



# GLOBAL RUBBER CONFERENCE 2020

## The 16<sup>th</sup> Conference & Exhibition

Grand Mercure Bangkok Fortune, Bangkok, Thailand  
5 - 7 August 2020

# UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES IN A WORLD OF DISRUPTION

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The Association  
of Natural  
Rubber  
Producing  
Countries

# UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES IN A WORLD OF DISRUPTION

Global disruption is creating ever-larger winners and losers in industries, including the rubber industry.

We are living in an era of disruption – of both negative and positive connotations, in which powerful global disruptive forces are changing how industries and businesses operate. The geo-political trade war between China and America; the global outbreak of Covid-19 Coronavirus disease; the geo-economic aftermath impact of Brexit; the spread of Pestalotiopsis leaf disease in Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia; the impact of prolong low rubber prices on farmers and planters, and the rapid adoption of digital technologies including digital agriculture, industry 4.0 and robotics across all spectrum of industries are all roiling industries, businesses and the economy globally. For those

who have opted to address head-on and embrace these disruptive forces are in competitive position to stay ahead—but those who are not, will grow disproportionately.

Continuing from the discussion on the Natural Rubber 2.0 vision and framework last year and adopting a comprehensive theme of “Unlocking Opportunities in a World of Disruption”, the GRC2020 will address the impact of these global disruptive forces on the Natural Rubber industry.

Natural Rubber industry policymakers, leaders and players will be able to strategize, chart directions and craft-out new blueprints from the information and discussions gathered at the 3-day conference.

## THE OBJECTIVES OF GRC 2020

- Brings together both regulatory authorities and commercial players of the rubber world to provide updates on current trends and future challenges faced by NR industry
- Facilitates the exchange of ideas and insight into the global rubber industry and the price discovery of rubber
- Presents unparalleled benefits for business matching potential and investment opportunities in the global NR producing and consuming countries
- Delivers latest applications from global research and development programs through a well-designed sponsorship program and an exhibition
- An annual get-together for decision makers from global NR & SR industries that encourage networking and the exchange of perspectives

### Gold Sponsor:



### Endorsed by:



Association for Rubber Development of Cambodia



Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association



China Rubber Industry Association



European Tyre Recycling Association



Indonesian Rubber Council



Indonesian Rubber Research Institute



JAPAN AUTOMOBILE TYRE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION



Malaysian Rubber Products Manufacturers' Association



Myanmar Rubber Planters & Producers Association



National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RUBBER ASSOCIATION



Taiwan Rubber & Elastomer Industries Association



The Planters' Association of Ceylon



The Rubber Trade Association of Europe



The Thai Rubber Association

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# GRC2020 THE PREFERRED REGIONAL INDUSTRY GATHERING

The Global Rubber Conference 2020, more than educational will present a hive of activities, provide delegates, sponsors, exhibitors and speakers an excellent platform to facilitate informal discussions, business networking and is a perfect centre of knowledge. This can attribute to the growing reputation of Global Rubber Conference as a total industry gathering including:

- A High Calibre Conference
- Special Focused Industry Forum
- A Comprehensive Expo
- Educational Pre-event Study Tour
- Welcome Reception
- GRC 2020 Networking Reception
- Business Matching Meetings

## GRC2020 DIFFERENCE

- It is the most complete annual industry event covering upstream and downstream sides of Natural Rubber industries.
- High level delegates from the pan-Asia region and worldwide including regulators and major industry users.
- Top notch conference to include the who's who of the Natural Rubber industry.
- Total industry support from the pan-Asia authorities, trade associations, research institutions and international publications.
- It is the only industry conference that provides price outlook for the rubber industry.
- Unlimited formal and informal networking opportunities through a hive of activities throughout the 3-days event.

