

Silicon Malaysia Conference 2025

Speaker Profiles

PANEL 1: From Made in Malaysia to Made by Malaysia
Nurturing Malaysian Champions – Shifting the mindset from “Made in Malaysia to Made by Malaysia”

Dr. Sivapalan Vivekarajah

Co-Founder

Proficeo Consultants Sdn Bhd

Dr. Siva is an investor, mentor, author, ecosystem builder and popular speaker. As Senior Partner of ScaleUp Malaysia Accelerator he has invested in 38 pre-Series A Startups and individually as an Angel in 16. As Co-Founder of Proficeo Consultants he has coached more than 1,000 companies and 3,000 entrepreneurs over the last 16 years. He also founded the Soonicorn Collective, a membership driven leadership and nation building platform for late-stage tech companies.

As a coach and trainer Dr. Siva has trained for over 10 agencies and organisations including Cradle Fund, MDEC, MRANTI and Unicef.

The biggest program that Dr. Siva was involved in was coaching about 570 companies under the Coach & Grow Program (CGP) for Cradle Fund between 2011 and 2020. The companies in the program raised RM750 million in funding from various investors including Angels, VCs and IPOs. Dr. Siva also ran the GoIPO Program with a 25% success rate where 3 out of 12 companies in the program successfully listed on Bursa Malaysia.

Dr. Siva was the Founding President of the Malaysian Business Angel Network (MBAN) and in 2019 was appointed Chairman of the Ministry of Sciences’s Task Force to recommend the restructuring of the Funding Agencies under the Ministry. He was instrumental in policy proposals for the ecosystem including the setting up of Cradle Fund, Angel Tax Incentives and the exemption from capital gains tax for Venture Capital and Angel investors.

He has authored two books: “Supercharge Your Startup Valuation” and “Blue Sky Innovation” and has written numerous articles in leading media like The Edge, Digital News Asia and other publications. He is a popular speaker and has spoken at numerous conferences and appeared as a guest numerous times on BFM radio.

He is also the Investment Advisor to Petronas Innovation Garage (PING). He has a Ph.D in Venture Capital from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland and is Adjunct Professor at the School of Science & Technology, Sunway University.

Dato' Fong Swee Kiang

Chief Executive Officer

Skyechip Sdn Bhd

Swee Kiang (SK) Fong (鄭瑞強) is the Chief Executive Officer for SkyeChip that is founded in 2019 by a group of world class IC designers with average experience of more than 15 years in MNCs including Intel, Altera, Broadcom, Spansion, Motorola, etc.

SK has more than 30 years of experience in the semiconductor industry. He started his career and worked in Intel for more than 20 years in various technical and management positions in US and Malaysia. He was instrumental in starting up Intel Design Center in Malaysia and growing the organization to 1500 people responsible for microprocessor, Chipset, SOC design and development. He then joined Altera Corporation as VP of R&D, leading the development of advanced FPGA, IP and Quartus software in Malaysia. He was the senior director of Broadcom Corporation overseeing the global operation of a USD1B division before starting up SkyeChip.

SK holds a First Class BSEE degree from the University of Technology, Malaysia; and earned his EMBA degree (Beta Gamma Sigma) from Olin School of Business WUSTL, Missouri and Shanghai Fudan University, China.

Mr Tay Kheng Chiong

Group Managing Director

D&O Green Technologies Bhd

- B.Eng. (Honours) E&E, University of Sunderland, UK;
- MBA, University of Strathclyde, Scotland;
- Registered Chartered Engineer with IET, UK;
- D.Eng. European International University, France.

Mr Tay Kheng Chiong commenced his career with Siemens as a Product Development Engineer and advanced to the position of Senior Director of the Opto Business Unit. As the main founding member of Dominant Opto Technologies Sdn Bhd, the principal subsidiary of D & O Green Technologies Berhad, he has served as Group Managing Director since its inception. He has > 35 years of experience in the opto semiconductor industry.

He is also a director and Non-Executive Deputy Chairman of Mega First Corporation Berhad, a company listed on Main Market of Bursa Malaysia.

Dato' Chu Jenn Weng

President & Group CEO

ViTrox Corporation Bhd

Graduated with a Bachelor's degree (Hons) in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) in 1993 and earned a Master's Degree in Engineering from USM in 1998.

