

NEW COLLABORATION BETWEEN MICROSOFT AND SKILLSFUTURE **SINGAPORE**

Microsoft and SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) today at the SkillsFuture Festival X Smart Nation event. Witnessed by Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Communications and Information, Dr Janil Puthuchery, the signing marked the launch of the Tech Intensity Training Roadmap, a three-year collaboration to enhance Singapore's tech intensity by accelerating technology adoption among SMEs and strengthening the digital capabilities of workers. The collaboration will also support the SkillsFuture movement and Singapore's Smart Nation goals.

As part of the collaboration, Microsoft will work together with SSG on the following:

- a) Co-develop a training blueprint to help at least 100 Microsoft SME partners enhance their workplace practices, capabilities and skillsets. The programme will enable them to build a strong workplace learning culture so that skills and knowledge can be transferred freely in the workplace, and enhance employee engagement and retention. This will also pave the way for a vibrant skills ecosystem to be built among the Microsoft partner community.
- b) Build a talent pipeline for jobs of the future, and cater to the needs of the wider industry by working with the Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs) to develop industry-relevant curriculum for relevant SkillsFuture programmes, such as the SkillsFuture Work-Study programmes. Participants will have the opportunity to be matched with jobs of the future at Microsoft or its partner companies.
- c) Provide a curated list of free online Microsoft courses on MySkillsFuture which will include topics such as Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence, and incorporate up-to-date materials on Cybersecurity, Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence into the curriculum of the SkillsFuture for Digital Workplace programme to enhance the technical skills of general workers in Singapore. Participants will also have the opportunity to receive Microsoft certification upon completion of the programme.
- d) Incorporate Microsoft's PowerApps Platform into relevant SSG programmes, so as to deepen the technology capabilities of PMETs and empower citizen developers with the ability to build new business applications and customise them for business needs.

“In a world where every company is going digital, organisations of all sizes need to embrace tech intensity to thrive and maximise their impact. First, every organisation will need to be a fast adopter of best-in-class technology, and they will need to build their own unique digital capabilities, which starts with workers who are deeply knowledgeable about the latest technology. We are excited to partner with SkillsFuture Singapore on the Tech Intensity Training Roadmap where we leverage our unique strengths to accelerate Singapore’s tech intensity and support Smart Nation ambitions. From general workers to PMETs to citizen developers, we want Singapore companies and workforce to unlock the power of technology across everything they do,” said Kevin Wo, Managing Director, Microsoft Singapore.