## VALUE-ADDED BENEFITS BEYOND THE CONFERENCE

### GRC2020 PRE-CONFERENCE STUDY TOUR

One of the great features of Global Rubber Conference is the pre-conference study tour. Each year, the conference-goers benefit from a unique experience from the visit to selected plantation / research institute / rubber-product manufacturer / tyre factory around the host city one day before the conference proceeding. During the tour, the delegates receive invaluable behind-the-scene look at the rubber plantations, research institutes, rubber-products manufacturing facilities and operations.



### GRC2020 NETWORKING RECEPTION

Foreign delegates can look forward to taste unique Thai cuisines during the GRC 2020 Networking Reception while dazzled by the sights and sounds from Thai entertainment. The Networking Reception gives delegates a great opportunity to further strengthen relationships with old friends and new acquaintances. It is a not-to-be-missed event!



### GRC2020 BUSINESS MATCHING & NETWORKING

Making relevant connections and meetings is the reason why Global Rubber Conference is the "must attend" event within the rubber and rubber-product industries. It has been very successful in assisting delegates to make their relevant connections and facilitate the necessary meetings, allowing them to maximise their networking opportunities at the event. We recognise the value and importance of networking to you, and we aim to value-add your experience and networking potential here.



# WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- NR Planters & Processors
- SR Producers
- Rubber & Latex-Based Products' Manufacturers
- Traders, Importers & Exporters
- Rubber Packers & Logistic Professionals
- Commodities Analysts
- Hedge Fund Managers, Future Traders
- Commodity Advisors
- Rubber Future Exchanges
- Agriculture Ministries, Regulators, Rubber Associations

Australia	Cote D Viore	Iran	Nigeria	Sri Lanka
Bangladesh	France	Italy	Pakistan	Thailand
Belgium	Germany	Japan	Papua New Guinea	UAE
Brazil	Ghana	Korea	Philippines	United Kingdom
Cambodia	Guatemala	Laos	Russia	United States
Canada	India	Malaysia	Singapore	Vietnam
China	Indonesia	Myanmar	Spain	

## FEEDBACK FROM PREVIOUS GRC DELEGATES

“On behalf of the EDB, I would like to place on record my sincere appreciation to M/s Confexhub Sdn. Bhd. Malaysia for selecting Sri Lanka to host the above conference which added value and contributed immensely to the development of the rubber industry in Sri Lanka. Whilst thanking you once again for the co-operation extended to the EDB for co-organizing “Global Rubber Conference 2014”, we look forward to work closely with you in our future endeavors. ”

### Mr. Bandula Egodage

Chairman & Chief Executive  
Sri Lanka Export Development Board

“Thank you very much for giving me a great opportunity to present the progress of the Viet Nam rubber industry at GRC 2014. I also have interesting visits to the rubber plantations and crep processing line. I am very happy to come back to Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka after 9 years from 2005. I have really benefited from other presentations and the workshop on commodities price forecast and rubber auction. ”

### Dr. Tran Thi Thuy Hoa (Mrs)

Office Manager  
Vietnam Rubber Association

“On behalf of all who attended the Global Rubber Conference 2013 from our Company, I wish to thank you and all your team mates for an excellent job. From the time of registration up to the conclusion of the conference, you all made sure that all the delegates were well looked after. The programme itself was very interesting and the field tour was well planned and coordinated. We were able to gather many interesting points from the visit to Sembawa Rubber Research Centre. Please convey our sincere thanks to the staff at the Research Centre for their efforts to explain all our questions. ”

### Mr. Ranil Fernando

Deputy General Manager  
Rubber Marketing & Administration  
Kelani Valley Plantations PLC, Sri Lanka

“I had pleasure and satisfaction of attending GRC 2014, which was 3rd consecutive GRC that I attended. It was very well structured, in both format and content, with high-caliber and experienced speakers, which practically covered interests of all stake-holders in NR value chain. Simultaneously you involve bodies and agencies of local Government too (of host country), that helps in highlighting opportunities existing, to the visiting delegates. Year after year, you have been raising your bar in terms of effeciently organising the Conference. Congratulations ! And with Best Wishes. ”

