

EXPLORE THIS MONTH

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT OF **CSSL**



Considering the past few months it was inconceivable to imagine how COVID-19 have affected our lives and livelihoods. Since the pandemic first started, the CSSL community has had a significant role play in responding to one of the utmost challenges of our time and helping to define how we live our lives both now and in the future. Over the past few months we have shared ways in which our members can help to combat COVID-19. I am proud of our members that have taken this opportunity to get involved, share ideas, offer support and assemble activities in response to the pandemic. Our communities have contributed their innovative ideas and suggestions that might help the fight against COVID-19. Again as our motto echoes, CSSL is truly shaping the future of ICT Professionals in Sri Lanka and contributed towards the betterment of the members, ICT Professionals, society and our country.

CSSL is a home for variant, and experienced IT professionals and our greatest strength is in working collaboratively, utilizing our widespread knowledge and experience to find solutions that support society. As a professional institution we are strongly engaged in a wide range of development areas bringing together the pioneering, expert advices to work together with Government and many industrial bodies.

If we consider about the digital future and technology that reduces the need for people to trace physical objects, to use technology to change the way in which we commute not only to minimalize the danger but also

to contribute towards a more sustainable planet.

I can assure our members that CSSL will continue to be an organization that they can rely on and trust and we will provide our fullest conveniences to everyone as much as we can. As President, I am indebted to all those who helped in this process over the years. Thank you everyone who supported.

Cyber Security Considerations for **Business Continuity:**

The concern for cybersecurity becomes more and more significant as the time passes and along planning has intensified.

Restructure or perish: new business norm in a post pandemic environment:

On 06th of May 2020 an interesting evening session and a panel discussion on Restructure or Perish: New Business Norm in a Post Pandemic Environment was held

April Tech talk – Covid-19 & Cyber warfare:

The extraordinary efforts of many organizations to protect workers and serve customers during the COVID-19 pandemic have also increased their exposure to cyber threats.

Introduction to cyber security – Offered by CISCO Networking academy:

Among 10 IT skills that employers need in 2022, high demand for 2022.

MANAGING INDUSTRY 4.0 - OPTIONS, **RISKS AND CHALLENGES**

On 24th July an interesting discussion was held by PROF. DR. RER. NAT. SIEGFRIED ZÜRN; the dean of Esslingen Graduate School who is a pioneer in the fields.

Editorial Board

Cyber Security Considerations for Business Continuity

The concern for cybersecurity becomes more and more significant as the time passes and along with that the concern for business continuity planning has intensified. Without any doubt all kind of businesses kinds must embrace cybersecurity concerns in their business continuity plans with a special degree of attention towards it because a cyberattack or a data breach can have massive impacts on the entire organization as well as its partners and customers. Mr. Buddhika de Alwis the Managing Director | Co-Founder of Trustvault who is a pioneer information security governance, cyber security, compliance, risk management, implementations of information security management systems and etc. conducted a Tech Talk on 19th of June about these two categories that have climbed the ranks in terms of most substantial threats over the past few years.



Restructure or Perish: New Business Norm in a Post-Pandemic Environment



Channa de Silva
Chief Executive Officer at LankaClea PAGE 03
Operator of LankaPay - National Pa

of

A Knowledge sharing session by Industry Specialists



Conrad Dias

Director/CEO - LOLC Finance PLC,

Director - LOLC Holdings PLC,

Chairman -LOLC Technologies Limited



Manavjeet Singh Fintech Strategist, Entrepreneur, CEO, Ex-Banker

Sri Lanka









Naresh Abeyesekera
Founder SECQUORO,
Entrepreneur, Keynote Speaker, Global CFO,
Global Leadership, Business Transformation Strategist,
Technology & Digital Strategist, Innovator

On 06th of May 2020 an interesting evening session and a panel discussion on Restructure or Perish: New Business Norm in a Post Pandemic Environment was held with the collaboration of pioneer specialists in the industry Mr. Conrad Dias Director/CEO- LOLC Finance PLC Director- LOLC Holdings PLC Chairman-LOLC Technologies Limited, Mr. Channa de Silva Chief Executive Officer at LankaClear, Operator of LankaPay- National Payment Network of Sri Lanka, Mr. Manavjeet Singh Fintech, Strategy, Entrepreneur, CEO, Ex-banker and Mr. Naresh Abeyesekara Entrepreneur, Keynote Speaker, Ex LSEG Leadership/CFO, Business Transformation Strategists, Global Leadership, CFO – Global, Digital & Technology Strategist and Innovator. When this pandemic ends a new normal may last for months, years, or forever and planning for the after-effects of a pandemic is essential so the entire platform was opened to the discussion based on this area and how organizations have to adopt for these circumstances.













