

ISSUE: MAY 2024

NEWSLETTER



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The 1st phase of our website is launched under www.eccsl.lk

Await phase 2 which will incorporate a host of services for our subscribers, members and partners.

For any inquires please contact us

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ABOUT US

The Voice & Window to Business with Europe

The European Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka was founded in 1996. Its primary objective is to stimulate, strengthen and promote economic and business relations between Sri Lanka and the 50 member countries of Europe. ECCSL broadly seeks to provide, inter-alia, efficient and professional information, advisory, consultative, promotional and representative linkages between Sri Lanka and European business entities.

ECCSL has today emerged as a dynamic association of European and local companies conducting business in Sri Lanka. The quality and scope of commercial interests represented in the membership reflects the consolidation of its strong presence in Sri Lanka.

OUR OBJECTIVE

To stimulate, strengthen and promote economic and business relations between Europe and Sri Lanka.

OUR VISION

- To be the most valued European Business support partner in Sri Lanka.
- To be the representative body for the European businesses in the country.
- To be the most valued lobbying force in Sri Lanka.
- To be a trusted discussion partner for Sri Lankan Institutions and the Government.

OUR MISSION

To be the voice and the window to business with Europe on trade, investment and competitiveness issues in Sri Lanka.

OUR SERVICES

- Business Networking
- Event Management
- Trade Fairs
- Trade Inquiries
- Business Information
- Business Opportunities
- Business Delegations (Inbound & Outbound)

BECOME A MEMBER

Register with us to make most of the services and facilities being offered to enhance your business in Europe.

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OUR PARTNERS



NEWS UPDATES FROM SRI LANKA

Singapore's ICA experts to visit Sri Lanka to study immigration operations



Public Security Minister Tiran Alles on Monday announced that a delegation comprising five representatives from Singapore's Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) is scheduled to visit Sri Lanka on 27 May to conduct a comprehensive study of the operations at Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) and its immigration system.

Speaking to journalists he revealed that he had made a request to the Government of Singapore six months ago, aiming to boost Sri Lanka's airport and immigration operational efficiency.

(8th May, 2024, www.ft.lk)

[Read More](#)

President says his task to restore Sri Lanka's economy is nearing its end

President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Wednesday said that his task to restore the country's economy is nearing its end and that they have to now focus on the next step.
(9th May, 2024, www.ft.lk)



[Read More](#)

State Minister of Finance addresses taxation policies and trade issues



State Minister of Finance
Ranjith Siyambalapitiya

State Minister of Finance Ranjith Siyambalapitiya yesterday addressed key taxation policies and trade-related concerns during a statement in the Parliament, affirming the Government's readiness to engage in negotiations and implement necessary changes.

(14th May, 2024, www.ft.lk)

[Read More](#) 

Govt. allows power wheeling facility for renewable energy projects

The Cabinet of Ministers at its meeting on Monday approved a power wheeling facility for private entities to collectively use the Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) transmission network to transport electricity to different locations subject to a payment of fee.

(15th May, 2024, www.ft.lk)

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NEWS UPDATES FROM EUROPE

Eye on the Markets: Eurozone GDP and US CPI in the Spotlight



This week, investors await the eurozone's flash Q1 GDP and final April CPI figures, alongside crucial US April inflation data, pivotal for central banks' interest rate decisions and investment sentiment. Some pivotal economic data will be lined up and drive the financial market sentiment this week. Investors will focus on the Eurozone's flash first-quarter GDP and the final CPI for April. More importantly, the US is also set to release its April inflation data, which is the primary economic indicator for the Federal Reserve (Fed) in determining interest rates, in turn, impacting investment sentiment. (13th May, 2024, www.euronews.com)

[Read More](#)

Rise in cyber attacks on German business costing billions of Euros

Some 80% of the targeted firms were victims of data theft, espionage or sabotage, according to the German digital industry association, Bitkom.

Cybercrime in Germany is on the rise and reported to be costing an estimated €148 billion in damage to the economy. Data revealed by the German authorities on Monday showed a 28% increase in cyberattacks by foreign organisations in 2023, particularly from Russia and China.