### Mr. M.K.Mehta

General Manager (Purchase)  
JK Tyre, India

“Heartiest congratulations to the entire Confexhub team for an extremely professional, timely and well structured conduct of the GRC which has become the global benchmark for interactions on NR and its related aspects. ”

### Mr. Rajiv Budhreja

Director General  
Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association

“I would like to congratulate you and your team for conducting it very well in a very professional manner. Convey my regards to your team members also. ”

### Mr. Y. Raghavan

General Manager  
Aspinwall & Co. Ltd, India

“It was a very interesting and fruitful GRC conference. Thank you for inviting me as guest speaker. I hope I will have other opportunity to attend another GRC conference in the future. ”

### Mr. Serge PALU

Specialist Researcher  
CIRAD, France

# TERMINOLOGIES THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

## Agriculture 4.0 as:

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“an application of digitization processes in agriculture and usages of the 4th industrial revolution technologies such as drone, Internet of Things, aerial imagery, biotechnology, robotics, machine learning, blockchain and cognitive technologies”.

## Precision Agriculture as:

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“a modern farming management concept using digital techniques to monitor and optimize agricultural production processes”.

## Smart farming as:

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“an application of information and data technologies that are connected to mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets to access real-time data about the condition of soil and plants, terrain, climate, weather, resource usage, manpower, funding and etc. needed to help farmers make informed decisions”.

## Digital farming as:

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“an integration of both concepts - precision farming and smart farming to generate actionable intelligence and meaningful added value data”.

## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as:

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“a collection of 17 global goals designed to be a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all”.

## Industry 4.0 as:

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“a connected ecosystem of production and operations with smart digital technology, machine learning and big data for manufacturing and supply chain management”.

## Smart Factory as:

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“a highly digitized and connected production facility with extensive usages of industrial internet of things, artificial intelligent, machine learning and robotics devices, largely autonomous and managed by a handful of highly skilled workforce, and links to digital supply network of material suppliers and consumers”.

# PROGRAM

DAY ONE: 5 AUGUST 2020, WEDNESDAY

## STUDY TOUR VISIT TO: TBC

7:00AM	<b>GRC 2020 Study-Tour Registration Begins</b> Venue: Grand Mercure Bangkok Fortune, Bangkok, Thailand
6:00PM – 8:30PM	<b>GRC 2020 Registration Begins</b> Venue: Grand Mercure Bangkok Fortune, Bangkok, Thailand
6:00PM	<b>GRC 2020 Exhibition Opens</b> Venue: Grand Mercure Bangkok Fortune, Bangkok, Thailand

## DAY TWO: 6 AUGUST 2020, THURSDAY

7:30AM	<b>GRC 2020 Registration Resumes</b> Venue: Grand Mercure Bangkok Fortune, Bangkok, Thailand
8:00AM	<b>Exhibition Opens</b> Venue: Grand Mercure Bangkok Fortune, Bangkok, Thailand
8:30AM	Delegates Take Their Seats at Conference Ballroom
8:30AM	Arrival of Distinguished Guests
8:30AM	Arrival of Guest of Honor

## OPENING CEREMONY

8:35AM	<b>Thai Cultural Dance</b>
8:45AM	<b>INTRODUCTORY REMARKS</b> Datuk Dr. Abdul Aziz S.A. Kadir, Chairman, Confexhub Group
8:50AM	<b>WELCOME ADDRESS</b>
8:55AM	<b>INAUGURAL ADDRESS AND LAUNCH OF GRC 2020 CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION</b>
9:10AM	<b>Presentations Ceremony of GRC-Wickham Awards 2020 and Souvenirs to Sponsors</b>
9:20AM	<b>Networking &amp; Refreshments Break</b>
9:50AM	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS 1: THAILAND'S RUBBER INDUSTRY MASTERPLAN</b>
10:20AM	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS 2: THAILAND'S INVESTMENT PLAN AND INCENTIVES FOR THE RUBBER INDUSTRY</b>
10:50AM	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS 3: THE WORLD BANK'S REPORT ON THE GLOBAL COMMODITY MARKETS OUTLOOK FOR 2021</b>