Dato' Chu Jenn Weng is the Co-Founder and Group CEO of ViTrox, a Malaysian-born high-tech company that designs, manufactures, and exports advanced vision inspection systems and embedded electronics to over 46 countries. Starting in 2000 from a bedroom in Penang with RM20,000, ViTrox now has a market cap exceeding RM7.5 billion. A strong believer in R&D, IP creation, and talent development, Dato' Chu founded ViTrox Academy, ViTrox College, and ViTrox Agritech, while pledging 1% of profits annually to ViTrox Foundation. He leads with ViTrox's people-first IACTG culture, and has earned top accolades including EY Master Entrepreneur of the Year 2022, SEMI SEA Leader of the Year 2024, and Deloitte Best Managed Company Gold Award, proving that "Design and Made by Malaysia" is possible.

Mr Kevin Wu

Managing Director & Partner

Boston Consulting Group Singapore

Kevin is the Managing Director and Partner at BCG. He is a core part of the Tech, Media, Telco (TMT) Practice in both Southeast Asia and Greater China, helping Hardware Technology manufacturers make Artificial Intelligence an integrated part of their strategy and business operations. With 10+ years of management consulting experience across multiple industries and geographies, Kevin has a strong problem-solving mindset and a track record of executing non-linear business growth and transformation for global corporations.

He is especially passionate about technology and its role in disrupting the status quo. He has extensive experience in supporting manufacturers and distributors across different scales on the rising topics of new business development / incubation, process optimization through Gen AI adoption and business leader succession. He is also proficient at bridging digital visions, operating model, budget planning and change management perspectives at the CXO level, and delivering impactful changes that create value for both customers and stakeholders.

PANEL 2: Tariffs, Trade Wars, & Tech Sovereignty: Turning Risks into Localisation Opportunities

How to Navigate Global Trade Risks and Supply Chain Shocks into opportunities for Malaysian industries. How local businesses should look at FTA's (Free Trade Agreements) as strategic tools to increase global market access.

Mr Andrew Chan

Executive Director

Malaysia Semiconductor Industry Association (MSIA)

Andrew Chan Yik Hong is the Executive Director of the Malaysia Semiconductor Industry Association (MSIA). MSIA is the voice of the Malaysia semiconductor and electronics industry. Andrew leads MSIA's strategic direction, policy advocacy, industry development, and international engagement. MSIA currently represents over 300 member companies from 20 countries, spanning the full semiconductor value chain.

Andrew plays a pivotal role in positioning Malaysia within the global semiconductor landscape. He serves on several high-level national platforms, including PEMUDAH, the National Strategic Semiconductor Task Force, and TalentCorp's MyMahir Future Skills Talent Council for the semiconductor sector. He also chairs the Semiconductor Working Group under Malaysia's National Standards Committee, where he champions cross-sector collaboration and technical leadership.

A Fellow Chartered Accountant with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), Andrew brings a distinctive blend of financial discipline, technological insight, and strategic foresight. His prior leadership roles at PwC Consulting, IBM, and Gamuda span corporate transformation, consulting strategy, and public-private partnership development—equipping him to work effectively at the intersection of industry, policy, and talent.

Andrew is a strong advocate for Malaysia's strategic role in the global semiconductor supply chain—leveraging its manufacturing depth, skilled talent base, and accelerating investments to support industry growth, innovation, and long-term resilience.

Mr Tan Siew Jin

Vice President of Operations & Managing Director,
Jabil

SJ Tan is the Vice President of Operations & Managing Director for Jabil in Malaysia, overseeing more than 14,000 employees across six connected manufacturing sites spanning over 1.1 million square feet.

Since joining Jabil in 1995 as a test engineer, SJ has held multiple leadership roles—including Business Unit Director, Director of Business Management, and others—before assuming his current position.

With deep expertise in business management and manufacturing operations, he has led strategic and operational initiatives across Jabil's sites, driving growth through digital factory and automation advancements. He is also committed to talent development, focusing on training and career pathing for Jabil employees.

Beyond Jabil, SJ actively contributes to the industry through his roles as a Board Member of Tech Dome Penang and a Council Member of TalentCorp's MyMahir initiative.

SJ holds a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maine, USA.