INNOVATION DRIVEN IT INDUSTRY CAN GIVE A LOT OF A VALUE ADDITION TO SRI LANKA

DR. DAYAN RAJAPAKSHE



If your parents can guide you from an early age, it gives you a good head-start in life. I was born in Narammala in Kurunegala. I was the eldest in the family with two younger sisters and studied at Maliyadeva College. For my success first the influence came from home. My father a doctor and a channel practitioner he was really tough. And my mother was a graduate teacher. So, discipline was one of the key factors in anything what we did. So, I think that was one of the main reasons that we were in the right track and we knew that we have to somehow the other get qualified and get knowledge and that's the only way for success. That's what my parents always told me. My father never showed us he is busy, and he always had time for us. Basically, we were guided by my father and mother. My mother gave up her career because you know that there should be someone to look after children. My father didn't have that much of time for us, so my mother went for an early retirement. And then she was always with us and we had close monitoring and interaction with mother's early retirement. My father

was not a businessman anyhow he had an entrepreneurial gene inside him. While he is doing his profession, he tried other things also and I was able to get a kind of exposure to those things. For one example he was engaged in Mahaweli project which was a biggest irrigation project in Sri Lanka. When my father got free time, he goes there, and I also used to go with him. My father wanted to check whether the drivers are doing the job properly and whether the vehicles are maintained properly. He did not become a giant businessman. But he was doing everything he did a small gem business and I was able to get lot experiences by travelling with him. From that I got early exposure to many things. We had a commercial property and there was a building under construction. I went there and monitoring how the slab was done. I was observing lot of things. And even I was harvesting in paddy field. My parents allowed me to do those things. The biggest things I received from my family are the discipline and exposure to many things. That's was why I am not narrowing down myself to one area. That's the foundation I got from my home.

You know that the school is your second home. I have received immense support from school. I have covered all my subjects covered from my school. Actually, we had brilliant teachers with nearly 25 years' or 30 years' experience. They had intellectual capacity which is equal to professors. The value they could add to our lives were very high. They were like our parents who were giving a lot of advices and they were with very

good integrity. They were role models and so, we had to listen them. Because did not say one thing and follow another thing. So, we followed them, and we did what they say, we listened to the advices given by them. That was the one of the greatest things what I have gained from my school. The principals who were there in our era were very tough characters. So, other greatest thing what I have received from the school was discipline.

The childhood ambitions are the rocket fuel for the rest of our lives when they come from our own curiosity and drive. They are the seeds of a passion that creates a life well lived. Anyhow, in my childhood I have never thought to become an entrepreneur. I was a knowledge hunter to learn lot of things. I wanted to have more knowledge in diverse fields. That was one of my early ambitions and I wanted to be a professional. I was not that much interested in doing medicine, but I want to be a professional. My dream was actually for me to go in field of engineering and do something technology-based innovations. If I could build a car in sri Lanka, that's where I would be more satisfied. And even now I'm thinking that whether I should be able to do that someday. Because now cars are not built by automakers and now tech companies are taken over. Now Tesla has gone beyond Toyota which means that its motor driven energy production. So, its different technology all together. So, if we have a long-term plan nothing is impossible. Actually, my ambition is to become a professionally qualified person who could add value in terms of innovative principles and concepts. I transformed with the opportunities what I have gained.

"The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't Settle." - Steve Jobs.