## SESSION 1: GLOBAL RUBBER OUTLOOK: DEMAND, SUPPLY AND PRICE FORECASTS FOR 2020 – 2021

*What is the prospect of breaking the USD1.60 psychological barrier threshold for NR in 2020? The Brent Crude Oil broke the USD70 barrier in early January 2020. Is this the beginning of an upward cycle or a momentum losing downward trend to hit the NR market? This year marks as the cross-road for commodities including NR, as the sector faces continued geopolitical tensions and macroeconomic concerns. The upcoming US presidential election, the trade balance deal between the US and China, the economic slowdown in Europe and China, the energy transition to lower emissions, to the recent outbreak of Covid-19 Coronavirus disease will once again keep the commodities unpredictable. How will these impact the global economy, the demand of rubber-based products globally, the supply and demand balance and price of NR in 2020-2021?*

### Session Chairman

11:20AM	<b>Paper 1: Outlook on Global Demand and Supply for Natural Rubber</b>
11:45AM	<b>Paper 2: Global Rubber Market Trend Analysis: Prospects and Challenges</b>
12:10PM	<b>Paper 3: Rubber Price Outlook for 2020-2021 from the Financial and Technical Perspectives</b>
12:35PM	Open Forum: Comments, Questions and Answers
12:45PM	Luncheon for Guest Speakers and Delegates

\*This Program is subjected to change and for updated program, please logon to [www.globalrubberconference.com](http://www.globalrubberconference.com)  
Program @ 17 March 2020

**SESSION 2: NAVIGATING SOCIO-ECONOMIC DISRUPTIONS**

*The natural rubber prices have been on a steady decline since 2011 due to the rising global stocks and the sluggish world economy. To mitigate the impact, the ITRC has instituted a supply limiting program, and the governments of NR producers have provided incentives to alleviate the financial burden of smallholders. Despite the measures, many have or are contemplated to switch to other high-value crops. Is circular economy the potential game-changer to increase the livelihoods of the smallholders? Does certification allow us the access to the premium markets in EU? What about government's plans and policies in expanding NR consumption?*

**Session Chairman**

1:45PM	<b>Paper 4: ITRC Framework on Limiting Supply and Uplifting of Rubber Prices: Status and Updates</b>
2:10PM	<b>Paper 5: Thailand's Initiative and Approach in Supporting Smallholder's Dwindling Income from Low Rubber Prices</b>
2:35PM	<b>Paper 6: Tire Producer's Social Responsibility Program in Addressing Low Rubber Prices</b>
3:00PM	<b>Paper 7: Accessing Premium Markets with Sustainability Certifications</b>
3:25PM	<b>Paper 8: Cradle to Cradle and Circular Economies for Rubber Industry</b>
3:50PM	Open Forum: Comments, Questions and Answers
4:00PM	Networking & Refreshments Break

**SESSION 3: DISRUPTIVE AGRICULTURE: THE FUTURE IS HERE**

*From autonomous drones and robotics to satellite images and sensor technology, the agricultural industry is changing in a remarkable way. Technological innovations are reshaping the way cultivation is done. Modernization of agriculture and the use of digital technology have caused new concepts to emerge such as precision farming, digital farming and smart farming. The digital technology disruptions have clearly created a new world order to drive productivity, increase the levels of automation and reducing the reliance on human labor and skill sets.*

**Session Chairman**

4:30PM	<b>Paper 9: Disruptive Technology Trend Impacting the Rubber Cultivation</b>
4:55PM	<b>Paper 10: Making Smart Farming Works for Smallholders</b>
5:20PM	<b>Paper 11: Inventions of Mechanization Technologies for Rubber Upstream Sector</b>
5:45PM	<b>Paper 12: Disruptive Technology in Measuring Soil Nutrient Level from Intercropping and Cover Crop Application</b>
6:10PM	<b>Paper 13: Streamlining Rubber Plantation Operation with Advanced ERP</b>
6:35PM	Open Forum: Comments, Questions and Answers
6:45PM	<b>End-of-Day Two</b>
7:00PM – 9:30PM	<b>GRC2020 Networking Reception</b>