(13th May, 2024, www.euronews.com)



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NEWS UPDATES FROM EUROPE

Why might the euro continue to weaken against the US dollar?



The euro has shown a weakening trend against the US dollar since the start of the year. The decline can be attributed to divergence in inflation trajectories of the euro area and the US, suggesting a continuation of the euro's depreciation relative to the dollar.

(14th May, 2024, www.euronews.com)

[Read More](#) 

EU Policy. Green groups welcome Commission caution on fast-track renewables deployment

Environmental groups have expressed relief at European Commission guidelines for the acceleration of renewable energy deployment, which stress the need to respect nature protection rules.

(14th May, 2024, www.euronews.com)



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Summer Adventure

Long Stay Offer with Family Benefits and Complimentary Child Stay

This Summer, discover an enchanting tropical paradise with your family in the Maldives, and embark on an adventure in the tranquil waters of the Indian Ocean.

Booking period: March 31st 2024 – August 31st 2024
Stay period: March 31st 2024 – October 31st 2024



Offer includes:

- 25% Discount on Room Rates for All Villa Categories
- 10% Off in Restaurants, Bars, and Spa
- Complimentary Stay and Meals for up to 2 Children per room (aged 2-11 years old)
- Complimentary 1-hour Kayak Usage (once per stay)
- Complimentary One-Time 2-Hour Babysitting Service at the Kids Club

Terms & Conditions:

- Minimum stay of 7 nights required
- This offer cannot be combined with any other discounts or promotions
- Seaplane transfer and green tax fees are applicable for all guests
- Children will receive the same meal plan as confirmed for the parents
- All package inclusions must be utilized during the stay and are non-exchangeable for cash or other services

ECCSL EVENTS

Annual General Meeting – The European Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka

The Annual General Meeting of the European Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka was held on the 30th April at the Grand Ballroom of the Galadari Hotel Colombo. The AGM accompanied ECCSL members across many sectors that evening.

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE ANNUAL REPORT VIDEO](#)

[WATCH NOW](#) 



THE EUROPEAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF
SRI LANKA

MEMBER NEWS UPDATES

HNB appoints Suresh Shah to Board

HNB PLC yesterday announced another strategic addition to its Board of Directors with the appointment of Suresh Shah as an Independent Non-Executive Director.

(10th May, 2024, www.dailymirror.lk)

Read More



Nestlé with Commercial Bank to drive sustainable dairy farming

Nestlé Lanka and Commercial Bank of Ceylon partnered to launch an initiative to support dairy farmers with concessionary finance to expand their operations and increase milk yield, in line with the purpose of implementing regenerative agricultural practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the dairy value chain.

(13th May, 2024, www.dailymirror.lk)

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IFC and EU partner with ComBank to scale up Green Finance

In a move to spur sustainable investments in Sri Lanka, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the European Union (EU) have partnered with the Commercial Bank of Ceylon (CBC) to scale up green finance, supporting the country's commitments towards a low-carbon economy.

(14th May, 2024, www.dailymirror.lk)

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Lankem grants Rs.300mn corporate guarantee to SunAgro

Lankem Ceylon PLC has granted a Rs.300 million corporate guarantee on behalf of its subsidiary SunAgro LifeScience. In a filing to the Colombo Stock Exchange, Lankem said the corporate guarantee, a security for banking facilities obtained by SunAgro LifeScience, was executed on May 10.

(14th May, 2024, www.dailymirror.lk)

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ATG Group proudly celebrates international women's 2024!

ATG Group of Companies celebrated International Women's Day 2024 under the theme 'Empowered Women - Prosperous Nation' in line with the United Nations global initiative in March. Adhering to international standardizations, the Group partnered with the Sri Lanka Ministry of Women, Child Affairs, and Social Empowerment to organize a commemorative large-scale initiative named 'ATG Aya'. on empowering women on their economic front.

