

In collaboration with

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School

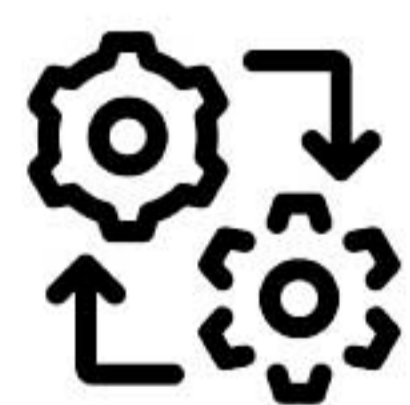


# FORWARD FESTIVAL 14 - 15 JUNE

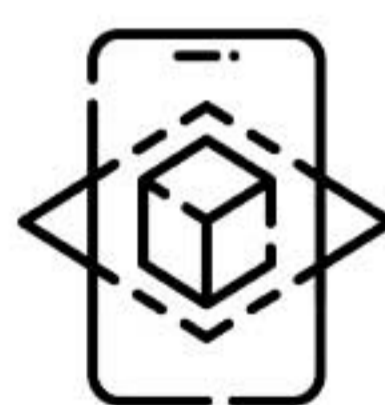
## NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF TECHNOLOGY

Forward Festival is a two-day annual event that brings together leading tech experts, innovators, and thinkers to learn, discuss and showcase how technology is shaping business and society.

It provides a platform for the tech community in Penang and beyond to come together and explore issues related to innovation, and transformation.



DIGITAL TWIN



AUGMENTED  
REALITY



GENERATIVE AI



NO-CODE AI



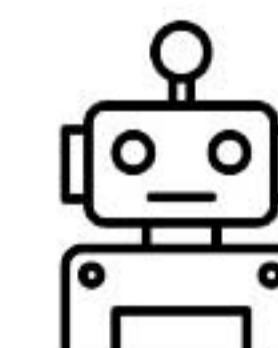
METaverse AND  
IMMERSIVE  
INTERNET



CIRCULAR  
ECONOMY  
MODEL



DECENTRALISATION  
AND WEB3



ROBOTICS

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# PRICE

	Member	Non-member
<b>Special Price</b>	<b>RM</b> <b>1,200</b> per pax	<b>RM</b> <b>1,300</b> per pax
<b>Group Discount</b> <i>(3 pax and above)</i>	<b>RM</b> <b>950</b> per pax	<b>RM</b> <b>1,045</b> per pax
<b>SME Price</b>	<b>RM</b> <b>800</b> per pax	<b>RM</b> <b>880</b> per pax
Group Discount for SMEs <i>(3 pax and above)</i>	<b>550</b> per pax	<b>605</b> per pax
<b>Student Price</b>	<b>RM</b> <b>200</b> per pax	

*\*All prices indicated excludes 6% SST*

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If you would like to be an exhibitor, please contact  
Corporate Training Team at [corptraining@psdc.org.my](mailto:corptraining@psdc.org.my)

Scan for more information



# DAY1/AGENDA

## WEDNESDAY

### 14 JUNE

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8.00 am – 8.30 am Guest Arrival & Registration

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8.45 am – 9.15 am Welcoming Remark by *Howie Chang, CEO of Forward School*  
Opening Speech by *PSDC Management Council*

9.15 am – 9.55 am Keynote Session -  
*Creating a Future-Ready Workforce: Developing Skills for the Age of AI*  
*Dato' Dr Munirah Looi, Founder & CEO, Brandt Business Services*

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10.15 am – 11.45 am **Workshop A:** Introduction to Generative Art using AI  
*Nero Chan, Data Science Instructor, Forward School*  
**Workshop B:** Introduction to CRISP-DM: A Data Science Framework for Solving Business Problems  
*Howie Chang, Founder and CEO, Forward School*

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12.00 pm – 1.00 pm Lunch

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1.15 pm – 2.00 pm **Tech Panel 1** - AI, Automation and the Future of Work: Opportunities, Challenges and Solutions  
**Moderator:** *Howie Chang, Founder and CEO, Forward School*  
**Panelist:**  
*Dato' Dr Munirah Looi, Founder and CEO, Brandt Business Services*  
*Gary Leong, Sr. Director, Business Development, Analytics Intelligence Solutions (AIS), Vitrox Corporation Berhad*  
*Ang Chuan Choou, Engineering & Modernization Manager, KUKA Robot Automation (M) Sdn Bhd*