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8:30AM **Exhibition Opens**  
Venue: Grand Mercure Bangkok Fortune, Bangkok, Thailand

### SESSION 4: ENVIRONMENTAL DISRUPTION – MITIGATOR OR ADVOCATOR

*Environmental disruption or destruction of nature's environment is due to rapid rates of economic development and industrialization. Undoubtedly, unplanned deforestation and soil degradation from excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in plantation activities, and water and air pollutants emitted by unsustainable factory processing are impacting biodiversity and significantly increase risk of climate change. As such, the effects of climatic change have been attributed in the recent distribution of plant diseases in South-East-Asia. With the advances of space and drone technologies, can these disruptive innovations provide solutions to our environmental issues?*

#### Session Chairman

- 8:30AM **Paper 15: Prevent, Manage and Cure Plant Diseases with Drone and Aerial Imagery Technologies: A Case Study on Pestalotiopsis Leaf Disease**
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- 8:55AM **Paper 16: Optimizing Soil Nutrient for Cultivation with Sustainable Soil Management Tool for Regulating Climate Change and Biodiversity**
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- 9:20AM **Paper 17: Carbon Economy in Rubber Industry: From Cultivation to Rubber Processing**
- 
- 9:45AM **Paper 18: Monitoring, Predicting and Managing Meteorological Disasters with Satellite Technology for Rubber Cultivation**
- 
- 10:10AM **Paper 19: Implementing Wastewater Management Plan and Technology in Rubber Processing to Meet the SDGs 6th and 12th**
- 
- 10:35AM **Open Forum: Comments, Questions and Answers**
- 
- 10:45AM **Networking & Refreshments Break**

### SESSION 5: DISRUPTIVE INNOVATIONS IN MANUFACTURING

*Manufacturing is a key component in the rubber industry for both latex and rubber product. However, this segment is slow in embracing automation and smart factory new technologies. Common challenges faced are accessing to skilled labor-force, high workplace accident rates, issues relating to quantity and timely delivery of raw materials, regular silo machinery downtime and managing right inventory level. With the advent of Industry 4.0, technological innovations in Smart Factory solutions are flurrying to solve problems and improve quality, boost efficiency, energize production processes and reduce costs in the overall factory operations ecosystem.*

#### Session Chairman

- 11:15AM **Paper 20: Integrated Processing for Natural Rubber Processing**
- 
- 11:40AM **Paper 21: ERP in Rubber and Rubber Product Processing**
- 
- 12:05PM **Paper 22: Low Carbon and Zero Waste Factory**
- 
- 12:30PM **Paper 23: Smart Warehousing and Logistics**
- 
- 12:55PM **Open Forum: Comments, Questions and Answers**
- 
- 1:05PM **Luncheon for Guest Speakers and Delegates**

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Program @ 17 March 2020

**SESSION 6: TOP 50 DISRUPTIVE APPLICATIONS TO DRIVE NATURAL RUBBER CONSUMPTION**

Over 70% of global consumption of natural rubber goes to tire manufacturing, and the balance is consumed by the automotive and the latex-dipped good sectors. Efforts to liberalize the market to prevent a monopolistic or an oligopolistic control by one or two sectors is ongoing. New innovations and technologies from autonomous to electric aerial and road vehicles, from 3D printings to robotics, from the safety of airport runway to passenger roads – research institutions are pushing for new applications to consume Natural Rubber.

