



3-4 June 2025 | Century City Conference Centre, CPT

EMPOWERING AFRICA'S DIGITAL FUTURE

DAY 1 - 03 June 2025	
07:30 - 08:30	Registration and Refreshments
08:30 - 08:40	Moderator's Welcome Caitlin Nash , CEO: Golden Thread Markets
08:40 - 08:45	Organiser's Address Ralf Fletcher , CEO, Topco Media
08:45 - 08:55 	Platinum Partner Opening Address Tebogo Leshope , CEO, Sentech
08:55 - 09:05 	Host City Opening Address Alderman Vos , Mayoral Committee Member for Economic Growth, City of Cape Town
09:05 - 09:20	Minister's Address South Africa's Strategic Approach to Data Sovereignty As South Africa emerges as a leading hub for data centres and cloud computing, the government is driving regulatory reforms to attract investment while ensuring data sovereignty and cybersecurity compliance. This address will highlight key policy initiatives, including promoting renewable energy for data facilities and fostering a secure, forward-looking digital ecosystem that supports global cloud leaders like AWS, Google, and Microsoft. Speaker: Hon. Solly Malatsi , Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies
Securing and Scaling Africa's Tech Infrastructure	

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09:20 - 09:50 Hosted by Sentech 	Panel Discussion Streaming the Future: Unlocking Growth in Media and OTT Services As the lines between traditional broadcasting and digital platforms blur, the growth of OTT services presents both a challenge and a massive opportunity. This panel explores how infrastructure providers and tech innovators can work together to expand access, improve content delivery, and monetise new digital audiences. From data-driven viewer insights to local content strategies and next-gen streaming tech, discover what it takes to thrive in Africa's fast-evolving media landscape. Panellists: • Kopano Thage, Chief Commercial Officer: Media Business, Sentech • Shoeshoe Qhu, CEO, MDDA • Yokow Quansah, Managing Director, Broadmart
09:50 - 10:20	Panel Discussion Cybersecurity at the Edge: How AI and Machine Learning Are Protecting Businesses from IoT-Driven Threats While the Internet of Things (IoT) continues to expand, so do the vulnerabilities businesses face from an ever-growing attack surface. This panel will delve into the role of AI and machine learning in enhancing cybersecurity at the edge, where critical data is generated and processed. Experts will discuss how advanced technologies are enabling businesses to safeguard IoT devices and networks. Panellists: • Nomahlubi Ogoh, Chief Information Officer, Sentech • Abdul Kader Baba, Chief Technology & Information Officer, Infrastructure SA • Rishard Baderoon, Founder, SoSecure Group
10:20 - 11:00	NETWORKING BREAK Recharge & Refresh
	Transforming Industries: Data, Law, and Communication
11:00 - 11:05	Power Talk Alveena Pillay, Executive: Strategic Partnerships

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11:05 - 11:35 Hosted by iME 	Panel Discussion Revolutionising Communication: The Role of Video Technology in a Connected World As the world grows increasingly interconnected, video is no longer just a tool for meetings. It's becoming the core infrastructure behind education, healthcare, commerce, and global collaboration. This panel will explore how advanced video technologies are reshaping communication in Africa's digital economy. From one-way interviews and live-streamed events to real-time global collaboration, speakers will unpack how platforms like iME are enabling secure, scalable, and monetisable video interactions. The conversation will focus on innovation, accessibility, and business impact across industries, offering insights into the next phase of Africa's digital transformation. Panellists: • Mbuso Khoza, Chief Technology Officer, iME • Matthew Leisching, Co-Owner, Madfit MMA • Donna Barnes, Executive: Marketing & Positioning, PPS Investments
11:35 - 12:10 Hosted by Sentech 	Panel Discussion Closing the Digital Divide: The Future of Broadband Connectivity in South Africa This discussion will highlight the exciting opportunities for expanding broadband connectivity across South Africa. With a focus on innovative solutions and future technologies, the panel will explore how improving internet access can drive economic growth, enhance education, and empower communities. By bridging the digital divide, South Africa can unlock a more connected, inclusive, and prosperous future for all. Panellists: • Marius Venter, Chief Commercial Officer: Broadband, Sentech • Tauriq Brown, CEO, TooMuchWifi • Peter Mafagana, Acting CTO, Broadband Infraco
12:10 - 12:15	Power Talk Shannon Naicker, Chief Innovation Officer, The Adhive Group