Mr Andrew Pince

Asia Pacific Manager, Macro Foresight,
Accenture Singapore

Andrew is a founding member of Accenture Strategy's Asia Pacific Macro Foresight team, which is focused on helping companies and investors navigate the complex intersection of macroeconomics, geopolitics, and emerging technologies. Based in Singapore, he leads strategic analysis on issues such as global technology competition, the geopolitics and economics of AI, and the impact of trade and industrial policy across ASEAN and the broader APAC region.

An experienced geopolitical and economic advisor, Andrew supports C-suites and strategy teams in building resilience to disruptive macro events, ranging from US tariffs to energy and security shocks in Europe and the Middle East to shifting supply chains in APAC. He has authored a number of client studies focused on macroeconomic issues such as the potential economic impact of Generative AI across economies and the role of policy in catalysing investment in emerging economies. He is a key contributor to Accenture Strategy's global thought leadership and regular host and organizer of its macroeconomic webinar series, including the most recent series on the geopolitics of AI. Within Accenture, he also plays a central role in internal working groups that shape the firm's APAC-wide perspectives and client strategy.

Prior to Accenture, Andrew served as a Director at BowerGroupAsia, advising multinational clients on government policy and political risk across ASEAN. Elsewhere, he has covered APAC political economy issues from both the public and private sector, analysing geopolitical competition, sovereign debt, and macroeconomic conditions to inform investment and policy decisions. He brings over a decade of experience covering regulated markets spanning high-tech, financial services, pharmaceuticals, and energy sectors in Asia Pacific and North America.

Andrew holds a dual MBA-MA from INSEAD and the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. He is also an alumnus of the University of Southern California, where he holds bachelor's degrees in business administration and political science.

Dr Rashidi Said

Senior Director of the Bilateral Economic and Trade Relations Division
MITI

Dr. Rashidi began his career in 2001 with the Malaysian Administrative and Diplomatic Service and currently serves as the Senior Director of Bilateral Economic and Trade Relations at the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI), where he leads efforts to strengthen and expand Malaysia's economic and trade ties with its global partners.

Previously he served as the Director ASEAN Economic Integration Division at MITI, overseeing a range of ASEAN economic matters, including free trade agreements and regional integration initiatives.

In 2007, he became the Economic Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva, Switzerland. His specialisation in trade remedies began in 2010, culminating in his appointment as Director and Head of Malaysia's trade remedies authority in 2017, where he oversaw investigations related to anti-dumping and safeguard measures.

From 2019 to 2022, Dr. Rashidi served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the WTO, where he demonstrated strong diplomatic leadership. He chaired the WTO's Working Group on Trade and Transfer of Technology in 2019 and the Working Group on Trade, Debt, and Finance in 2020, playing a vital role in shaping multilateral trade discussions in these areas.

Dr. Rashidi holds a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Economics and a Master's degree in Development Economics from the National University of Malaysia (UKM). In 2018, he earned a Ph.D. from University Putra Malaysia (UPM), with research focusing on the impact of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and anti-dumping measures on the intensive and extensive margins of international trade.

Mr Noorazidi Che Azib

Vice President
Inari Amertron Bhd

Noorazidi Che Azib (Azidi) is the Vice President of Inari Amertron Berhad, a leading OSAT company in Malaysia, venturing into RF filter communication modules, Fiber Optic transceiver modules and other semiconductor assembly activities. Inari Amertron is also known as a largest RF test house in Southeast Asia with clientele among the pioneers in the mobile communication sector.

Azidi plays a focal role in driving innovation and digital transformation within the company and within the surrounding semiconductor supply chains. With an engineering background and over three decades of industry experience, he has been instrumental in spearheading Inari's advancements in Smart Manufacturing, Digital Transformation and productivity improvements. Passionate about academia-industry collaboration, Azidi is entrusted to

prepare industry-ready talents and align workforce strategies with the demands of digitalization.

PANEL 3: AI Inside: Building Future-Ready Enterprises Now!

Using AI to Optimise cost, tighten Cybersecurity strategies, Improve Productivity, Unlock new growth opportunities

Mr Vejay Kumar

Vice President, Specialty Memory Manufacturing
Penguin Solutions (Smart Modular) Sdn Bhd

Vejay has over 20 years' experience in the semiconductor industry. Vejay joined Smart Modular Technologies in 2006 with stints in Brazil before his present role in Penang from 2009.