Accordingly, all ATG factories established across the Katunayake, Wathupitiwala, Koggala, and Meerigama Board of Investment (BOI) zones collectively launched a series of events and celebrations. The month-long initiatives were also a measure of appreciation for female employees for their relentless contribution in ensuring the development of families, societies, overall economy, and the nation.



company's commitment to empowering individual economic advancements of female employees in parallel to their career growth advancements, with the goal to improve the quality of life for her and her ecosystem.

A number of experts and resource persons hailing from a variety of development disciplines joined the special awareness programme series. Among them were Prof. Vasana Maithree Herath - Senior Lecturer, Uva Wellassa University, Dr. Charuni Senanayake - Head of Priority Health and Outreach Clinics, Lanka Hospitals PLC, Mr. Roshan Fernando - Investment Advisor at Colombo Stock Exchange, Journalists Ms. Thilini Perera and Ms. Parami Ranasinghe. Meanwhile, representing the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, Ms. Kanchana Mapalagamage - National Trainer and Psychology Consultant, as well as Ms. Dinusha Attanayake - Women Development Officer, joined each programme.

Participants were also apprised of effective interventions that could be made when faced with incidents of abuse and discrimination. To this effect, emergency helplines were introduced in an attempt to highlight the importance of the safety of both children and women.

These events also became a platform for cultural and aesthetic performances by employees showcasing creative talents.

Under the banner, 'ATG Aya', six documentary films showcasing stories of resilience and success of female employees from every factory, were also screened throughout the month to inspire fellow employees.

Extending his wishes on the International Women's Day, Mr. Fazal Abdeen - Managing Director of the ATG Group highlighted the

MEMBER ARTICLES



About ATG: ATG Intelligent Glove Solutions is a pioneering leader in the glove industry, providing cutting-edge technologies and innovative solutions that redefine hand protection. With a relentless commitment to excellence, ATG is revolutionizing the way industries approach workplace safety, comfort, and performance. Our intelligent gloves are engineered to meet the diverse needs of professionals across various sectors, empowering them to work with confidence and efficiency.



Navigating Transformation: NTG Shared Service Centre Colombo

NTG Shared Service Centre, located on the 18th Floor, Parkland, Colombo 02, Sri Lanka, embarked on a rebranding journey to realign its services with the dynamic demands of its clientele.

NTG SSC has been the backbone in providing support services for the North Technology Group. To adapt to evolving expectations, and remain competitive, a comprehensive rebranding was carried out recently. The strategic blueprint for NTG SSC rebranding was multifaceted, focusing on enhancing technological capabilities, optimizing service delivery models, and crafting a new brand identity that resonated with the modern marketplace.

Brand Identity Revamp and Relaunch Event

Beyond operational upgrades, NTG SSC undertook a complete overhaul of its brand identity. This encompassed a new logo, brand messaging, and visual elements, all designed to reflect a more modern, innovative, and client-centric business entity.

The rebranding culminated in a relaunch event in Colombo, which not only displayed the new brand identity but also highlighted the company's future direction. The event included interactive sessions by NTG Group Management, highlighting the improved capabilities and advantages of the updated services. With a skilled and dynamic workforce providing their expertise, NTG SSC has established itself as a pioneer in innovative shared service solutions, attracting new clients and expanding its market presence.

About NTG Shared Service Centre

North Technology Group (NTG) was founded in 1957 with North Sails, the leading global provider of sail-making. Today, North Technology Group is a diverse group of companies catering to the marine industry worldwide. The NTG Shared Service Centre serves as the global back-office hub for North Technology Group, offering services to its group of companies including North Sails, Future Fibres, Southern Spars, North Action Sports Group, Rigpro, Hall Spars, and Sailmon.



