.

For the first time this year, arrangements will be made for selected Tech Summit speakers to engage with some 165 students from 36 schools. This reflects the importance of the summit not only in facilitating collaboration and exchange of ideas, but also in inspiring future generations of thought leaders.

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About Defence Science and Technology Agency

The Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA), a statutory board under Singapore's Ministry of Defence, exploits science and technology, and provides technological and engineering support for Singapore's defence and security. It delivers leading-edge technological solutions to the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) by tapping the best technologies and fostering an environment of innovation for defence applications. Its role spans the entire spectrum of capability planning, development, and sustainment of weapon systems throughout their life cycle to ensure that the SAF continue to be a formidable fighting force.

Visit www.dsta.gov.sg for more information.