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12:15 - 12:35 Hosted by The Adhive Group 	Fireside Chat The Death Of Vanilla Marketing Traditional marketing is dead. In its place? A new wave of hyper-targeted, tech-powered, and insight-driven engagement. Discover how The Hive are ditching the generic approach and embracing marketing that actually moves the needle. Speaker: Yaw Dwomoh, CEO, The Adhive Group
12:35 - 13:35 LUNCH BREAK Fuel Up and Connect	
13:35 - 13:50 Hosted by SOFTSWISS 	Tech Talk Cybersecurity Threats Landscape in 2025: Lessons from the Online Entertainment Industry With digital threats becoming more sophisticated, the online entertainment industry offers valuable insights into how businesses can prepare for and respond to cyber risks. This session unpacks the current cybersecurity landscape, looking at the most pressing threats facing digital platforms in 2025. From phishing to system breaches and targeted attacks, learn how one of the most exposed sectors is tackling these challenges, strengthening defences, and protecting users in real time. The discussion will highlight practical takeaways for building resilience and staying ahead in a constantly shifting digital environment. Speaker: Artem Bychkov, Deputy CSO, SOFTSWISS
13:50 - 14:25	Panel Discussion Global Alliances, Local Impact: Strengthening Africa's Digital Economy Through Strategic Partnerships In an increasingly interconnected world, Africa's digital economy is set for transformation through strategic global partnerships. This session explores how cross-border collaboration, investment, and knowledge-sharing are accelerating technological growth, fostering innovation, and creating new opportunities for businesses across the continent. Discover how multinational alliances can drive sustainable progress, bridge digital gaps, and position Africa as a leader in the global digital landscape. Panellists: • Ian Merrington, Group CEO, UVU • Tim Mitchell, Digital Transformation & CX Leader, Cadena Growth Partners • Maha Jouini, Vice President, Agence Francophone et Africaine de l'Intelligence (AFRIA) • Lavina Ramkissoo, Advisor to The African Union & Founder of hu da ta

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14:25 - 14:55	Panel Discussion The Evolving Role of Lawtech in Modernising Legal Services and Improving Access Lawtech is revolutionising the legal industry by enhancing the accessibility and efficiency of legal services. With the rise of digital platforms, automated document generation, and streamlined workflows, legal professionals can deliver faster, more cost-effective services. This session delves into how lawtech is transforming the delivery of legal services, making them more accessible to individuals and businesses while improving operational efficiency within the legal sector. Panellists: • Catherine-Jane Paulse, CEO, Briefco • Priyanka Raath, Senior Associate, ENS • Andrew Marshall, Director of Technology Law, DML Law
14:55 - 15:10 Hosted by Binance 	Tech Talk Beyond Bitcoin: Exploring Blockchain-Based Financial Inclusion for Africa's Underserved Blockchain technology is reshaping financial access beyond cryptocurrencies. This session explores how blockchain-driven solutions are unlocking financial inclusion for Africa's underserved communities—enabling secure transactions, micro-lending, and decentralised banking without traditional barriers. Join us to discover how this technology is bridging economic gaps and empowering businesses and individuals across the continent. Speaker: Hannes Wessels, General Manager, Binance
15:10 - 15:40 Hosted by Sentech 	Panel Discussion Powering Africa's Digital Future: The Role of Data Centres in Tech Transformation As Africa rapidly embraces digital transformation, data centres are emerging as the backbone of its technological growth. This discussion will explore how data centres are enabling Africa's connectivity, providing critical infrastructure for cloud services, AI, IoT, and big data analytics. Panellists: • Steven Tshehla, Managed Infrastructure Business Portfolio Manager, Sentech • Wabo Majavu, Founder, WiTech Africa • Reza Suleman, Partner: Futures Practice, Africa International Advisors • Ricardo Canovi, Director & Country Manager, Kocho

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15:40 - 16:00	Tech Talk Mobility Without Borders: How Digital Platforms are Driving Economic Growth Hosted by InDrive  InDrive As Africa's cities expand and industries evolve, tech-driven mobility solutions are emerging as key drivers of economic opportunity. From empowering local entrepreneurs to improving access to work and essential services, digital platforms are reshaping transport, trade, and connectivity. This session explores how flexible, market-driven models are enabling fairer, more efficient mobility ecosystems—fueling both economic inclusion and sustainable growth. Speaker: Ashif Black , Country Representative, InDrive
16:00 - 16:15	Tech Talk Rewired for Innovation: Supercharging Startups with Neurodiverse Talent The future of tech belongs to teams that think differently. Discover how tapping into neurodiverse strengths can fuel creativity, adaptability, and performance in your startup. Learn practical strategies for building inclusive, skills-first teams that thrive in Africa's fast-evolving innovation economy. Speaker: Dr Sarah Babb , Co-Founder and MD of Stimm
16:15 - 16:20	Moderator's Closing: Caitlin Nash , CEO: Golden Thread Markets
19:00 - 22:00	AWARDS FUNCTION

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EMPOWERING AFRICA'S DIGITAL FUTURE