Mr Jaco Benadie

EY Asean Cybersecurity Energy Leader and OT Cybersecurity Competency Lead, Partner,
Ernst & Young Consulting

Jaco has more than 20 years of experience in the field of cybersecurity for Information technology (IT) and Operational Technology (OT). He leverages IT and Engineering skills and experiences to design, develop and implement controls that support the safeguarding of critical computing systems from cyber threats. He has experience with clients in multiple industries – Oil & Gas, Power & Utilities, Life Sciences, Manufacturing and Financial Services.

Professional Experience:

- ▶ Established an IT/OT Centre of Excellence for a power utility in East Malaysia, enhancing digital convergence strategy and operational efficiency.
- ▶ Conducted Cybersecurity Risk Assessments and developed remediation plans for two power generation plants in West Malaysia, significantly improving infrastructure security.
- ▶ Led comprehensive Cybersecurity Risk & Maturity Assessments and formulated 3-year transformation roadmaps for a water utility, palm oil manufacturer in West Malaysia; Central Bank of Malaysia and two power utilities in East Malaysia, driving cybersecurity maturity and strategic risk mitigation.
- ▶ Led the development of a role-based access control framework and its Proof of Concept for the oil & gas industry's IGA solution in Malaysia, enhancing access security.

- ▶ Oversaw the delivery of managed security services to diverse industries in Malaysia, ensuring robust and continuous security management for clients.
 - ▶ Facilitated high-level cybersecurity awareness sessions and cyber response exercises across multiple industries, elevating the cybersecurity acumen of executive teams.
 - ▶ Chaired the EY Energy Cyber Smart Connect, promoting cross-industry collaboration among Energy Sector CISOs and Senior Security Leaders to enhance cybersecurity resilience.
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Mr Cheng Boon Seng

Founder & Chief Executive Officer
Elliance Sdn Bhd

Cheng Boon Seng has been serving in various industries since graduating from Tunku Abdul Rahman College in 1995, where he also obtained the Bachelor Degree in Microelectronics from Campbell University, USA. Started as Automation Engineer in LKT Automation as a young graduate, where he put his programming skill into practice, he also gained much insight in Mechanical Design & Assembly.

His programming & system design skill further polished in the later jobs as Test Engineer in Lemtronics (Paramit) & Automation Manager in BAFE, new skills gained in the jobs are Control System, EE, PLC & SCADA as well. He has good exposure to IT world when he spent few years in FGAC as System Administrator, where he single-handedly set up the Network System for the whole organization, unknowingly, the IT knowledge he gained here has proven crucial for his later involvement in IoT and Industry 4.0 as these are the convergence of IT and OT.

He co-founded Elliance Sdn Bhd in 2011, where he led a team of talented programmers, system integrators & mechanical designers to help the industries to automate manufacturing processes, implement cloud based & IoT applications. His passion in Industry 4.0 has turned him into an Industry 4.0 evangelist for which he keeps himself occupied with sharing in Industry 4.0 seminars & guiding industries to implement Industry 4.0 in their plants & organizations.

PANEL 4: Catalysing Malaysia's Rise as a Regional Brainport. What does it take to create an innovation ecosystem in Malaysia?

Brainport Eindhoven is renowned as a nexus of advanced technology, research, and industrial excellence. We look at the challenges, and the bold actions we need to take to transform Malaysia into a brainport.

Mr Tan Chun Seng

Group Vice-President & General Manager
STMicroelectronics Malaysia

CS Tan joined ST Microelectronics in March 2013. Prior to this, he has worked in many companies spreading across a multitude of industries such as National Semiconductor, Seagate, Soletron, Flextronics and ON Semiconductor. Including the last 13 years in General Management, he has more than 25 years of experience taking on different roles in said companies. CS currently manages ST's biggest assembly and test facility that specialises in Automotive semiconductors and Microcontrollers.

Married with 3 daughters, CS Tan spends his free time with the family and likes to go for jogs and jungle treks.

CS Tan has a Degree in Applied Physics and an MBA from USM. In 2017, he was appointed Adjunct Professor to the Faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering of Universiti Teknikal Malaysia.

Ms Catherine Lian

Vice President & Executive Technology Leader
IBM Asean (received)

Catherine Lian, a technology veteran with over two decades of experience, is the General Manager and Technology Leader for IBM ASEAN which includes Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam to lead all strategic and operational decisions related to IBM's sales, services, and delivery operations. As a part of her mission, Catherine works with clients and key stakeholders in the region to leverage hybrid cloud and AI technologies to help them further accelerate their digital transformation journey.

