



MEDIA FACTSHEET

## SWITCH 2024 to focus on deep tech, explore frontier applications of Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Technologies

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- The Singapore Week of Innovation and Technology (SWITCH) flagship conference, organised by Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG) and MP Singapore, will return for its ninth edition from 28 – 30 October 2024 at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre. With a record turn-out of over 15,000 participants in 2023, this year's startup festival will spotlight Singapore's ambitions in deep tech, which focuses on innovations based on extensive research and development (R&D) and have the potential to create outsized impact.
- 2. Keynote and content sessions will deep dive into the value that deep tech offers in addressing today's most complex challenges. This includes the role of climate-tech innovations in driving the green energy transition, how frontier technologies like quantum tech and space tech can pave the way for new industries, and the transformative power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) across industries like healthcare, robotics and supply chain technologies, among others.
- 3. The festival will bring together the global and local innovation community from corporates, financiers and venture builders to startups and technology adoptors. For instance, emerging quantum startups Quantinuum and Pasqal, venture builders (VBs) such as Breakthrough Energy Ventures, Material Impact and The Engine Ventures and venture capitalists (VCs) like Sierra Ventures, 500 Global and Vertex Ventures will take the stage to share their expertise on global funding and technology trends.

# SWITCH 2024 at the forefront of advancing deep tech ambitions, to catalyse growth for startups in Singapore

- 4. The conference will feature extensive programming and content sharing from industry experts, to examine deep tech opportunities in Asia and deep dive into emerging areas and applications for quantum tech and space tech. Prominent speakers include <u>Katie Rae</u>, CEO and Managing Partner of The Engine Ventures, <u>Wen Hsieh</u>, Founding Managing Partner of Matter Venture Partners, <u>Ilyas Khan</u>, Founder, Vice Chairman and Chief Product Officer of Quantinuum and <u>Georges-Olivier Reymond</u>, CEO, Co-Founder of Pasqal.
- 5. Leading industry corporates and domain experts will come together at the sectoral thought leadership stage to discuss the immense potential for **new innovations to address existing challenges** in areas like **healthcare and biomedical sciences**, **sustainability and supply chain**, and identify commercialisation pathways to scale solutions in Asia and beyond. Sessions include *how advancements in predictive analytics and genomic sequencing capabilities are transforming the healthcare industry and improving patient outcomes; the outlook for green innovation and investments; and the value of generative AI (genAI) in strengthening supply chain resilience and reducing costs in the transport and logistics sector.*
- 6. "Innovation is born not only out of a need for change, but also to build resilience for what's around the bend. Deep tech is the key to unlocking new solutions that can make an outsized impact in areas like healthcare and climate change, and we need all hands on deck to translate these ideas into reality," said Ms Cindy Ngiam, Director for Startup Ecosystem and Community, Enterprise Singapore. "SWITCH 2024 will bring together different players in our innovation ecosystem, so we can kickstart the important conversations we need to be having about deep tech and take steps forward to creating positive global impact."
- 7. To deepen the local startup ecosystem's capabilities and help startups scale from Singapore, SWITCH 2024 will continue to feature dedicated startup-centric segments. This includes efforts to connect funding partners with startups and catalyse dealmaking activities, through initiatives like the Investor Hours @ Investor Lounge,

facilitated by Carta<sup>1</sup>, and the signature **Deal Friday Premium** by SEEDS Capital. There will also be talent initiatives to support emerging growth areas, such Angelhack's Global Hackathon, which will gather almost 100 of the world's top developers competing in the Finals at SWITCH. To support startups' internationalisation efforts, SWITCH will unveil new market access opportunities including updates to the Global Innovation Alliance and cross-border innovation challenges, and feature more than 350 global exhibitors and over 30 market pavilions.

8. SLINGSHOT, Asia's premier deep tech startup competition, will return for its eighth edition to drive the development of high-growth startups. It has seen a record number of more than 5,500 startups applications from 150 countries; after an intense competition over the past three months, the top 50 global startups will pitch live at SWITCH to a panel of major investors and industry leaders and vie for over S\$1.2 million in grant prizes.

### Building new synergies in Singapore's innovation ecosystem

- 9. For the first time, SWITCH 2024 will welcome new partner events such as the SOSV Climatech Summit, which will spotlight the opportunities for climate tech as an emerging category for venture investing and the RIE Deep Tech Day, which will explore the changing paradigms of deep tech and how this can power innovation in tech. Partner events like TechInnovation by IPI, A\*STAR's SME Tech Day and the AIMX Singapore will also return to engage and drive the adoption of technology and AI among the business community.
- 10. For information on SWITCH 2024, please visit <u>www.switchsg.org</u>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Carta is an ownership and equity management platform. It currently manages more than 2.5 trillion dollars in equity globally.

For media enquiries, please contact:

Lydia Lee Senior Business Partner Corporate Communications M: +65 9139 9470 E: <u>lydia\_lee@enterprisesg.gov.sg</u>

#### About Enterprise Singapore

Enterprise Singapore is the government agency championing enterprise development. We work with committed companies to build capabilities, innovate and internationalise.

We also support the growth of Singapore as a hub for global trading and startups, and build trust in Singapore's products and services through quality and standards.

Visit <u>www.enterprisesg.gov.sg</u> for more information.

#### About MP Singapore

The MP Group (MP) is a global full-service agency that specialises in connecting and building eco-systems, industry engagement, events management and marketing.

Established since 1987, MP embodies more than a quarter century of event building, marketing and management experience in both Eastern and Western cultures, practices, and business philosophies. We bring world-class talent, industry expertise, and incredible enthusiasm into the design and management of extraordinary online-to-offline experiences for your organisation.

MP is part of Pico Group, a global group of agencies specialising in engaging people, creating experiences and activating brands for businesses, institutions and governments. As part of the Pico group, MP has unlimited access to a wide network of industry contacts and resources. Pico Far East Holdings has been listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange since 1992.

Visit <u>www.mpinetwork.com</u> for more information.

#### About SWITCH

The SWITCH flagship event returns to Singapore at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre from 28 – 30 October 2024. Join an international delegation of innovators, investors, and industry leaders who meet at this annual innovation festival where mutual collaboration and cross-market opportunities take place.

With Singapore being a hub for the Global-Asia innovation community, startups, entrepreneurs, investors, innovation teams, community multipliers, MNCs, and government representatives all meet at SWITCH to create positive change in our respective industries and markets.

Through the power of collaboration that drives this spirit of innovation, the connections made at SWITCH will further technology and innovation development, bring them to market, as well as establish relationships with like-minded colleagues to create a sustainable future through innovation and technology.

Visit <u>www.switchsg.org</u> for more information.