DAY 2 - 04 June 2025	
07:30 - 08:30	Registration and Refreshments
08:30 - 08:40	Moderator's Welcome Caitlin Nash , CEO: Golden Thread Markets
08:40 - 08:50 	Sentech Opening Address Itumeleng Segaloe , Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer, Sentech
08:50 - 09:10	Keynote Address Purpose-First AI: Charting the Course for Business and Society in the Age of Algorithmic Power Speaker Beverley Schäfer , South African AI Association Advisory Board Member
Powering Progress: AI, Access & Automation	
09:10 - 09:40 Hosted by Sentech 	Panel Discussion Unlocking Connectivity Across Africa: The Strategic Role of Satellite Infrastructure As Africa drives toward inclusive digital transformation, satellite infrastructure is emerging as a powerful enabler of universal connectivity. This panel will explore how next-generation satellite technologies are bridging the digital divide, reaching underserved communities, and complementing terrestrial networks. Experts will discuss the strategic importance of satellites in expanding broadband access, supporting national development goals, and enabling reliable service delivery across vast and remote regions. The conversation will also unpack commercial opportunities, regulatory frameworks, and the future role of satellites in powering Africa's digital economy. Panellists: • Flenk Mnisi, Acting Chief Operating Officer, Sentech • Trishen Moodley, Executive Head: Information Technology, MAST • Ziaad Suleman, CEO, Cassava Technologies South Africa

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09:40 - 09:55 Hosted by GoSolr 	Tech Talk The State of Solar in 2025 – Why AI is Driving Solar Change AI is no longer just a buzzword — it's the driving force behind a smarter, more reliable solar future. In this tech-powered session, GoSolr introduces The Brain, our breakthrough AI device that's changing the game in solar efficiency and energy independence. Discover how The Brain ensures your battery is always charged ahead of loadshedding, adapts to tariffs and weather in real-time, and automatically manages your system for maximum savings — no manual input required. We'll also dive into how AI is solving critical gaps in renewable energy, how South African innovation stacks up globally, and why intelligent solar tech is the key to a resilient, cost-effective, and consumer-focused energy future. Speakers: • Andrew Middleton, CEO, GoSolr • Dr Patrick Narbel, CTO, GoSolr
09:55 - 10:15 Hosted by XLink 	Fireside Chat Behind the Tap: The Technology Powering Africa's Payment Ecosystems Ever wondered what happens behind a simple tap or swipe? This session takes you under the hood of modern payment ecosystems to explore the technology enabling secure, real-time transactions across Africa. From orchestration layers and network connectivity to failover systems and smart terminals, discover how tech is driving seamless interactions between banks, retailers, and fintechs—making payment experiences faster, safer, and smarter. Speaker: Tapfuma Mvere, Product Innovation, XLink
10:15 - 10:30 Hosted by Pula Management 	Fireside Chat Technology's Role in Building Sustainable Business and Community In a rapidly evolving digital world, sustainability is no longer a choice but a necessity. This session explores how innovative technologies are reshaping the way businesses operate and communities thrive. From inclusive digital tools to purpose-driven business models, discover how the intersection of tech and sustainability can drive long-term impact. Join us as we unpack the role of technology in creating businesses that not only grow—but uplift. Speakers: • Rita Sibanda, Co-Founder, Pula Management • Bruce Mkhalihi, Co-Founder & CEO, Fivvopay • Vuyisa Qabaka, Strategic Partner, Vula

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10:30 - 11:00	Panel Discussion Smart Data, Smart Futures: Accelerating Inclusive Growth Through AI, Cloud, and Earth Tech In a world where data is the new gold, how can Africa mine it responsibly to fuel inclusive economic growth? This session explores the intersection of AI, cloud infrastructure, and environmental intelligence in shaping the continent's digital future. From precision agriculture to financial systems, discover how scalable technologies and cross-sector collaboration can bridge the divide between tech innovation and real-world impact. Panellists: • Dumisa Ngwenya, Head of Research and Innovation, Sentech • Prof. Moses Azong Cho, Chief Scientist and Research Group Leader, CSIR • Manav Daby, Data and AI Specialist, Google Cloud
11:00 - 11:15 Hosted by Nutanix + Dell NUTANIX 	Tech Talk When Titan's Align - A New Empire Gerhard Fourie brings insights on how channel partnerships can unlock innovation, improve business resilience, and support scalable technology adoption across Africa's fast-evolving digital landscape. Speakers: • Gerhard Fourie, Channel Sales Manager, Nutanix • Mike Hurman, Product and Solutions Sales Specialist, Dell Technologies