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2.15 pm – 4.00 pm **Workshop C:** Introduction to Decarbonization through Web3  
*Dr Chong Lee Wai, Solutions Consultant, ASPL (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd*  
**Workshop D:** Introduction to No-Code AI: Tools and Platforms  
*Nathan Onn, Full-Stack Dev Instructor, Forward School*

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4.00 pm – 4.30 pm Tea Break and Networking Session

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4.30 pm End

# DAY2/AGENDA

## THURSDAY

### 15 JUNE

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8.45 am – 9.15 am	Welcoming Remark by <i>ET Tan, CEO of PSDC</i>
9.15 am – 9.55 am	Keynote Session - <i>Circular Economy and the Future of Sustainable Manufacturing in the Global Economy</i> <i>Dr S.Sri Umeswara, Executive Director, DIALOG ESECO Sdn Bhd</i>
10.15 am – 11.45 am	<b>Workshop E:</b> Introduction to Flexible Manufacturing <i>Vincent Lim, General Manager for Digitalization Business, ASPL Malaysia Sdn Bhd</i> <b>Workshop F:</b> Introduction to Digital Twin Technology <i>Naraindran Loganathan, Senior Programs Manager Bentley Systems (MALAYSIA) Sdn Bhd</i>
12.00 pm – 1.00 pm	Lunch
1.15 pm – 2.45 pm	<b>Workshop G:</b> Introduction to Driving Energy Intelligence Through AIoT <i>Eddie Phua, Solutions Consultant, ASPL Malaysia Sdn Bhd</i> <b>Workshop H:</b> Introduction to the Metaverse and the Immersive Internet <i>Jason Low, CEO and Co-Founder, Virtualtech Frontier (VTF)</i>
1.15 pm – 2.00 pm	<b>Tech Panel 2:</b> The Role of AR in Industry 4.0 and Smart Factories <b>Moderator:</b> <i>Howie Chang, Founder and CEO, Forward School</i> <b>Panelist:</b> <i>Saddiq Kamarul Bahrain, Operations Director, Innoveam Sdn. Bhd</i>
3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Closing Talk
4.00 pm – 4.30 pm	Tea Break and Networking Session
4.30 pm	End

# DAY1

## Workshop Details

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### Keynote

#### **Creating a future-ready workforce: Developing skills for the age of AI**

The topic addressed the significance of training workers to meet the possibilities and difficulties of the AI era. It underlined how important it is for people and businesses to keep learning and evolving in order to remain relevant and competitive. Critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, emotional intelligence, and digital literacy are some of the specific abilities mentioned as being crucial for success in the AI future. The keynote addressed the significance of encouraging a culture of lifelong learning and ensuring that people have access to the tools and assistance they need to acquire these abilities. The overall objective is to develop a workforce that can survive in the rapidly changing technology environment.

### Workshop A

#### **Introduction to Generative Art using AI**

The workshop will provide an introduction to the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the creation of generative art. The event will explore the various techniques and tools used in generative art and how AI can be used to enhance the creative process. Attendees will learn about the history of generative art and the various forms it can take, such as digital images, animations, and 3D models. The event will also include demonstrations and hands-on workshops to give attendees a chance to experiment with different AI-based generative art tools and techniques.

## Workshop B

### **Introduction to the Metaverse and the immersive internet**

This workshop will introduce attendees to the concept of the metaverse, a virtual shared space where users can interact with each other and digital objects in real time. The event will explore the current state of the metaverse and the immersive internet, and discuss the potential impact on various industries such as manufacturing, automation, and education. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the technology and how it can be used to create new opportunities and experiences.

## Tech Panel 1

### **AI, Automation and the Future of Works: Opportunities, Challenges and Solutions**

The panel discussion will explore the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and automation on the future of work. The panel will discuss the potential opportunities for increased efficiency and productivity, as well as the potential challenges such as job displacement and the need for reskilling. The panel will also present different solutions for addressing these challenges, and discuss the role of government, industry, and individuals in shaping the future of work. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the potential impact of AI and automation on their industry and how to prepare for it.

## Workshop C

### **Introduction to Decarbonisation through Web 3**

This workshop will explore the potential of Web 3 technologies to facilitate decarbonisation. The event will discuss how decentralised networks, smart contracts, and other Web 3 technologies can be used to create new solutions for reducing carbon emissions and transition to a more sustainable future. Attendees will learn about the current state of Web 3 technologies and the potential impact on various industries such as energy, transportation, and manufacturing.

