

TECH SINGAPORE ADVOCATES LAUNCHES TO CAMPAIGN FOR COUNTRY'S TECH COMPANIES

Independent network will celebrate strengths and address challenges within Singapore's tech sector

Private sector-led organization is sixth international chapter of Global Tech Advocates

19th July – SINGAPORE & LONDON – Tech Singapore Advocates, a network of technology leaders, experts and professionals, is launching today with a high-profile event at the British High Commission's Eden Hall.

The independent, private sector network will champion the tech verticals in which Singapore has a global competitive advantage, and campaign to address the challenges facing tech companies in the city-state, including access to talent, investment and international collaboration.

With a growing number of tech entrepreneurs and startups capitalizing upon Singapore's unique strengths – a critical mass of young skilled workers and proximity to some of the fastest growing markets in the world – Tech Singapore Advocates is designed to provide the collaborative network so many tech ecosystems require to scale.

The group will meet regularly to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences alongside driving campaigns to find solutions to long-term obstacles within the country's tech sector. These will focus on answering questions around the country's ability to produce revenue generating and innovative business models.

Located in Singapore, the group will also connect tech companies to hubs in other Southeast Asian countries. Global Tech Advocates has smaller groups in India with new international chapters set to launch in China later in the year.

The organization will be led by Subhash Ghosh and Ashish Kothari. Subhash Ghosh, is the Founder of Lemon, a global technology advisory firm, with offices in the UK, Singapore and India. Ashish Kothari comes with a diverse, global corporate background, having worked across multiple geographies in marketing & business leadership positions. The launch event, held today at the British High Commission's Eden Hall, will bring together 140 tech experts from around the world.

Tech Singapore Advocates is the sixth international chapter of Global Tech Advocates. Launched in 2013 with the creation of Tech London Advocates, this is a worldwide network of 5,000 experts in 50 countries and tech hubs worldwide. Independent networks now exist in the North of England, Belfast, the Nordics and the Bay Area. Each chapter champions the local tech ecosystem and encourages collaboration across the global tech community.

Since being founded in the UK, Tech London Advocates has run successful campaigns around digital skills, infrastructure and diversity in tech. As a result of tech leaders volunteering their time to support London's tech sector, the group has changed government policy, scaled education initiatives and secured investment for London tech startups.

Subhash Ghosh, Founder of Lemon and Co-Founder of Tech Singapore Advocates, comments, "In a connected world that is going through rapid transformation and technological change, it's very important to stay ahead. Through TSA's presence in Singapore and South-East Asia, and its global footprint in over 50 countries, including the UK, we are confident that Tech Singapore Advocates will facilitate the growth of Singapore as a tech hub."

Co-Founder Ashish Kothari adds, “Singapore and South-East Asia have a history of proactively embracing change to stay ahead of the curve. To retain our leadership in the digital age, strong collaboration amongst all the industry stakeholders is necessary. Tech Singapore Advocates will provide a platform to engage on a wide range of issues that are common across or within industry verticals.”

Russ Shaw, founder of Global Tech Advocates, comments, “Global Tech Advocates demonstrates the power of the private sector to champion success and address problems. Independent support networks are vital to any growing tech ecosystem as they unlock the characteristics upon which startups thrive – collaboration, innovation and creativity.”

“Singapore is at the start of its journey to become one of the world’s tech startup capitals. The conditions for growth are in place and I strongly believe the country has the potential to produce a critical mass of highly profitable tech startups and scale-ups. With tech investment increasing rapidly across Southeast Asia, Singapore is uniquely placed to become the central hub for the region’s digital innovation and excellence”

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About Tech London Advocates & Global Tech Advocates:

Tech London Advocates (TLA) is a private sector led coalition of over 5,000 expert individuals from the tech sector and broader community who have committed to championing London’s potential as a world-class hub for tech and digital businesses. It strives to support London's tech start-ups and high-growth businesses in finding new investment, new talent and continued success.

Tech London Advocates is an independent organization, sponsored by City of London Corporation, Pennington Manches LLP, Russell Reynolds Associates, Here East, Breakthrough Funding, Cisco, Cocoon Networks, HP, Zumtobel and Salesforce.

The TLA Advisory Board includes Bindi Karia, Debu Purkayashta, Sherry Coutu, Asher Ismail, Priya Guha, Mark Martin, Gavin Poole, Eric van der Kleij, Neeta Patel, Paris Petgrave, Sarah Luxford, Oli Barrett, Kathryn Parsons, Nick Giles, Tim Scott and Tom Yoritaka.

TLA is part of Global Tech Advocates (GTA), a network that supports sibling tech ecosystems in other regions and cities of the world. GTA also includes Tech Nordic Advocates, Tech Bay Area Advocates, Tech North Advocates and Tech Belfast Advocates. Coming later in 2017 are Tech Singapore Advocates, Tech Spain Advocates and Tech Shanghai Advocates.