Prior to joining IBM Malaysia in 2019, she held leadership roles at Dell Technologies, overseeing markets in Southeast Asia, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Indochina and Cambodia.

Catherine's stint with leadership roles in the IT Industry began at Dell Technologies, where she worked for the past two decades before joining IBM Malaysia. She has also held various management roles within Dell Technologies, covering the South Asia markets, including Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Indochina, and Cambodia. Throughout her career, Catherine has been consistently recognised as the key leader in the IT industry, helping and enabling clients to innovate and succeed.

Catherine is a strong advocate for women in leadership in the IT Industry and was recognised at the Channel Asia Women in ICT Awards 2020 as the Highly Commended winner under the achievement category in the ASEAN region. She continues to mentor aspiring talents, believing that by leading the way, aspirants are empowered to create thriving and sustainable communities.

Catherine has been appointed as the PIKOM (The National Tech Association of Malaysia) Councillor in 2021. She has since held key positions in the association, including Chairman for Women in Tech 2022, Chairman for Tech Fest 2022 and Deputy Chairman for IR 4.0 SIG 2022. In 2022 Prestige Magazine Malaysia recognised Catherine as one amongst the 100 of nation's most influential Women of Power.

She is also recognised as the winner of Channel Asia Women in ICT Awards under the Achievement category. Catherine won this award in recognition of a management career spanning more than two decades in Malaysia and South Asia, built on the foundations of business growth, customer success and individual mentoring.

In 2023, Catherine has been recognised as one of the five most influential Women in Tech by Tech Wire Asia and she has been honoured with the Women in Tech Award from the prestigious World Innovation, Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA) Global Innovation and Tech Excellence Awards in 2023.

In September 2024, Catherine has won the prestigious award for the Women In Technology Category at the ASOCIO DX Award event which was held in Tokyo, Japan. The ASOCIO DC Award aims to recognise outstanding accomplishments in the utilization and implementation of digital technologies around the region.

Mr Keat Yap

Partner
Kearney

Kearney partner Keat Yap has deep operations experience and expertise and a global perspective that helps him to maximize impact on every client engagement. Since joining Kearney in 2008, he has brought a results-focused mindset to client work in his quest to help companies transform and to help the individuals he works with develop and make positive change.

In one of Keat's most memorable projects, he worked with a company that had a CEO who sought to modernize the business through a major transformation effort. To fund the project, the team started with a procurement cost takeout work stream that addressed a wide range of categories and gave the client a return on investment in excess of 10:1. From there, the team looked at the plan–make–deliver cycle for the company's products in order to reduce production time and improve supply chain resilience through process redesign and a revamped product design philosophy centered on platforming and a "design to x" approach. Another work stream improved the company's market-facing stance to improve its market attractiveness. The business also embarked upon a mission toward carbon neutrality, greatly enhancing its industry-leading ESG stance.

Keat has extensive international experience dating back to his days with Intel, where he worked in Japan, China, Korea, and the United States. "My time fresh out of school with Intel was a great experience for me as a future consultant, as I received a great view of high-tech manufacturing and R&D," he notes. "I worked with customers and suppliers alike and got a very strong sense of what 'good' looks like."

Based in the firm's Kuala Lumpur office, Keat works all throughout the APAC region.

Mr Andrew Goh

Corporate Vice President & General Manager
ASEAN Lam Research

Andrew Goh is currently the Corporate Vice President and General Manager of SE-Asia region.

Since September 2018, he took on the additional world-wide portfolio of Vice President - Advanced

Packaging Customer Operations (APCO) organization; the APCO organization is responsible to provide best in class technology and productivity solutions for existing and emerging advanced packaging applications. Prior to his current position, he managed the overall OSAT (Outsourced Assembly and Test) business in Singapore, Taiwan, Korea and China, a position he held after the merger with Lam Research in June 2012.

Andrew has 31 years of working experience in the semiconductor industry. Prior to Lam Research,

Andrew headed the Novellus Systems SE-Asia operations as the Country Manager from 2005 to 2012. Between 2003 and 2005, he was the Regional Sales and Marketing Director with Veeco Instruments Inc. While in Applied Material from 1996 to 2005, Andrew held various positions in Product Marketing, Sales and Account Management.