Usually there is a less probability of shifting a physician to an entrepreneur. I had entrepreneurial gene inside me. The first business I did was planting

manioc. And I proposed my driver let's was doing part-time lecturing. Some wanted two directors and at that time get together and do this on a people used to say that I am doing full I was not married, and I have asked my profit-sharing basis. Then he also gets time lecturing and part time medicine. father to join. But he refused it he some extra income. I also get my Because I never used my weekends for pocket money. Successfully we did doing medicine, I used it for part-time he wanted me to see as a consultant. cultivation and we got crops and we lecturing. I had to face some troubles sold it and got some money. That was when I started my clinicals some how I before I'm doing O/L's. The after O/L's, managed it. I have stopped lecturing But with the promise of releasing them I started another business. I got my for one month, that's only for my final father to invest money to start a motor MBBS. Because I found that I'm far bike selling shop. Because one of my behind the medical knowledge and if I uncles was a biggest importer of motor won't study, I would not be able to bikes to Kurunegala and those days complete my degree. That's why I Kurunegala was very famous for used stopped lecturing for one month. Japanese bike selling. So, I suggested my father, Lets have a motor bicycle *Challenges make you discover things* there were few patients and I had selling shop. Our hometown was not about yourself that you never really nothing to do. I realized that my Kurunegala and it was Narammala. We knew. Life's challenges are not capacity is heavily under-utilized. used to buy bikes from him and supposed to paralyze you, they're When you work in the government reconditioned them and then sold supposed to help you to discover who sector its not flexible. We have work them. One of my objectives was to you are. I'm not the one who came up on schedule and work with lot of rules earn little bit of money but my father with the idea of starting my own and regulations. With regarding these did not give me the money because he institute because I was satisfied with reasons, I had to stop my career as a was the investor. I had another lecturing. My friend only invited me to intention of getting rides from join for a business venture. So, we different motor bikes in different days started this company in year 2000 with In that time, I had 07 or 08 years of because I'm a vehicle fan. Those days I five other directors, I had a single working experience as a lecturer. And went to school by bike. I had to close share and I was pulled into this in my we were conducting classes for British that because I had to start my A/L's. internship period. Actually, my friends Computer professional exams and I We ran the shop for 8 months and I they were only investors, but they was able to sell more than 200 bikes were equally capable and qualified subjects. So, many students came to during that time period. Even we had a people. I was the person who exposed reception hall owned by my father and to it. Most of the people thought I am I took over the catering service of that. the person who invested the money I did the catering work by outsourcing and started the business. Nobody an external party. I get the order and knew that the others were partners keep a mark up and supply to function. even unless I tell others this is not only I am always a risk taker. I always try my company there are 4 more new things and try different things.

is during my undergraduate studies I interested anymore and if you want the support of clutches, I was able to got an opportunity to do part time you can take over the share. There was walk at that time. Then I decided to lecturing in IT while I was a medical question on either shutting down or student in University of Colombo. somebody else taking over and which is little bit tall enough to sit and Before starting university, we had a continue. So, I went for the second time leap of 2 years because there was option. I don't want to be seen as a a batch lag due to 1988/99 troubles. looser and everybody thought it is my And at that time, I could be able to one. So, I don't need to lose my what I have kept them. That was the complete my IT studies and I worked credibility because someone might say time, our institute started building a for a company as a demonstrator and you started a company and they might name. That was the second turning instructor. Then, I got opportunity to see me as a looser. That's the place do part time lecturing while been a where I single handedly took over the medical student. And those time I was company and its in 2002. In that time, I CSSL was a vehicle for me to get popular as a medical student IT shifted my company to Bambalapitiya. connected with government schools lecturer. At that time, I was lecturing That was one turning point. Then that and universities and I received a

directors and so on. After 2 years, we didn't receive anything from it so, they lecturers to cover up my lessons, but Any why I started educational institute all give up. They said they are not

short term crops like peanut and exams. Entire my university period I or wrong no board meetings and all. I never wanted me to be a businessman Then I asked for my sister they also refused it then I had to beg from them. after my marriage only they joined. Then after I married, I released them. My father never allowed me to stop medicine. So, I had to do both. The only thing I enjoyed in the hospital was giving care to my patients. While working in Polonnaruwa hospital, physician.