## Workshop D

### **Introduction to No-Code AI: Tools and Platforms**

This workshop will introduce attendees to the world of no-code artificial intelligence (AI). The event will explore the various tools and platforms that allow individuals and organisations to easily create and deploy AI-powered applications without the need for coding expertise. Attendees will learn about the benefits and limitations of no-code AI and how it can be used in various industries such as healthcare, finance, and retail.

# DAY2

## Workshop Details

### Keynote

### **Circular Economy and the Future of Sustainable Manufacturing in the Global Economy**

This keynote will focus on the potential impact of circular economy principles on the global manufacturing industry. The keynote speaker will discuss how a circular economy approach, which promotes reducing, reusing and recycling, can be implemented in manufacturing operations to create a more sustainable future. The keynote will also provide insights into the current state of sustainable manufacturing, the challenges and opportunities for a circular economy and the ways it can be implemented in different industries. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the benefits of a circular economy and how it can be used to create a more sustainable future for the manufacturing industry.

### Workshop E

### **Introduction to Flexible Manufacturing**

The workshop will introduce attendees to the concept of flexible manufacturing and its benefits. The event will explore the various technologies and techniques used in flexible manufacturing, such as automation, robotics, and advanced materials, and how they can be used to increase efficiency, reduce costs, and improve quality. Attendees will learn about the current state of flexible manufacturing and its potential impact on various industries, such as automotive, aerospace, and consumer goods. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the technology and how it can be used to create new opportunities and experiences in the manufacturing industry.



## Workshop F

### **Introduction to Digital Twin Technology**

The workshop will introduce attendees to the concept of digital twin technology and its benefits. The workshop will explore the various applications of digital twin technology, such as virtual prototyping, simulation, and predictive maintenance, and how they can be used to increase efficiency, reduce costs, and improve performance. Attendees will learn about the current state of digital twin technology and its potential impact on various industries such as manufacturing, construction, and energy. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the technology and how it can be used to create new opportunities and experiences across different industries.

## Workshop G

### **Introduction to Driving Energy intelligence Through AIoT**

This workshop will explore the potential of Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIoT) to drive energy intelligence. Attendees will learn about the current state of AIoT technology and its potential impact on the energy industry, including the use of data and machine learning to optimize energy consumption, improve efficiency and increase the reliability of the energy grid.

## Workshop H

### **Introduction to CRISP-DM: A Data Science Framework for Solving Business Problems**

This workshop will introduce attendees to the CRISP-DM framework, a widely-used methodology for data science projects. The event will explore the six phases of the CRISP-DM framework, including business understanding, data understanding, data preparation, modeling, evaluation and deployment, and how it can be used to solve business problems. Attendees will learn how to implement the CRISP-DM framework to extract insights from data, make data-driven decisions and improve business performance.

## Tech Panel 2

### **The Role of AR in Industry 4.0 and Smart Factories**

The panel discussion will explore the use of Augmented Reality (AR) technology in the fourth industrial revolution (Industry 4.0) and its implications in smart factories. The panel will discuss how AR technology can be utilized to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and increase the quality of production in smart factories. The panel will also address the challenges and opportunities that come with the implementation of AR technology in industry 4.0 and smart factories. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage with experts in the field and ask questions about the current and future state of AR technology in the manufacturing industry. The panel discussion will provide valuable insights on how AR can transform smart factories and shape the future of manufacturing.

# Speakers' Profile

## Dato' Dr. Munirah Looi

Founder & CEO,  
Brandt Business Services



Munirah, Top Nominee for the prestigious EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2018 and just recently awarded the 'Master Entrepreneur Award 2021' by APEA-Asia Pacific Enterprise Award (Regional Edition) and the '10 Best Inspiring

CEOs 2020' by Industry-Era. In 2023, she was awarded the Degree of Doctor of Laws honoris causa by University of Nottingham, in recognition for her contributions to the industry and the community.

She is the Founder & CEO of Brandt Business Services, which specializes in the areas of Business Transformation Consulting and Outsourcing. She is experienced personnel in the areas of CX/DX Management, Human Performance Improvements & Organizational Development, Strategic Management, Business Process Redesign, Sales & Marketing and Project Management. She is also a sought-after Speaker/Facilitator/Mentor in the region. Her exposure includes both local and foreign assignments with 15 years' experience in the Banking & Financial Sector.