Andrew received a bachelor's degree in Electronic and Electrical Engineering from the University of Sheffield U.K. and has attended AIEP – Executive Program (INSEAD). He serves as the Vice Chairman of Regional Advisory Board of SEMI SE-Asia.

He was born and raised in Malaysia but came to Singapore to pursue his Diploma in Electrical

Engineering. Upon graduation, Andrew joined Seagate as an Associate Engineer in the Customer Service Department and later joined VM Diesel as Sales Engineer. After 2 years, Andrew left for Sheffield (U.K.) to pursue his undergraduate studies in Electrical and Electronics Engineering.

Mr Suresh Kumar Das

Vice President, Design Engineering
GM, Intel Malaysia Design Center

Suresh is the Vice President and General Manager of Malaysia Design Center, Intel Corporation. He leads a team of design engineers in developing cutting edge hardware and software solutions for Client & Server products manufactured on various process nodes and technologies. He is an experienced executive leader building high performance teams that operate globally for over 20 years.

Suresh also collaborates extensively with the external ecosystem - universities, government bodies and industry partners to drive meaningful innovation through technology. He is passionate about ESG, AI and applying technology for the greater good.

PANEL 5: Silicon Malaysia 2030: The Countdown Starts!**Dato' Seri SH Wong, President, MSIA**

President
Malaysia Semiconductor Industry Association (MSIA)

Dato' Seri Wong Siew Hai is a distinguished leader in the Malaysian semiconductor industry, currently serving as the President of the Malaysia Semiconductor Industry Association (MSIA). With over four decades of experience in the electrical & electronics (E&E) and semiconductor sectors, he has been a key advocate for Malaysia's role as a global semiconductor powerhouse. Additionally, he is the Champion of the E&E Productivity Nexus (EEPN), an initiative focused on driving innovation and productivity in the electrical & electronics sector.

In 2021, Dato' Seri Wong founded the Malaysia Semiconductor Industry Association (MSIA), where he continues to serve as its first President. As the President of MSIA, he plays a pivotal role in fostering industry growth, advocating policies that support the ecosystem, and strengthening Malaysia's position in the global semiconductor supply chain. Under his leadership, MSIA has actively engaged with industry stakeholders, government agencies, and international partners to drive investments, talent development, and technological advancements in the sector. Prior to leading MSIA, he had an illustrious career with Intel Malaysia, where he held various leadership roles, including overseeing operations and manufacturing. He spent 27 years at Intel, where he rose to the position of Vice President of the Technology and Manufacturing Group (TMG) and General Manager of Assembly and Test Manufacturing (ATM), overseeing Intel's global assembly and test factories across five countries, outside of the US and operating from Penang. He was the first General Manager of Intel's Penang IC Design Centre. He established Intel's first offshore 8-bit microcontroller business unit, managing a thriving USD 200 million business out of Penang. Following his tenure at Intel, he served as Vice President and Managing Director of Dell's Asia Pacific Customer Centre for two years. His extensive expertise in semiconductor

manufacturing, supply chain management, and industry development has made him a respected voice in shaping Malaysia's E&E landscape. Dato' Seri Wong is actively involved in shaping Malaysia's business and technology landscape through various industry engagements and advisory roles. He is a member of PEMUDAH, a high-level public-private task force focused on improving Malaysia's business environment and regulatory efficiency to enhance global competitiveness.

Beyond policy advocacy, he serves on the boards of multiple public-listed companies, contributing strategic insights and governance expertise to drive business growth in the semiconductor and technology sectors. He is also deeply engaged in industry development initiatives, collaborating with government agencies, industry leaders, and academic institutions to strengthen Malaysia's E&E talent pipeline, innovation capabilities, and investment climate. He pioneered the setup of the first offshore semiconductor reliability and state-of-the-art failure analysis center in Penang.

Dato' P'ng Soo Hong

Chairman

Cradle Fund

Dato' P'ng Soo Hong assumed the position of Non-Executive Chairman at Cradle on 1 January 2024, bringing with him a dynamic leadership and distinguished track record.

Presently, Dato' P'ng holds the position of Vice President at First Solar Malaysia Sdn Bhd, where he actively shapes the company's strategic direction and oversees critical operations such as Renewable Energy 100 (RE100), Responsible Business Alliance (RBA) and Strategic Sourcing performance. He joined First Solar in October 2008.