> was a popular lecturer for some our institute because of me. So, many students were attracted to our institute with the trust. At that time, I was met with an accident and both my hand and leg were fractured. I was asked to bed rest for 05 months. At that time lot of students have come to me and they were in the trouble. I put they were not satisfied with it. With come to Colombo. Then I used a chair write on the board. That actually spread from mouth to mouth. And lot of students came to me with the trust point.

for Australian Computer Society (ACS) was a one man show whether it is right chance to work with them. And also, I

workshops with them. I joined as a in many industries like member in 2009 as a member and Management and Tourism. initially appointed as the student councilor so my role was working with **Due** colleges, possible only they thought of IT. I had a developed parents and children providing myself so as the best example where I started classrooms initiated inter Mastermind which inspired through this. I became the student base. president of CSSL on the years of 2015 and 2016 where I focused on branding My CSSL in a national and global pitch. We *undergraduates* is that you must only look at bringing revenue only had His Excellency the president as the enjoy what you do, and you should from IT but to use IT in other industries Chief Guest for NITC which was a great have a passion for your filed. When too where we can add a good boost to landmark of CSSL history. We didn't you pursue your carrier choose the our GDP. have exposure in a regional context or field that you have a passion because connections with regional IT bodies so that's where you'll enjoy the most. I Promoting Sri Lanka as an education at that time we exposed CSSL for these did my studies in Bioscience, but I destination where we should attract working as the president of SIAC where that my priority which paved the path students can get an international we started gaining connections with for my success. the regional professional bodies.

ESOFT Technologies is another new Enjoy your practical work. Set your students concept that has been initiated goals and work towards them starting exposure but if international students recently. One of the main reasons from the beginning. Successful carriers will come here majority of the behind this is providing the graduates are built little by little so setting up students will get the international an industry experience through my goals will guide you through your path exposure. Our human capital can be own company. As an innovator I and don't frame yourself for a certain much better and developed than it is cherished new concepts of my job role but try different things. I have today. students, facilitating new innovations been working as an instructor, and motivating them to innovate new assistant lecturer, IT lecture, general products providing them with a whole physician and even as a software new industrial experience. A lot IoT engineer which gave me exemplary applications were manufactured through ESOFT

was able to talk with them and have Technologies which could be applied helps to improve your performance.

to COVID-19 universities to institutions faced a lot of problems especially if we engage more with promote IT among the students. At **especially in Distance Learning** innovation that time people didn't think of IT as a *Platforms so how did ESOFT Metro* innovations. IT 1st choice for them 1st choice was Campus faced these challenges. I intergrade with other fields fields like medicine, engineering, law think we adopted to COVID-19 very medicine, or management. If none of those are well. We already had the platforms mechatronic engineering and much like our big role in changing the mind set of Management System before COVID-19 wonders. It has to combine with other we supplemented virtual using platforms medicine as my carrier path but later Microsoft Teams to our LMS and gave can come up with a plan to integrate pursued IT over medicine and started access to students for remote learning different disciplines practicing IT. Back then people had a almost in all centers island wide. The research work can take place between mindset where they thought IT students who were new to these universities, industry won't be having a future online platforms were guided through government and private sector entities demand and it's not for the lifetime. I a special support service until they and also industrial institutions and conducted seminars and workshops in were familiar with the process. And universities. schools representing CSSL which also I negotiated with the internet expecting from the leadership. To helped immensely in changing the service providers for getting better provide a platform to people to freely attitude of children towards IT. I deals in data packages for students to engage in research activities in diverse school IT continue using these services without fields and give them recognition and was any restrictions. Now some of our nationally encourage them for coming broadcasted in ITN. The students who short-term courses are completely up with new ideas. had a knack for IT was gaining offered online in tri languages which recognition and other students were has attracted even an international *Innovation driven IT industry can give*

> advice for the locally experiences. Engage in a good hobby so you can expand your mind and relax

My vision for the education industry and vision for the IT field is that Sri educational Lankans can do so much in the IT field and professionals electrical, Learning more. Software alone can't do disciplines like ΑI, like embedded systems all of those. We departments, That's what we're

a lot of value addition to the country

IT must strategically be used in other **young** industries. Our IT industry should not

regional IT bodies and I was also pursued my passion for IT and made regional students so even our And don't limit *learning experience*. We can promote yourself just for the curriculum but SL as a good destination for higher always try to think out of the frame. studies. Only a small fraction of our gets the international

APRIL TECHTALK 200 COVID-19 & CYBER WARFARE

The extraordinary efforts of many organizations to protect workers and serve customers during the COVID-19 pandemic have also increased their exposure to cyber threats. Large-scale adoption of work-from-home technologies, heightened activity on customer-facing networks, and greater use of online services all present fresh openings, which cyber attackers have been quick to exploit. During the past, CSSL observed common security discussions on cyber safety and awareness programs were conducted by various individuals and organizations. However, the "COVID-19 & CYBER WARFARE" session organized by CSSL is focused mainly on real insights of the ongoing crisis and to hear the industry approach from elite members in the cyber security community.