Kevin Grant
Group CFO, NTG Mast Group



Hatem Rajabdeen
Country Director,
NTG Shared Service Centre

TRADE EVENTS - EUROPE

JUNE

03

ISPO MUNICH

www.messe-muenchen.de

VENUE : GERMANY

FOCUSSED AREA: THE ISPO MUNICH, ESTABLISHED IN 1970, IS THE WORLD'S LEADING TRADE FAIR FOR THE SPORTS GOODS AND SPORTS FASHION INDUSTRY, ANNUALLY ORGANIZED BY MESSE MÜNCHEN GMBH. AS AN INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM, IT SHOWCASES THE LATEST TRENDS AND INNOVATIONS IN VARIOUS SPORTS SEGMENTS SUCH AS OUTDOOR, SKI, ACTION, PERFORMANCE SPORTS, TEXTRENDS, HEALTH & FITNESS, AND SOURCING. THE FAIR ATTRACTS EXHIBITORS FROM OVER 100 COUNTRIES AND OFFERS A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF SPORTS GOODS, SPORTS SHOES, AND SPORTSWEAR.

04

FIP - FRANCE INNOVATION PLASTURGIE LYON CHASSIEU

www.infopro-digital.com

VENUE : FRANCE

FOCUSSED AREA: FIP - FRANCE INNOVATION PLASTURGIE IS THE NUMBER ONE EVENT IN FRENCH PLASTICS AND WILL BE THE ONLY EVENT IN THIS SECTOR IN FRANCE. FIP WILL BRING TOGETHER INDUSTRY'S LEADERS AND MAIN DECISION MAKERS FROM AUTOMOTIVE, PACKAGING, TOYS, ELECTRICITY, MEDICAL SECTORS AND MANY MORE. IT ENABLES EXCHANGE BETWEEN PROFESSIONALS IN THE PLASTICS SECTOR AND ORDER PROVIDERS IN OPTIMUM CONDITIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR BUSINESS. FIP INCLUDES AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WITH PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS.

06

FRANCE AIR EXPO BRON

www.adoneevents.com

VENUE : FRANCE

FOCUSSED AREA: THE FRANCE AIR EXPO IS AN ANNUAL AVIATION FAIR THAT WAS FOUNDED IN 2006 AND IS ORGANIZED BY ADONE EVENTS. ADONE EVENTS IS KNOWN FOR ITS EXPERTISE IN ORGANIZING AVIATION EXHIBITIONS. AS THE ONLY EXHIBITION IN FRANCE DEDICATED EXCLUSIVELY TO GENERAL AND BUSINESS AVIATION, IT REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT EVENT IN THE INDUSTRY, NOT ONLY IN EUROPE, BUT WORLDWIDE. IT TAKES PLACE AT LYON-BRON AIRPORT (LFLY) IN BRON, A CENTRALLY LOCATED AIRPORT THAT MAKES THE EVENT EASILY ACCESSIBLE.




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GOOD FOOD SHOW BIRMINGHAM

www.haymarketgroup.com

VENUE : UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

FOCUSED AREA: THE GOOD FOOD SHOW IS A SEMI-ANNUAL FOOD AND COOKING FAIR HELD AT THE NEC NATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTER IN BIRMINGHAM. ORGANIZED BY HAYMARKET EXHIBITIONS LIMITED, THE FAIR HAS ITS ROOTS IN THE YEAR 1991, AND SINCE THEN, IT HAS BEEN A FIXED DATE IN THE CALENDAR OF GOURMETS AND FOOD ENTHUSIASTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. THE ORGANIZER, HAYMARKET EXHIBITIONS LIMITED, IS KNOWN FOR ITS EXCELLENT ORGANIZATION AND EXECUTION OF LARGE-SCALE EVENTS. WITH A VERSATILE PROGRAM FOCUSED ON SEASONAL FOOD, KITCHEN ACCESSORIES, INNOVATIVE COOKING TECHNIQUES, AND THE LATEST TRENDS IN GASTRONOMY, THE BBC GOOD FOOD SHOW SUMMER TAKES PLACE TWICE A YEAR.




