

# SINGAPORE DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT

12-15 October 2021

## BUILDING CONFIDENCE AMIDST TECHNOLOGY DISRUPTION

The Singapore Defence Technology Summit (Tech Summit) is a unique gathering of global thought leaders from government, industry, academia, and think tanks, to network, confer, and collaborate in the development of defence and security capabilities. The inaugural 2018 Tech Summit kicked off with a discourse on the impact of the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution on defence and security while the 2019 edition built on these insights to delve into the proliferation of technology.

Recently, the world has witnessed unprecedented disruptions. These disruptions have originated from diverse areas such as technology, geo-politics and health, and they have rippling effects because of the deep, interdependent linkages in the world today. We have seen first-hand how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the economy, exposed vulnerabilities in supply chains, military operations, and accelerated the pace of digitalisation worldwide. As in many cases, technology is often front and centre - it may be a source of disruption, an amplifier or a solution provider.

Tech Summit 2021 will examine the impact of recent disruptions to government organisations and industries, postulate new disruptors and vulnerabilities arising from an interconnected but bifurcated world, discuss how to organise themselves to prepare for future disruptions, and perhaps even seize unexpected opportunities for growth that come from it.

### Attendees

- Defence technology policy makers
- National Armament Directors and Chief Technology Officers
- Government Chief Technology Officers
- Chief Executive Officers and Chief Technology Officers from the industry
- Thought leaders from academia and think tanks

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✉ [techsummit@dsta.gov.sg](mailto:techsummit@dsta.gov.sg)

🌐 [www.techsummit.sg](http://www.techsummit.sg)

📄 Registration is available on website

📍 Conference Venue: Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore

# P R O G R A M M E

Tech Summit 2021 will take place as a hybrid event, to be held in Singapore and virtually.

## Tuesday 12 October 2021

**7:30PM** SGT (UTC+8) **Opening Dinner and Welcome Address** by **Dr Ng Eng Hen**, Minister for Defence (Singapore)

## Wednesday 13 October 2021

**8:00PM** SGT (UTC+8) **Keynote Address** by **Mr Heng Swee Keat**, Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic Policies (Singapore)

**8:30PM** SGT (UTC+8) **Plenary 1: Tackling Disruptions: Questioning Your Assumptions**  
Defence technology planners have traditionally adopted a core set of planning assumptions and programmatic processes to deliver capabilities to armed forces. Are the traditional planning norms and processes relevant to deal with the asymmetric threats and disruptions of today and tomorrow? For example, how do organisations deal with unpredictability, emerging technology and disruptors, and address the need for speed-to-market and adopt fast-moving technologies? How do we build resilience and security in critical digital systems amidst the disruptive trends of commercialisation, cyber vulnerabilities and global supply chains? This session will discuss the implications of disruptions on technology and capability development.

*Moderator:*

**Dr Will Roper**, Chief Executive Officer, Volansi / Former Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (USA)

*Speakers:*

- **Dr Sean McFate**, Professor of Strategy, Georgetown University and the National Defense University (USA)
- **Prof Tanya Monro**, Chief Defence Scientist, Department of Defence (Australia)
- **Dr G Sathesh Reddy**, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman, Defence Research and Development Organisation (India)
- **Mr Kusti Salm**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence (Estonia)
- **Prof Yossi Sheffi**, Elisha Gray II Professor of Engineering Systems, Director, MIT Center for Transportation & Logistics (USA)

## Thursday 14 October 2021

**8:00PM** SGT (UTC+8) **One-On-One Dialogue**

*Moderator:*

**Ms Elizabeth Heng**, Director Technology Strategy and Policy Office, Ministry of Defence (Singapore)

*Speaker:*

**The Honorable Heidi Shyu**, Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, United States Department of Defense (USA)

**8:30PM** SGT (UTC+8) **Plenary 2: Beyond Terrorism, Cyber and Pandemics: What's Next?**

Terrorism, cyber threats and the COVID-19 pandemic have upheaved the world we live in. Beyond these, what are the possible disruptors appearing over the horizon, and what are its implications for government organisations and industries? This session will examine the interplay of technology and the environment, hypothesise the next major threat vectors, and how to uncover and anticipate them.

*Moderator:*

**BG David Neo**, Deputy Secretary (Technology) and Future Systems & Technology Architect, Ministry of Defence (Singapore)

*Speakers:*

- **Dr Emmanuel Chiva**, Director, Defence Innovation Agency (France)
- **Dr Irit Idan**, Executive Vice President for Research and Development, Rafael Advanced Defense Systems (Israel)
- **Dr Hao Li**, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Pinscreen (USA)
- **Mr Mike Sewart**, Group Chief Technology Officer, QinetiQ (UK)

## Friday 15 October 2021

**8:00PM** SGT (UTC+8) **Plenary 3: The Government-Industrial Ecosystem: Turning Challenge into Opportunity**

Today, there are nimble start-ups and agile organisations that are able to pivot quickly to changes. This plenary will examine companies and industries that have successfully navigated their way through recent disruptions, created niche opportunities in a challenging environment, and then discuss how governments and defence technology establishments can partner effectively with them. This session will discuss new partnership strategies for defence establishments, industry and start-ups in the face of disruptions.

*Moderator:*

**Mr Chng Kai Fong**, Second Permanent Secretary, Smart Nation and Digital Government Group (Singapore)

*Speakers:*

- **Mr Ravi Pandit**, Co-Founder and Chairman, KPIT Technologies (India)
- **Mr Raghav Sahgal**, President of Cloud and Network Services, Nokia (Finland)
- **Mr Ravinder Singh**, Group Chief Operating Officer (Technology & Innovation) and President (Defence & Public Security), ST Engineering (Singapore)
- **LTG Thomas H. Todd III**, Deputy Commanding General, Acquisition and Systems / Chief Innovation Officer, United States Army Futures Command (USA)

**9:00PM** SGT (UTC+8) **Summary Plenary**

This session will fuse the observations and findings from the plenary sessions and examine strategies that government organisations, industries and technology start-ups could adopt to build confidence and resilience in an increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous environment.

*Moderator:*

**Mr Patrick Tucker**, Technology Editor, Defense One (USA)

*Speakers:*

- **Mr Patrice Caine**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Thales Group (France)
- **BG Kelvin Fan**, Chief of Staff - Joint Staff / Singapore Armed Forces Inspector-General (Singapore)
- **Dr Naveed Hussain**, Chief Technology Officer, Vice President and General Manager, Boeing Research & Technology (USA)
- **Dr Sungwoo Hwang**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Samsung SDS (South Korea)

Day Programme includes

- Virtual Tech Sharing Sessions
- Virtual Tech Showcase
- Virtual Tech Demo Sessions
- Networking and Meetings