**Session Chairman**

2:00PM	<b>Paper 24: Advancement in Rubberized Road Technology for Load and Extreme Weather Conditions</b>
2:25PM	<b>Paper 25: Self-Healing Natural Rubber: A Window of Massive Opportunities for New Applications</b>
2:50PM	<b>Paper 26: Usage of NR Components in Electric Vehicle and Aerial Vehicle: Status and Prospects</b>
3:15PM	<b>Paper 27: NR Usage in Service and Industrial Robots: Trends and Opportunities</b>
3:40PM	<b>Paper 28: Natural Rubber in Nanomaterial Products</b>
4:05PM	<b>Paper 29: NR in Medical Application for Human Bone Regeneration</b>
4:30PM	Open Forum: Comments, Questions and Answers
4:40PM	<b>Natural Rubber Leaders Forum: How do we drive Innovation in the Downstream Sector to Develop New Applications to Consume NR?</b> <i>Economists are pointing to the oversupply of NR as the main factor for the continuous decline in rubber prices. The overhang stocks are attributed to the slumped in global tire sales as a result of prolong poor performance in the global economy. Over 70% of the total global consumption of NR goes to tire manufacturing. As such, this has created an imbalance and monopolistic control of single product demand consumption. It is apt now for the NR industry to explore new applications into High-Rubber-Content and High-Value Products to expand the NR supply-chain.</i>
5:20PM	<b>CLOSING ADDRESS</b>
5:30PM	Networking & Refreshments for Guest Speakers and Delegates
6:00PM	<b>GLOBAL RUBBER CONFERENCE &amp; EXHIBITION 2020 ENDS</b>

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# ADVISORY COMMITTEE



## **Datuk Dr. Abdul Aziz S.A. Kadir**

Datuk Dr. Abdul Aziz S.A. Kadir is the Chairman of Confexhub Group. He also serves as the Secretary-General of International Rubber Research Development Board and the Chairman of the Global Rubber Conference Steering Committee. He has spent more than 35 years in the Natural Rubber industry, having served the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia in different capacities including 12 years as its Director before being appointed as the first Director-General of the Malaysian Rubber Board. In 2001, he was appointed as to his current position in IRRDB, an association of rubber research institutes from 20 Natural Rubber producing countries. The objectives of the organization include fostering cooperation in Natural Rubber R&D, providing a forum for concerted action on matters of mutual interest and arranging training programs for the scientists.



## **H.E. Mr. Mak Kim Hong**

Mr Mak is the Honourary President of the Association for Rubber Development of Cambodia. He is also concurrently the Chairman and Director General of Chup Rubber Plantations – one of the largest rubber planting companies in Cambodia. He is also a Board Member of the Cambodian Rubber Research Institute and the President of the Board of the Royal University of Agriculture. He is also serving as an Advisor to Samdech Hun Sen, the Prime Minister of Cambodia. Mr. Mark was a Professor of Mathematics and Physics prior to joining the corporate sector and has an Honorary Doctorate in Business Administration conferred by the National University of America.



## **Mr. Tran Ngoc Thuan**

Mr. Tran Ngoc Thuan has been elected as the Chairman of the Vietnam Rubber Association since 2012. He has also been elected to the Vietnam's 13th National Assembly (2011 – 2016). He is currently the President and CEO of the Vietnam Rubber Group (VRG), a multi-ownership group in which dominant ownership belongs to the State. As the Chairman of VRA, he has a very important leader's role in effectively operating its activities and protecting the legal rights of its members, promoting the sustainable development of the Viet Nam rubber industry in international cooperation, contributing to the improvement of the country's socioeconomic and environmental conditions.



## **Dato' Dr. Kamarul Baharain bin Basir**

Dato' Dr. Kamarul assumed the post Secretary-General of ANRPC on 1st July, 2011 for a three-year term. He was the former Director-General of the Malaysian Rubber Board (MRB). Graduated in Mechanical Engineering from University of Strathclyde, and PhD in Polymer Engineering from Loughborough university in UK. Started career as Research Officer in the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia in 1976. Had 37 years experience in the rubber industry in areas of R&D, Management and Administration, Legislation and Enforcement, Economics, Supporting Services, Marketing and Training. He was the Chairman of International Rubber Trade Association, Chairman of Malaysian Rubber Exchange, Chairman of Tun Abdul Razak Research Centre, member of International Rubber Research and Development Board and chairman of the Technical Committee of Standards Writing on Engineering Rubber Products. Author and co-authored 70 technical papers and reports related to science, technology and engineering usage of natural rubber.