14

WARSAW MOTOR SHOW NADARZYN

www.warsawexpo.eu

VENUE : POLAND

FOCUSED AREA: THE "WARSAW MOTOR SHOW" IS AN INTERNATIONAL AUTOMOBILE EXHIBITION AND RANKS AMONG THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INDUSTRY EVENTS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE. IT IS HELD ANNUALLY AT THE PTAK WARSAW EXPO IN NADARZYN, A MODERN AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE EXHIBITION CENTER NEAR WARSAW. THE EVENT IS ORGANIZED BY PTAK WARSAW EXPO SP. Z O.O., WHICH SPECIALIZES IN HOSTING LARGE INDUSTRY EVENTS. AS A PLATFORM, THE FAIR BRINGS TOGETHER LEADING COMPANIES AND EXPERTS FROM THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY.



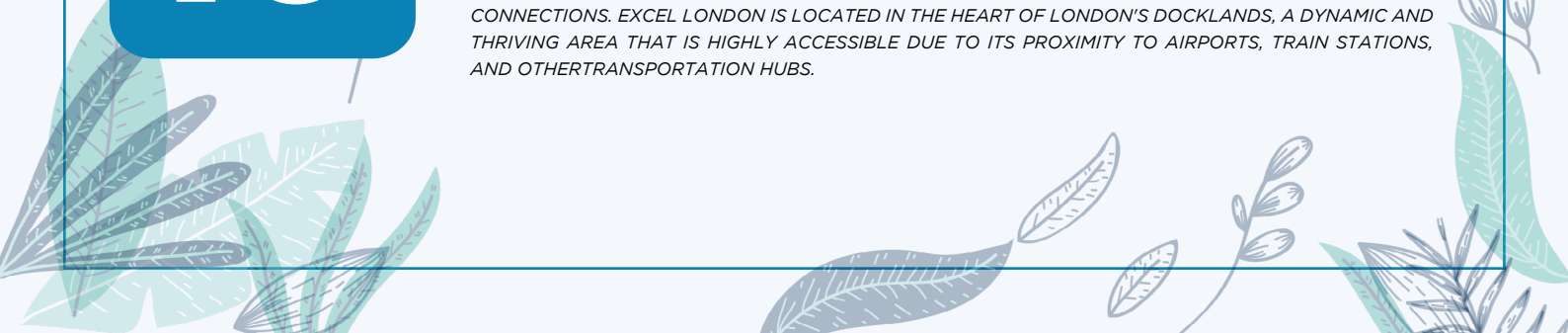
19

FORENSICS EUROPE EXPO (FEE)

www.evendia.co

VENUE : UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

FOCUSED AREA: THE FORENSICS EUROPE EXPO (FEE) IS A RENOWNED TRADE FAIR FOCUSING ON THE PRESENTATION OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF FORENSICS. HELD ANNUALLY AT EXCEL LONDON, ONE OF THE LEADING EVENT CENTERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, IT IS CHARACTERIZED BY ITS MODERN ARCHITECTURE, IMPRESSIVE CAPACITY, AND EXCELLENT TRANSPORT CONNECTIONS. EXCEL LONDON IS LOCATED IN THE HEART OF LONDON'S DOCKLANDS, A DYNAMIC AND THRIVING AREA THAT IS HIGHLY ACCESSIBLE DUE TO ITS PROXIMITY TO AIRPORTS, TRAIN STATIONS, AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION HUBS.



BRANDING & ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

The ECCSL newsletter is an excellent mode of communication to create awareness for your brand among 4000+ audience including ECCSL members, European Diplomatic Missions in Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Diplomatic Missions in Europe, ECCSL corporate & trade partners and subscribers.

LOGO PLACEMENT

FULL PAGE ADVERTISEMENT

FULL PAGE ARTICLE

CORPORATE NEWS & ACHIEVEMENTS

INCLUDES

- Latest business news, & trends
- **Trade information in Sri Lanka & Europe**
- ECCSL updates & Events info
- **Member highlights**
- New member introductions
- **Advocacy updates**

AUDIENCE

- ECCSL members
- **Business leaders**
- Policy makers
- **European Diplomats in Sri Lanka**
- Sri Lankan Missions in Europe
- **European trade partners**
- Corporate business partners
- **Over 3000 subscribers**

YOUR INVESTMENT

01 MONTH – LKR 25,000

03 MONTHS – LKR 60,000

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