

**OPENING ADDRESS BY AISP VICE-PRESIDENT
& CAAP LEAD – MR BREYVAN TAN AT AiSP
CYBERSEC CONFERENCE 2024**

15 May 2024

AiSP Patron and Senior Minister of State for Communications and Information and National Development, MR TAN KIAT HOW

Ladies and Gentlemen

1. Welcome to the inaugural Cybersec Conference! It is with great pleasure that I extend a warm welcome to all of you gathered here today. Pleasure to have the distinguished presence of our friends from the Cyber Security Brunei (CSB) and Brunei Cyber Security Association (BCSA) here with us as part of the 40th anniversary of diplomatic

relations between Singapore and Brunei. I am thrilled to see so many passionate individuals and industry experts coming together to discuss this critical topic.

2. This year, the theme of our conference is “Sustaining growth and innovation securely in this challenging business environment”. The theme summarises our collective effort to navigate the complexities of today's digital landscape and at the same time, fostering growth and innovation in a secure and resilient manner. As we go deeper into the discussions and presentations ahead, let us first acknowledge the current digital risks and cybersecurity landscape that we find ourselves in. It is evident that there is a significant gap in

cybersecurity awareness among SMEs and enterprises, leaving many vulnerable to cyber threats. According to the findings from Singapore Cybersecurity Health Report 2023 conducted by CSA, the top two challenges for non-adoption of cybersecurity measures were organisations cited a lack of knowledge / experience and the perceived unlikelihood of being a target of cyber-attacks which contra to another finding from the same report that shows over 8 in 10 organisations have encountered a cybersecurity incident in a year.

3. Moreover, cyber threats are becoming increasingly sophisticated, targeting businesses of all sizes with devastating consequences. From ransomware attacks to

data breaches, the impact of cybercrime on businesses can be severe, leading to financial losses, reputational damage, and even business closure. It is apparent that robust cybersecurity is a fundamental aspect of modern business operations.

4. Therefore, I urge SMEs and enterprises to integrate cybersecurity into their strategic planning. By prioritizing cybersecurity, businesses can not only protect themselves from cyber threats but also gain a competitive advantage in the market. Customers today are looking for reliable business partners who prioritize security, and by investing in cybersecurity, businesses can enhance their

value proposition and build trust with their clients.

5. Furthermore, cybersecurity is not just a safeguard but a driver of growth and innovation. It is beneficial for company who implements cybersecurity measures to protect its intellectual property and customer data. By safeguarding their assets, this company can focus on driving innovation and expanding their business without having the fear of cyber threats.

6. As we gather here today, the conference provides opportunity to explore cutting-edge cybersecurity trends and tools. Many of our partners that are here with us today are

showcasing their innovative solutions, offering attendees the chance to learn about the latest advancements in cybersecurity technology and how they can be applied to your businesses.

7. I encourage everyone to take advantage of the presentations throughout the conference. Pick up some best practices, adopt a proactive mindset towards cybersecurity threats, and empower yourselves to protect your businesses from harm.

8. Looking ahead, it is essential to consider the implications of emerging technologies like AI on the future of cybersecurity. As AI continues to evolve, businesses must prepare for the cybersecurity challenges of tomorrow, staying

ahead of the curve to safeguard their digital assets and maintain a competitive edge in the market. Today conference will delve into the impact of GenAI on security paradigms and utilizing emerging technologies to strengthen cyber resilience. Gen AI presents a potential solution for securely maintaining growth and innovation in the face of today's challenges. Nonetheless, it's crucial to remain vigilant and proactively address any associated risks.

9. Let us remember that cybersecurity is not just a technical issue it is integral to business operations, not an optional add-on. I urge businesses to view cybersecurity investments as essential to your longevity and success,

recognizing that the cost of a cyberattack far outweighs the cost of prevention.

10. In conclusion, I call upon each of you to take concrete steps towards improving your cybersecurity posture. Engage in networking and collaboration throughout the conference, share ideas and solutions, and forge new connections that could lead to valuable partnerships. Together, let us work towards a safer and more secure digital future for all.

11. Last but not least, we would like to thank our supporting partner BeyondTrust, Blackpanda, Cybersafe, Eclipsium, Keysights, KnowBe4, Magnet Forensics, Onesecure, softscheck, Veracity Trust Network, Xcellink

and all the other supporting partners for supporting today's event. This conference would not have been possible without the strong support of our partners and sponsors.

12. Thank you and Enjoy the conference!