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MEDIA RELEASE

SCCCI Launches Tech Symposium 2026 to Strengthen SME Competitiveness Through Technology and Resilience

The Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCCI) today launched the Tech Symposium 2026, a two-day flagship initiative with the theme “Innovate to Accelerate”, designed to equip Singapore enterprises with practical tools, insights and programmes across three critical transformation pillars: Digital 2.0, AI Enablement and Cyber Resilience.

Held on 21–22 January 2026 at the SCCCI Building, the Symposium’s opening ceremony was graced by Guest-of-Honour, Ms Jasmin Lau, Minister of State, Ministry of Digital Development and Information. It convened businesses, SMEs, trade associations, Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs) and solution providers. Through industry-led fireside chats, experiential learning, and hands-on workshops, the initiative serves as a strategic platform for businesses, particularly SMEs, to understand emerging digital solutions and take immediate steps towards technology adoption.

Strengthening SME transformation across three strategic pillars

1. Digital 2.0

Digital adoption has moved beyond basic tools and automation. Through Digital 2.0, SCCCI focuses on helping SMEs make informed technology decisions, prioritise what to transform, and deploy solutions that deliver measurable business outcomes. This includes addressing three long-standing challenges faced by SMEs: identifying suitable solution providers, determining where digital investments create the most value, and understanding how digitalisation translates into productivity gains and cost efficiencies.

Over the past year, SCCCI has organised 23 technology-focused seminars, workshops and webinars, engaging more than 850 SME participants.

In partnership with the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) under the Digital Enterprise Blueprint (DEB) announced in October 2025, SCCCI will roll out 20 AI Appreciation Hands-On Workshops in 2026. Delivered by Productivity Solutions Grant-approved vendors, these workshops provide SMEs with practical exposure to digital and AI solutions through hands-on learning and guided solution trials.

During the Symposium, a total of 60 participants will take part in DEB hands-on workshop sessions, designed to address a common SME challenge — not knowing what to digitalise, or where to start. These sessions help businesses gain clarity on practical, results-driven digital solutions that can be applied directly to real operational needs.

Commencing March 2026, the DEB workshop series will feature solution categories including Generative AI, customer relationship management, human resource management systems,

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marketing and sales enablement, and connected business suites, equipping SMEs with a practical understanding of how AI and digital solutions can be applied to address real business challenges.

2. AI Enablement

AI adoption remains a key aspiration for many SMEs, yet uncertainty around use cases and implementation often slows progress. Since 2025, SCCCI has developed and piloted its AI Enablement initiative, working in close collaboration with partners such as Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) and Temasek Polytechnic (TP) to deliver Problem Discovery Workshops and Proof-of-Concept (POC) programmes that translate business challenges into actionable AI solutions.

Under the collaboration with NYP and TP, students from both polytechnics have worked on actual business challenges put forward by SCCCI member companies, resulting in close to 70 use cases identified for prototype development. SCCCI also partners Singapore Polytechnic (SP) on the Best-in-Class in Artificial Intelligence (AI Lead) programme, which is a 10-day, 80-hour immersive course co-delivered with SCCCI to support companies to accelerate their Industry 4.0 transformation. Since its inception, the programme has strengthened enterprise AI capabilities, benefiting 107 participants from 87 companies and reinforcing industry readiness for digital innovation and growth.

At Tech Symposium 2026, this AI Enablement journey will be brought to life. Participants can participate in Problem Discovery Workshops, led by partners including SPTel and NYP, to help them identify and articulate underlying business challenges. Identified problem statements may then progress into SCCCI's POC programmes, where targeted solutions are developed to address these challenges (Participation in the POC programmes is open to SCCCI members only).

3. Cyber Resilience

With rising incidents of cyber threats, SCCCI is helping SMEs to strengthen their cybersecurity readiness. SCCCI is a founding member of the Cyber Resilience Centre established by SBF and supported by the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (CSA). Through the CRC, SCCCI will roll out Cyber Health Clinics on a quarterly basis in 2026 to help businesses assess and strengthen their cyber readiness, beginning with the first clinic held in conjunction with the Tech Symposium.

SCCCI will also partner leading cybersecurity providers like SPTel to empower SMEs with AI-powered cybersecurity tools, such as PatchSense AI, that will enable businesses to identify vulnerabilities early, improve response times to threats and strengthen their cybersecurity. As a practical approach to increasing the cyber resilience of SMEs, SCCCI and SPTel have partnered to make free trials of PatchSense AI available to SCCCI members attending the event. This will allow SMEs to experience PatchSense AI's benefits in enabling them to take early steps towards strengthening cyber protection.

Forging strategic partnerships

At the Symposium, SCCCI will also formalise strategic partnerships by signing several Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs). Under Digital 2.0, SCCCI will sign MOUs with three industry partners — MyRepublic, Singtel and SPTel — to accelerate digital adoption among

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SCCI Members and SMEs through structured programmes, capability-building workshops, and accessible transformation pathways.

Under the AI Enablement Programme, SCCI will sign MOUs with four IHLs — Nanyang Polytechnic, Singapore Polytechnic, Temasek Polytechnic and Singapore University of Technology and Design to enable AI innovation and readiness through education, proof-of-concept opportunities, and pilot initiatives to future-ready businesses.

SCCI's commitment to strengthening SME digital capabilities

Mr Mark Lee, Chairman of SCCI's Technology Committee said, "As businesses navigate a rapidly evolving economic and technological landscape, AI and digitalisation are becoming essential tools for improving productivity, competitiveness, and long-term resilience. This Tech Symposium is designed to help SMEs move beyond awareness towards practical adoption, with a strong focus on real-world applications that deliver measurable business outcomes.

SCCI works with Institutes of Higher Learning and technology providers to co-develop and pilot AI-driven solutions that address fundamental SME challenges such as operational efficiency, cost management, and scalability. By grounding innovation in actual business problems, we aim to make AI adoption more accessible, practical, and commercially meaningful for our members.

As digital adoption accelerates, cyber risks inevitably rise, making cybersecurity a core business risk rather than just a technical issue. While national cybersecurity frameworks are led by the relevant authorities, SCCI supports awareness and readiness among its members through engagement with government agencies and ecosystem partners."

The Symposium reflects SCCI's strong commitment to strengthening SME capabilities in 2026 and marks the start of our technology roadmap for the year. As a proactive technology enabler in supporting national-level SME capability development, SCCI aims to walk alongside SMEs through their digital journey, leveraging strong partnerships and practical programmes to help enterprises build resilience, unlock innovation and remain competitive in an increasingly digital economy.

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About Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry

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Established in 1906, the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCCI) is an internationally renowned business organisation and the apex body of the Chinese business community in Singapore. It is the founder of the biennial World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention, a global business convention. It plays a key and pro-active role in representing the interests of the local business community.

The SCCCI has a membership network comprising 5,000 corporate members and has more than 150 trade association members, representing over 40,000 companies including large financial and business organisations, multinational corporations, government-linked companies, and small and medium enterprises from a wide spectrum of trades and industries. These members together provide vast resources and opportunities which enable the SCCCI to develop an influential global Chinese business network for business, education, culture and community development. In return, they share a strong sense of pride and identity together and benefit immensely from the SCCCI's membership services, facilities and activities.

For more information, please visit www.sccci.org.sg