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The nature of the digital future is high on the agenda as focus shifts to increasingly networked devices

Advanced Technologies Poised To Shape Future Societies

ConnecTechAsia is delving into how key technological developments will combine to shape both the world and the societies of tomorrow...

This year's ConnecTechAsia, comprising BroadcastAsia, CommunicAsia and NXTAsia is unveiling Asia's digital future by highlighting emerging smart technologies that are shaping the region's digital landscape.

"As we continue to witness the convergence of technologies that are blurring the lines between the technology, media and telecommunication sectors, ConnecTechAsia is committed to its vision of empowering businesses and helping them navigate the changes that are unfolding over the digital economy," said Ian Roberts, Regional Executive Director - ASEAN Business, Informa Markets.

The show boasts key technology brands such as Alibaba Cloud, Amazon, Ericsson, Google, Huawei, IBM, Microsoft, NTT DOCOMO, Red Hat, Singtel, Verizon and VMware showing their latest innovations.

One of the main focuses at ConnecTechAsia is 5G, and visitors who want a taste of 5G will get a chance to immerse themselves in this technology *via* the *5G Xperience Zone* at Marina Bay Sands presented by KT Corporation.

Yoon Jong-Jin, Senior Executive Vice-President of Public Relations at KT Corporation, told the *Show Daily* that KT is focusing on developing innovative 5G technologies and services, such as AI, AR, SKYSHIP and satellite communications.

"In the new 5G era, KT will transform from the largest national network operator into the world's leading global intelligence platform by collaborating with innovative partners around the globe," Mr Yoon said.

Spurred by growing populations and rapid urbanisation, governments from around the region are now looking into developing smart cities to improve their citizens' quality of life.

This year's summit features a panel discussion on future cities where government, business leaders and analysts from Singapore's Smart Nation Digital Government Group, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, and McKinsey & Co. will discuss the ongoing challenges around smart city developments, infrastructure and regulatory hurdles, and the need to foster citizen inclusiveness and engagement.

Aside from previewing the latest professional audio and video technologies, visitors to BroadcastAsia at Suntec Singapore will also witness how a converged digital environment is changing production, broadcasting and content consumption. As with the communications industry, the broadcasting space is also set to benefit from emerging technologies such as 5G and Internet of Things (IoT).

"Thanks to TV digitisation, networking everywhere has totally transformed the TV industry including tying in social media with video on demand. 5G will only further accelerate this especially with 4K," said Stan Moote, CTO, IABM. Mr Moote is presenting a session tomorrow on the reality of 5G in broadcasting.

"Just like with the Internet, video will be the stimulus towards the establishment of 5G, yet there will be a larger future impact due to healthcare, gaming, automotive, AI, public transport, utilities and IoT devices," he added.

Ian Roberts, Regional Executive Director - ASEAN Business, Informa Markets

Meanwhile, NXTAsia will showcase technologies such as OTSAW's O-R2 indoor autonomous security robot that integrates self-driving, AI, data gathering and analysis capabilities, face recognition and live 360-degree streaming.

"ConnecTechAsia continues to be the regional telecom, media and technology event to look out for," said Tan Kiat How, Chief Executive, Infocomm Media Development Authority.

"I look forward to engaging with industry thought leaders and companies to exchange views on emerging technological trends and how we can collectively seize new opportunities in the Digital Economy," he said.

TRUE KVM - A Philosophy for KVM solutions in Broadcast

Terence Teng, Managing Director, IHSE APAC

In broadcast production systems it is crucial that producers, editors, engineers and other operational staff can access computer-based systems they constantly rely on, in real-time, without image degradation or failure, says **Terence Teng**, Managing Director, IHSE APAC.

KVM extenders and switches are now commonly included in large, complex broadcast installations and must comply with those fundamental requirements.

Broadcast transmission systems are becoming ever-more complex and sophisticated as the workflow moves toward a network-centric model. Operators working in a broadcast facility need to be able to access a wide variety of devices - some of which will be local, some may be remote and others will only exist in a virtual domain in the cloud.

TRUE KVM refers to the essential constituents that make up a high performance KVM system: everything that a 'true' KVM system must offer broadcast users.

With regards to **performance**, the image presented to the user must be accurate, without any artefacts or degradation. There should be no perceivable delay. This is particularly important in the broadcast industry as it relies on visually and audibly perfect content.

Reliability is key, and with the prevalence of 24-hour broadcasting, facilities must operate on a continual 24/7 basis. To ensure this broadcast chains are heavily backed up with redundant components. Draco extenders and switches incorporate extensive back-up facilities to meet every level of reliability and redundancy strategy.

Security is paramount and broadcast operations must prevent unauthorized access. Any system that relies on an IP network is likely to have exposed entry points and will require extensive firewall and isolation procedures. Direct KVM systems, like Draco, are closed and cannot be accessed by remote network devices. Internal data protocols ensure that data is encrypted and not readily available externally. Draco KVM switches are protected by another layer of security, SecureCore, which isolates the signals passing through the switch from the outside world.

The **control** layer for the KVM system should be separate to the signal path. Should the data network become compromised, users still need to manage and reconfigure remote devices. This is not easily achieved on networked-based distribution system. We employ an 'out-of-band' control topography to achieve this in the Draco tera.

Lastly, there's **connectivity**. The broadcast industry is evolving rapidly and moving to a network-centric, cloud-based, infrastructure. KVM must also evolve. New IP CPU and CON units allow connection to computers and workstations over IP networks. To the user, real and virtual IP-connected devices, appear as just like any other device on their workstation. See us at Stand 6F3-01 Suntec.

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