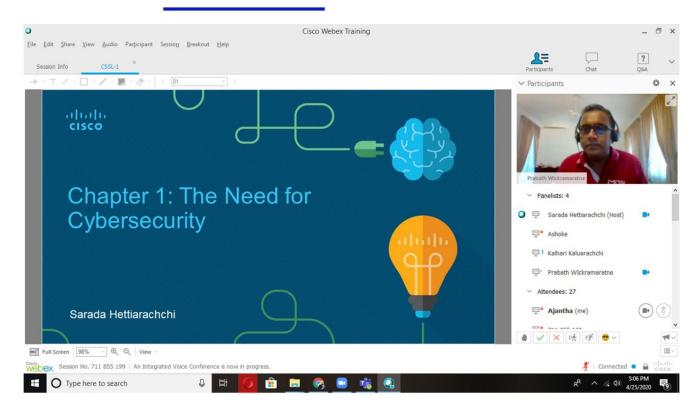
The panel discussion was held on 15th April and it was consisted of well experienced people representing Sri Lankan as well as international organizations. The session was moderated by Mr. Parakum Pathirana, Head of Information Security & Compliance – LOLC. Technology & Defense Session of the panel discussion was conducted by Mr. Wasantha Perera, Founder and CEO – CryptoGen. Mr. Jeewapadma Sandagomi, Senior General Manager ERM, Mobitel conducted the Business Assurance session. Cyber Threat Management session was conducted by Mr. Farash, Senior Manager Cyber Security, Dialog. The final Session of the panel discussion was on Role of Cyber Insurance and it was conducted by Ms. Dharini Fernando, Chief Operating Officer, LOLC General Insurance. The panel discussion was really interesting and enough to attract more people and remain the participants throughout the session. More people were interacted as it was an ongoing crisis which everyone is willing to hear and know the real insights. Technology & Defense

During the Crisis period...

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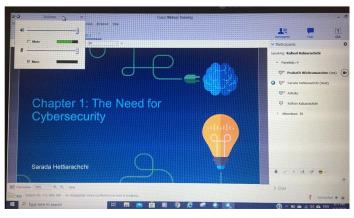


Introduction to Cyber Security Offered by CISCO Networking Academy



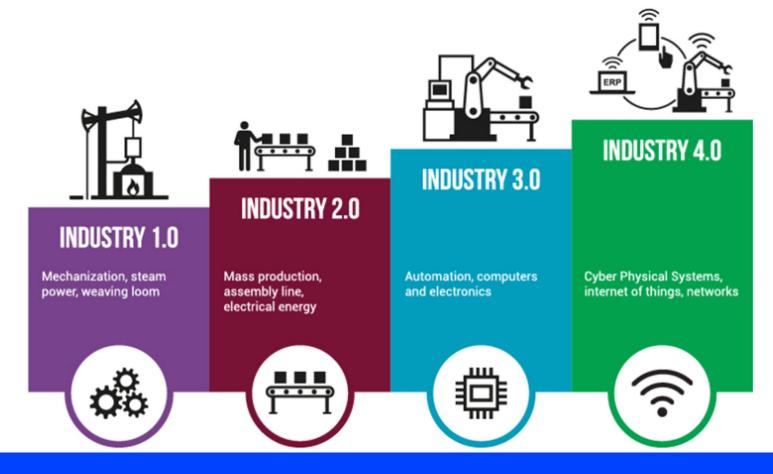
Among 10 IT skills that employers need in 2022, Cybersecurity is rated as top 3 skills that will be in high demand for 2022. In Collaboration with Cisco Networking Academy, CSSL have offered Live Virtual Class for CSSL membership to spend their time wisely while staying at home and enhance their knowledge on Cyber Security. 100 CSSL members have participated this session. Upon successful completion of the final exam, certificate was jointly issued by the Cisco Networking Academy and CSSL. The online training was started from 25th April and it ran out for 8 days. Mr. Sarada Hettiarachchi carried out the training program.