She has worked in partnership with individuals and teams to grow their careers and portfolios with a key focus on customers and business performance. During her working & consulting experience, she has coached and mentored many individuals from new joiners and management associates, all the way to high potential talents who were being groomed for career acceleration and Senior Leadership 'C' Level individuals. Currently she serves as a Business Mentor for MDEC-GAIN (Global Acceleration & Innovation Network) Mentoring Program and MaGIC (Global Accelerator Program) Mentorship Program.

## Nero Chan

Data Science Instructor,  
Forward School



Nero Chan is a full-stack generalist and an instructor of Forward School in the area of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and deep learning. He strongly believes that an effective and enjoyable learning experience

does not start with the learner, but the instructor. Prior to his current role, he combines data and development into solving the retail industry's problems using computer vision with a focus on video analytics and deep learning technology. He graduated with a Master's Degree in Computer Imaging from Universiti Sains Malaysia where his research focuses mainly on Video Analytics and Multiple Object Tracking (MOT).

## Jason Low

CEO and Co-Founder  
Virtualtech Frontier (VTF)



Jason Low, CEO and Co-Founder of Virtualtech Frontier (VTF), has always dreamed of building a future where people can connect and engage with others without limits. With over

eight years of experience serving various Fortune 500 Companies and big brand SMEs from across industries, Jason now spearhead efforts in metaverse adoption for businesses. Jason is also the author of the book "Metaverse" with the purpose of educating everyone about this new frontier of technology.

## Gary Leong

Senior Director Business Development  
Analytics Intelligence Solutions (AIS)  
Vitrox Corporation Berhad



Gary Leong is passionate about transforming Malaysia's manufacturing sector to be highly competitive on the world stage through industry 4.0.

Gary's industry 4.0 passion began with an internal

inspection analytics project within ViTrox. With the successful V-ONE implementation internally, he has since taken the role to expand and develop V-ONE into an i4.0 manufacturing intelligence software solution for the manufacturing sector.

Graduated with BEng from Nottingham University in the UK, Gary has 20+ years of working experience in international sales and marketing, product development, product marketing and team development.

His key mantra will be, "In the era of industry 4.0, Digital Transformation + Culture will be a success formula moving forward."

## Ang Chuan Choou

Engineering & Modernization Manager  
Kuka Robot Automation (M) Sdn Bhd



Ang is the Engineering & Modernization Manager of the Customer Service department of KUKA Robot Automation (M) Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary of KUKA AG, Germany. He is currently responsible for consultations,

proposals, executions, and managements of all robot application & automation projects.

With more than 13 years of working in KUKA, he has served and consulted many companies, enable implementation of robot automation systems successfully in their production facilities. These client spans across different industries and situates across different regions around the Asia Pacific.

His past responsibility includes designing works for structures, machines and layouts, engineering works such as machine setup, simulations study and analysis. He was also involved in marketing activities for KUKA products, business development activities and conduct trainings.

## Dr Chong Lee Wai

Solutions Consultant  
ASPL (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd



Dr. Chong Lee Wai is Solutions Consultant at ASPL (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. He obtained his Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from the University of Nottingham in 2020. He became an Assistant Professor

at the Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman and be part of research grants of more than RM1mil. He also holds a Certificate of Competency for Grid-Connected Photovoltaics Systems Design by SEDA. He was also an invited guest on National TV shows to promote carbon emissions reduction through energy efficiency. With expertise in Artificial Intelligence, AIoT, Renewable Energy, Energy Storage, and Decarbonization, Dr. Chong is currently involved in the development of Net Zero solutions to accelerate industries' strategies in meeting their ESG and sustainability targets.

## Nathan Onn

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Full-Stack Dev Instructor,  
Forward School



Nathan is an accomplished web developer with more than a decade's experience in building digital products using the latest web technologies such as ReactJS, NodeJS & Firebase. He is also a much sought-after

WordPress developer, having been an exclusive WordPress plugin author on CodeCanyon where he has generated thousands in sales. When he is not coding, you will find him teaching and sharing his programming knowledge to those who are keen to learn. He is currently a Full-Stack Development Instructor at Forward School.

## Dr. S. Sri Umeswara

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Executive Director  
DIALOG ESECO Sdn Bhd



Dr. S.Sri Umeswara is a circular economy, waste & environmental management expert consultant. He is the Malaysian Delegate and Subject Matter Expert at UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) Expert Group on

Marine Litter and Microplastics and a panel member in various government agencies on environmental sustainability sectors.

