

EmTech Asia explores future of life, humanity and economy

7 February 2018 (SINGAPORE) – The fifth edition of EmTech Asia, co-organised by MIT Technology Review and Koelnmesse Pte Ltd, concluded on a high note after two days of stimulating and insightful discussions on the latest breakthroughs in science and technology. Held from 30 to 31 January at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre, EmTech Asia was attended by over 700 like-minded individuals from 21 countries. This year's line-up of speakers included some of the brightest minds in the areas of artificial intelligence, quantum computing, robotics, automation, future cities, space and aerospace innovation, augmented and virtual reality, and bioengineering.



“Singapore is fully committed to develop a conducive ecosystem for innovators to work together through events like EmTech Asia to foster the exchange of ideas. We also develop initiatives for experimentation such as regulatory sandboxes, to provide innovators with a great space to work on next generation challenges. To IMDA, we value collaboration and experimentation as vital enablers in developing Singapore's digital economy,” said Zee Kin Yeong (pictured), Assistant Chief Executive, Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) and Host Partner of EmTech Asia.

Steve Leonard, Founding CEO, SGInnovate and Disruptive Innovation Partner of EmTech Asia said, “In the five years since it was first held in Singapore, EmTech Asia has been a showcase for amazing scientific research in a variety of fields. We know Singapore has world-class research underway, but we want to see more of that research become productised and commercialised. At SGInnovate, we spend a lot of our time helping scientists and founders on their journey to translate their research into products and startups that bring positive impact to the world. EmTech Asia is a great teammate in this value chain, and we look forward to working closer together in the future.”



The key theme for this year was “Where Technology, Business and Innovation Collide”, and featured speakers such as Bill Dally, Chief Scientist, NVIDIA; Serguei Belousov, Chairman and CEO, Acronis; Paul Smith, Global Field Operations Manager, Hyperloop One; Shana Diez, Director of Build Reliability, SpaceX; Tomaso Poggio, Eugene McDermott Professor of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, MIT; Tong Zhang, Executive Director, Tencent AI Lab and Jun Rekimoto, Deputy Director, Sony Computer Science Laboratories.

This year's conference featured a session on quantum computing with Joseph Fitzsimons, Assistant Professor, Singapore University of Technology and Design. His presentation delved into the development of quantum computers and their uses, along with the challenges and opportunities facing the development of quantum software. Hans Tung, Managing Partner - Silicon Valley, GGV Capital, spoke about the lessons that global entrepreneurs can learn from both the United States and the fast-growing tech scene in China.

EmTech Asia 2018 also featured a session on *Maximising Human Potential in the Age of AI*, presented by Vivienne Ming, Cofounder and Managing Partner, Socos. Ming discussed the effect of systemic bias and advancements in AI on human capital, along with ideas about bias and human potential in education and the workplace. Other sessions include *Innovating Towards an All-Electric Future* by Donald Sadoway, John F. Elliott Professor of Materials Chemistry, MIT, who discussed the challenges and benefits of innovations in batteries.

"The quality of the speakers at EmTech Asia 2018 is amazing. Every speaker brings a different perspective and hearing multiple speakers in every single topic allows you to get a very balanced view, which I believe is more important than any one particular speaker," said Alvin Wang Graylin, China President of Vive, HTC and EmTech Asia 2018 speaker.

Various sessions on space and aerospace innovation were featured as well, including a session on *Small Sats to LEO, on the Cheap*, by Adam Gilmour, CEO, Gilmour Space Technologies, who discussed the business of the small satellite industry and how his company is developing low-cost small launch vehicles, specifically for the fast-growing market. Other sessions include a presentation on aerospace systems by Olivier de Weck, Senior VP for Technology Planning and Roadmapping, Airbus. His presentation, *Modeling and Shaping Technological Progress in Complex Aerospace Systems*, covered the theories behind technological progress and how new efforts by Airbus help shape the Future of Flight.

MIT Technology Review's 10 Innovators Under 35 in Asia-Pacific also took to the stage to share their ground-breaking research and inventions. Anjali Jaiprakash, Advance Queensland Research Fellow, Queensland University of Technology, said, "Being an Innovator Under 35 honouree has given me a great platform to network and understand how to get technologies to market. It's absolutely wonderful to meet inspiring and successful people that are making an impact in this ever-changing world."

The organisers would like to thank key sponsors and partners of EmTech Asia this year, including Host Partner: Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA); Disruptive Innovation Partner: SGInnovate; Innovation Partner: Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART); Platinum Sponsor: NeuroMem Technologies; Gold Sponsors: Analog Devices (ADI), NCS, YITU Technology (YITU); Startup Venture Partner: SPRING Singapore; Networking Partner: SPECTRUM; Partner: Workforce Singapore (WSG) and Strategic Partners: Science Centre Singapore and TiE Singapore.

EmTech Asia will return in January 2019. Visit www.emtechasia.com to learn more.

Notes to editors:

- Official photos from EmTech Asia can be downloaded from: <http://bit.ly/EmTechAsia2018Photos>. All photos should be attributed to EmTech Asia.

About EmTech Asia

EmTech Asia is where technology, business, and culture converge. It is the showcase for emerging technologies with the greatest potential to change our lives. It is an access point to the most innovative people and companies in the world. Most of all, it is a place of inspiration — an opportunity to glimpse the future and begin to understand the technologies that matter and how they will change the face of business and drive the new global economy. For more information, please visit www.emtechasia.com. Find us on: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#) with the official event hashtag, #EmTechAsia

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