MANAGING INDUSTRY 4.0 OPTIONS, RISKS AND CHALLENGES

On 24th July an interesting discussion was held by PROF. DR. RER. NAT. SIEGFRIED ZÜRN; the dean of Esslingen Graduate School who is a pioneer in the fields of R&D management, operational excellence, project management, business development and many more. This discussion was held under the topic "Managing industry 4.0- options, risks and challenges". Industry 4.0 encompasses the elements of cyber-physical systems (CPS), Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing, and cognitive computing. Industry 4.0 technologies are developing fast and to remain competitive, companies should look to hold- or at least acknowledge these changes. Industry 4.0 implementation can present certain challenges and risks for many businesses. The management of these risks comprises of both industrial risks and occupational risks, since they are severely interlinked. Here he focused on both traditional risks and emerging risks that must be managed. He did an excellent session by explaining many interesting facts that should come to our concern with his brilliant expertise on this sector.







Towards a Sustainable Digital Sri Lanka

SAVE JAHE DATE

14 15 October 2020

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MANAGING INDUSTRY 4.0 — OPTIONS, RISKS AND **CHALLENGES**



CSSL - Open Innovation lo Special Interest Ground

Speaker

Prof. Dr.rer.nat. Siegfried G. Zurn Dean- Esslingen Graduate School, German

One of the main agenda items for the CSSL in 2020 is to establish & promote Special Interest Groups (SIG) on pertinent subjects to the Industry specifically from local which NB-IoT sensors could be deployed. point of view. Our new committee member Rasantha Hettithanthrige, a Senior Executive from the Telecom Industry is entrusted with this task by the executive committee.

Mobile Network Operator conducted a 'Tech Talk' on the the SIG. Mobitel, shared its vision and some design world renowned NB-IoT technology (Narrow Band Internet principles for harnessing economies of scale amongst the of Things) on the 11th of March at the Organisation of Professional Associations.

Strategy & Transformation at Mobitel, discussed and proposed new business models in IoT, inspiring a lively discussion amongst all the attendees. Mobitel recommended NB-IoT technology as the optimum technology of choice for Low Power Wide Area connectivity global Mobile communication roadmap to understand needs in Sri Lanka and highlighted examples of its accept- feasibility of each solution with special emphasis on the Sri ability with 'Live' Proof-of-Concepts. The primary reason for Lankan market and to develop IoT strategies to lead Sri the superiority of the technology is based on an operator's Lanka's Digital Transformation. deployment over licensed spectrum which ensures an increase in 7 times the typical mobile coverage, enabling its use for sensors deep within concrete structures or underground such as required for smart meters or disaster monitoring sensors. Dr. B. H. Sudantha, Dean of the IT Faculty, University of Moratuwa demonstrated a series of weather stations which was ideally suited for NB-IoT connectivity, through which data was harnessed for the prediction of drought. Furthermore,

Mr. Chrishmal Fernando. Head of IoT at iTelaSoft. performed a live demonstration showcasing the ease with

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At the 'Tech Talk' the CSSL launched a new Special Interest Group (SIG) in collaboration with Mobitel to develop Sri Lanka's potential in IoT. Dr. Shamil Appathurai, set out the basic premise under which the SIG was expected to The CSSL along with Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd, Sri Lanka's National function, highlighting Open Innovation as the foundation of vibrant 'Techno-preneurs' who were present on the day. It was heartening to hear of the projects undertaken in individual capacities, which is a clear indicator that there is The talk by Dr. Shamil Appathurai, Snr. Manager – Network an untapped market for IoT systems in automation and remote system monitoring in various industries even today.

> The CSSL along with Mobitel pledged to continuously study and trial IoT technologies and applications aligning with the





CSSL Elite Awards

- ◆ CSSL ICT Leader of the Year Male
- ◆ CSSL ICT Leader of the Year Female
- CSSL ICT Researcher of the Year
- CSSL ICT Educator of the Year

ICT Management Awards

- CSSL CIO of the Year
- CSSL CISO of the Year
- CSSL IT Manager of the Year

ICT Startup and Eco System Awards

- CSSL Emerging ICT Leader of the Year
- CSSL Best Founder Award
- CSSL Digital Investor of the Year
- CSSL Social Innovator of the Year

ICT Student Awards

- CSSL ICT Student Award Postgraduate Category
- CSSL ICT Student Award Undergraduate Category
- CSSL ICT Student Awards -School Category

Nominations Deadline: 15th September 2020

Award Ceromoney will be held 6th October 2020, Shangri-La Hotel - Colombo





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