## **Dr. Hidde Smit**

Dr Hidde Smit has vast international exposure and over 35 years' experience in modelling and forecasting commodity markets, especially the market for rubber. He is now an independent consultant on analysing and forecasting the rubber economy. His clientele includes various stakeholders in the rubber sector. Many companies involved in investment-banking and asset management also seek his advice. During 2005-2009, Hidde Smit was Secretary-General of the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG). From 1995 to 2004 he was Managing Director of the Economic and Social Institute, Free University, Amsterdam, conducting substantive research on commodity markets, especially on rubber. For more details see [www.rubberforecasts.com](http://www.rubberforecasts.com).



## **Dr. L. M. K. Tillekeratne**

Obtained his PhD from Aston University UK. He joined RRI as a Research assistant in 1971. Later he became the executive Director of the RRI Sri Lanka for sixteen years until 2006. He is a Fellow of the Plastics and Rubber Institute London and a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences Sri Lanka. After retirement from the RRI he joined the University of Sri Jayawardenepura as a Professor of Polymer Chemistry. At present while functioning as a visiting lecturer of the above university, he is working as a consultant to UNIDO in the capacity of a rubber processing and testing expert. He is a Director of Kotagala Plantation and Richard Peiris Export Co.



## **Dr. Didiek Hadjar Goenadi, Ph.D.**

Dr. Goenadi joins Biotechnology Research Unit for Estate Crops, after his undergraduate study in 1981. After 3 years working, he pursued graduate studies at the University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA. He got MS and PHD degrees in 1986 and 1989, respectively, both with special recognition. In 1991-1993 he served as Head of Soil Science Research Group at IBRIEC. He got Research Professor in 1995 in the field of Soil Sciences and Fertilizers. In 1998 he received Satyalencana Wirakarya Award from the Government of Indonesia. In 2001 he joined Lemhannas Short Course (KSA IX/2001) and graduated with honor. During 1999 - 2003 he served as the President of Indonesian Soil Science Society and until now he is still in-charge as the President of the Indonesian Inventor Society. He was the Advisor to the Research & Technology Minister for Economic and Technological Affairs from 2000-2003. In 2002-2007 he served as Executive Director of the Indonesian Research Institute for Estate Crops (LRPI) – Ministry of Agriculture. From December 2007 he has been serving as National Committee on Investment for Agribusiness Affairs – Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) and in January 2008 till February 2009 he joined the Indonesian Palm Oil Association (GAPKI) as Executive Director. He was appointed the President Director of PT Riset Perkebunan Nusantara since December 2011.

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE



## Dr. Chairil Anwar

He was born in Jakarta 3 August 1956, work at Indonesian Rubber Research Institute (IRRI) since 1980, and got Ph.D. from Bogor Agricultural University in field Agriculture Economics at 2005. Since 2005, he is the Director IRRI at head office of IRRI in Bogor , West Java. Under IRRI there are three Rubber Research Centers: Sungei Putih (North Sumatra), Sembawa (South Sumatra) and Getas (Central Java). He is member of Board and Chief Executive of International of Rubber Research and Development Board (IRRDB), and also member of Committee on Strategic Market Operation (CSMO) of International Rubber Consortium Limited (IRCo) from 2005 to 2008.