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11:15 - 11:30 Hosted by LexisNexis  LexisNexis	Fireside Chat LexisNexis Presents: Document Automation for the Modern Legal Practice In a world where efficiency, accuracy, and agility are essential, LexisNexis introduces <i>Protégé</i>: an intelligent AI assistant that's transforming how professionals manage and create documents. Whether you're in law, business, compliance, or any field where documentation matters, this thoughtful discussion will showcase how AI-powered automation can streamline workflows, personalise outputs, and drive real productivity without compromising security or control. Join us to see how adaptable tools like <i>Protégé</i> are shaping the future of work across industries. Speaker: Terrance Naidoo, Chief Product Officer, LexisNexis
11:30 - 11:55	NETWORKING BREAK Recharge & Refresh
	Building Smarter Futures: Innovation in Education, Experience, and Industry
11:55 - 12:25	Panel Discussion Gamified Learning: Transforming Skills Development for a Future-Ready Workforce As the world of work evolves, so too must the way we equip people with the skills they need to thrive. This panel explores how gamification is revolutionising education and skills development—turning traditional training into dynamic, interactive experiences. From classrooms to corporate learning, game-based approaches are helping to build digital fluency, critical thinking, and financial confidence in ways that are accessible, engaging, and effective. Join leading voices in education, tech, and workforce development as we uncover how playful design can deliver serious impact in preparing Africa's future workforce. Panellists: • Yazid Bohardien, CRO, Zaio Institute of Technology • Ajen Mothee, Head of Innovation, Old Mutual: Personal Finance • Kobus Louw, Founder & CEO, Digemy • Nomalanga Makwe, Founder & MD, Mosholu

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12:25 - 12:40 Hosted by Africa Data Centres 	Tech Talk Building Africa's Edge in the Global Cloud Race Africa is not just catching up — it's positioning to lead. In this session, explore how Africa Data Centres is shaping a future-ready digital ecosystem through secure, scalable, and sustainable infrastructure. From powering innovation hubs to enabling cloud sovereignty, discover how Africa's edge is being built — and why the world should pay attention. Speaker: Dr Angus Hay, Regional Executive South Africa, Africa Data Centres
12:40 - 13:00 Hosted by Absa 	Fireside Chat Digital Transformation and Technology: Shaping the Future of Banking in Africa As digital transformation reshapes the financial landscape, banks are adapting to new customer needs and leveraging emerging technologies to stay competitive. This panel will explore how banks are innovating and using technology to improve efficiency, enhance customer experience and keep up with fast-changing expectations across the continent. Panellists: • Tamu Dutuma, Head Strategy and Transformation at Absa Regional Operations, Technology • Ntando Sicam, Technology Delivery Lead, Accenture
13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH BREAK Fuel Up and Connect
	Expanding Financial Access in Africa

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14:00 - 14:15	Fireside Chat How Smart Factory Innovations Are Powering Sustainable Manufacturing The future of manufacturing is smart, and it's driving sustainability. This session explores how innovations in smart factory technologies are revolutionising manufacturing processes, reducing waste, and enhancing energy efficiency. By integrating these cutting-edge solutions, manufacturers are not only improving productivity but also making significant strides towards more sustainable operations. Join us to learn how smart factory innovations are reshaping the industry and paving the way for a greener, more efficient future. Panellists: • Vinesh Maharaj, Associate Director, PWC • Giulio Airaga, Director, Desco
Pitching Battle Top Tech Startups Battle it out	
14:15 - 15:45	Pitching Battle The Ultimate Showdown! The stage is set for 7 pre-selected Tech Startups to deliver a powerful 3-minute elevator pitch about their groundbreaking innovation, followed by a 5-minute Q&A session with our esteemed panel of judges. After a fierce round of deliberations, our panel of expert judges will reveal the winner, crowning them as the Africa Tech Week 2025 Pitching Den Champion. The spotlight is on, and only one can take the prize! Finalists: • Brandon Singh, GeolyticsAI • Mogammad Intiyaaz Riley, LOOP TRANSPORT • Roger Norton, OkHi • Andrew Jubane, MyStokvel South Africa • Matshepo Soto, MOVEMATES • Niyaaz Ebrahim, DEM (AIA) • Nivashnee Ramparsad, Iconix Engineering Solutions (Pty) Ltd t/a Smartee Judging Panel: • Flenk Mnisi, Acting Chief Operating Officer, Sentech • Ralf Fletcher, CEO, Topco Mediaw • Ian Lessem, Managing Partner, HAVAÍC • Brian Mlambo, Chapter Director, Startup Grind Cape Town • Mbuso Khoza, Chief Technology Officer, iME • Jonathan Allmayer, Senior Account Executive, Dell Technologies

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	Judges Deliberations // Startup Grind Presentation
	Africa Tech Week 2025 Pitching Den Champion announced Prize Giving
16:05 - 16:10	Moderator's Closing: Caitlin Nash , CEO: Golden Thread Markets
DAY 2 CLOSE	

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