He was appointed as the Subject Matter Expert for the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) & the Coordinating Body on the Seas of the East Asia (COBSEA) baseline study, to develop Plastics Material Flow Analysis (MFA) & implement the Reducing Marine Litter Project by addressing the management of the Plastic Value Chain in South East Asia (SEA Circular).

He holds a Master of Science in Waste Management & Environmental Management, and a PhD in Energy and Environment at the Malaysia University of Science and Technology (MUST). He has successfully completed the Japan Initiative for Marine Environment (JaIME) project of Human Resource Development for Improvement of Plastics Waste Management in Asia.

He is the recipient of the 'Special Award for Environmental Sustainability in conjunction with the Malaysia Environment Week at the National Level Celebration 2013' from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. It is a special appreciation by the ministry for his contribution towards sustainable environment. Dr. S.Sri Umeswara has also authored a book titled 'Love the Environment' ('Sutrusoolalai Nesipom') - acknowledged by the Department of Environment, Malaysia.

## Vincent Lim

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General Manager for Digitalization  
Business  
ASPL Malaysia Sdn Bhd



Vincent Lim is General Manager for Digitalization Business in ASPL (M) Sdn. Bhd. A well-known digital transformation implementor for many local industries in Malaysia. Having 15 years of experience in helping local manufacturing transform digitally for

more profitable manufacturing. He had assisted local manufacturers in implementing Manufacturing Execution System (MES) and gained a Return of Investment (ROI) as quickly as eight months. He is a certified implementor for Traksys Real-Time Performance Management system. He is also well versed in industry automation, machines or devices connectivity and is a certified low-code platform from Siemens Mendix. He enables partners in driving execution excellence, enforcing implementation of best practices through lessons learned and emphasising the value of "first-time-right" action.

## Naraindran Loganathan

Senior Programs Manager  
Bentley Systems (MALAYSIA) Sdn Bhd



Mr. Naraindran Loganathan, a strong evangelist for Digitalization and Software as a Solution (SaaS), brings with him more than 19 years of experience in multiple industries spanning across ASIA.

In the last 7 years, his attention has been on evangelizing human-centric design in the infrastructure industry and sustainable development at all the stages of the life cycle of the construction industry. He has been engaging with Government Digital transformation strategists both at the Federal level and state levels in Southeast Asia. Currently, he is working with world-leading educational institutions in Southeast Asia in designing Digital Twin learning platforms, designing industry-relevant sustainable development learning content for the 'engineers of tomorrow'. Narain, as Senior Programs Manager currently leads the operations in Southeast Asia for Bentley Education, an arm of Bentley Systems. He works with many leading universities in these regions consulting, mentoring, and partnering with their curriculum team in designing "project-based learning" adopting Digital twin and Digitalization in the infrastructure industry.

Narain has a Diploma in Computer Science (USM, Penang), Bachelors of Commerce Majoring in e-Commerce from Deakin University Melbourne Australia and is also a certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt professional.

## Eddie Phua

Solutions Consultant,  
ASPL Malaysia Sdn Bhd



Eddie Phua Boon Keat provides consultation solutions and develops digital frameworks at ASPL Malaysia Sdn Bhd. Hailing from the University of Nottingham Malaysia, his main research work is in the field of

Artificial Intelligence, Energy Management in Renewable Energy (Solar) as well as revolutionised AI-Machine Vision. He is conferred as Certified Energy Manager (CEM) by MAESCO. As a strong advocate in industrial innovation, he is currently involved in applying Artificial Intelligence business solutions so that the businesses can lead ahead of time. The three main scopes are to assist businesses to plan for the future, to provide insight on resources allocations and optimization of resources utilization, as well as to anticipate change in the market for better active positioning.

## Howie Chang

Founder and Chief Executive Officer,  
Forward School



Howie Chang is the co-founder and CEO of Forward School, an accredited revolutionary technology and future skills school in Malaysia. He leads the growth and development of the company,

with the goal of providing the best digital-age education in Southeast Asia.

Having spent the formative years of his career in Singapore, he has a long experience of product management, user experience and digital business transformation in various industries. Howie also had stints with startups of all kinds, where he delved into the dynamic intersection of design, business and technology.

He was also the Head of Design at Viki and Director of Product Management at Redmart, both which resulted as two of the most notable tech acquisitions in Southeast Asia.