Prior to his tenure at First Solar, Dato' P'ng accumulated 17 years of professional experience at Intel Corporation, where he served significant roles in Operation Management, Manufacturing System/Process and Supply Chain Management development. Notably, he served as the General Manager for Intel's largest Assembly-Test Chipset Operation in Chengdu, China, from 2004 to 2007. Following this assignment, he made a transition to Intel's 300mm Fab in Arizona, United States.

Beyond his current role, Dato' P'ng holds various key positions that reflect his dedication to industry growth and community development. Among others, he serves as the President of the Kulim Industrial Tenants Association (KITA), Chairman of the Malaysia Semiconductor Industry Association (MSIA) Sustainability Committee, and Chairman of the Kedah Industrial Skills and Management Development Centre (KISMEC). He also holds directorial positions at Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MiGHT), American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) and Titijaya Land Berhad.

Mr Jan Thomas Nicholas

Executive Director, Technology & Transformation
Deloitte Southeast Asia

Jan Nicholas is Partner with Deloitte Consulting, and leads Deloitte's Technology Sector in Southeast Asia. He also leads the firm's Semiconductor Industry consulting practice in Southeast Asia as well as the firm's Asia Pacific Semiconductor Centre of Excellence. He has over 25 years of experience leading projects in industry and consulting across strategy, operations, R&D, new product development, and supply chain management.

Prior to consulting, Jan held various operations and engineering roles in the semiconductor industry, including process development, manufacturing engineering, and supply chain. Jan holds a degree in Chemical Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University and an MBA from UCLA's Anderson School of Management.

Mr Ng Kok Tiong

Senior Vice President & Managing Director
Infineon Technology

As the Senior Vice President and Managing Director of Infineon Technologies (Kulim) Sdn. Mr. Ng Kok Tiong has been instrumental in spearheading Infineon Kulim to be the world's largest 200mm Silicon Carbide Power Fab. Under his leadership, Infineon Kulim has transformed into a world-class wafer fab facility, employing over 4,000 people and driving growth, efficiency and excellence in the region.

Mr. Ng's journey in the semiconductor industry began as a Product Engineer. He underwent training in Munich as a Test Development engineer for Logic Products from 1991 to 1993. This experience laid the foundation for his future roles, which included heading a Product Engineering section in 1994 and later becoming the Product Engineering Department head in 1998.

Throughout his career, Mr. Ng has held various leadership positions that have showcased his expertise and capabilities. Some of his notable roles include:

- Plant Manager for Singapore and Batam (2003).
- Global Assembly & Test Cluster Head for Automotive and Industrial segments (2005).
- Global Infineon Assembly & Test Cluster head, overseeing over 15,000 employees in Asia and Europe (2011).
- Senior Vice President and Managing Director of Infineon Kulim (2016), spearheading the site's transformation into the world's largest 200mm Silicon Carbide Power Fab.

With an illustrious career spanning over 36 years in the semiconductor industry, Mr. Ng has accumulated extensive expertise in both front-end and back-end operations. He is an active contributor to the industry, serving in various associations such as the International Semiconductor Executive Summit (ISES) and Semiconductor Fabrication Association

Malaysia (SFAM). His thought leadership has earned him a platform to share his insights at numerous industry forums in Malaysia and the region.

Beyond his industry accomplishments, Mr. Ng is committed to nation-building. He has been appointed as the Mission Based Project (MBP 1.2) Champion for NIMP 2030, an initiative by the Malaysian government aimed at attracting more wafer fab investments to Malaysia.

Mr. Ng holds a bachelor's degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the National University of Singapore (1989). He is married with three daughters and is fluent in English and Malay, with conversational skills in Mandarin and German.

Amarjit Sandhu

Corporate Vice President, Micron NAND Assembly and Test Operations
Micron Technology, Inc.

Amarjit Sandhu is the corporate vice president of NAND Assembly and Test Operations at Micron and is responsible for directing teams in Singapore and Malaysia (MMY/MMP).

He has over 30 years of experience in the semiconductor assembly and test industry. Prior to joining Micron, Mr. Sandhu served as senior director of Assembly and Test Operations at Western Digital (Legacy SanDisk Storage Malaysia). A founding member of UTAC, he also held executive and leadership roles during his 14-year tenure.

Mr. Sandhu earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from the National University of Singapore and a master's degree in business administration from Warwick Business School.