## Mr. Abdul Aziz Pane

Abdul Aziz Pane was born in Rantau Prapat, North Sumatra - Indonesia on the 2nd of May 1945. He is an economist majoring in International Trade & International Relations. Previously, in the late 80's he is one of the founder of Rubber Industries of ASEAN and ASEAN Chemical Industries Association. He has attended various kinds of training in the USA, APO-Japan and Germany. Besides his activities in the industry, he is also the founder of Indonesian Public Relations Association and Indonesian Advertising Study Group. At present he is working as:

- Advisor to PT Gajah Tunggal Tbk
- Chairman of Product Standardization Indonesia Chamber of Commerce Industry (until 2013)
- Chairman of Indonesian Tyre Manufacturer's Association
- Chairman of Indonesian Rubber Council (until 2013)
- Chairman of Indonesian Plantation Commodities Business Forum



## H.E. Mr. Ly Phalla

Mr. Phalla is the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia that is tasked to develop and promote rubber industry in the kingdom. Prior to this, he was the Deputy Director of the External Department of Commerce. He had an earlier stint as the Manager of the Office for Export and Import in Kamexim Co Ltd and was also with SONECSIM Co Ltd. Mr Phalla is a graduate of Law and Science of Economy from the Faculty of Law and Economy, Cambodia.



## Mr. Sang Udomjarumani

Mr Udomjarumani has been the Honorary Advisor of the Thai Rubber Latex Corporation Public Company Ltd, Thailand since July 2008. He is also the Permanent Honorary President of the Thai Rubber Association, Advisor and Director of the Agricultural Futures Exchange of Thailand, Director of Thailand's Rubber Supervisory Board and was formerly the Chief Executive Officer of International Rubber Consortium Limited (IRCo). He has been long involved in the rubber industry in Thailand and the international stage, having served multiple terms as the as President of the Thai Rubber Association and was also the Chairman of the International Rubber Association from 2002-2005.



## Dr. Asoka Nugawela

Dr. A. Nugawela is the chair Professor on Plantation Management at the Department of Plantation Management, Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management at the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka. He was the Director of the Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka. He has served in various capacities in the organisation since 1980 and has contributed much towards the technology development and development activities in Sri Lanka and abroad. He was also consulted among others for the SRRP II Project in Sri Lanka and for the Integrated Rural Development in Ghana. His research/work has been published in more than 130 publications locally and internationally. Presently, he is a board director of two leading Plantation Management companies in Sri Lanka.



## Prof. Dr. Djoko Said Damardjati

Prof. Dr. Djoko Said Damardjati is the Senior Principal Scientist on Agricultural Post Harvest Science And Technology, Agency for Agricultural Research and Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia. Prior to this, Prof. Djoko serves as the Secretary-General of the ANRPC for a three-year term beginning July 2008. Before holding the post, he was with the Ministry of Agriculture of the Government of Indonesia, as Director-General of Processing & Marketing of Agricultural Products. Together with that responsibility, he was also serving the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development as Professor (Research) and Senior Principal Scientist on Food Science & Technology. Dr. Djoko had headed a long list of government bodies in the Indonesian agricultural sector and he has to his credit more than 50 research publications and two published books.



## Prof. Dr. Chen Qiubo

Prof. Dr. Chen Qiubo, was the former Vice President of Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences and simultaneously Vice President of the former South China University of Tropical Agriculture which merged into Hainan University in 2007. Professor Chen joined the IRRDB activities as early as 1983 and was elected Chairman of IRRDB during 2006-2008. Professor relishes a good international background through education in US, UK, Australia, the Netherland and Malaysia, and various academic activities. Professor Chen serves China's NR industry for about 40 years with his diversified experiences and capacities from practician to senior researcher and professor, academic institution administrator and postgraduate educator. Being a quite productive and influential scientist, Professor Chen authored over 150 papers and 10 monographs, chaired a dozens of international conference sessions and organized over 10 international conferences or symposia. Professor Chen, a BA, MSc and PhD holder in various science fields, now focuses his research interests in plantation ecology, climate change and tropical agriculture, strategic impact assessment and sustainable NR industry. Although retiring from his vice presidentship, Professor Chen now still serves the NR industry by acting as an Advisor to the Rubber Research Institute, CATAS.

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE



## **Dr. Yin Song**

Dr Yin Song was appointed as the Acting Director and then the Director of the Cambodian Rubber Research Institute in 1998 and 2000 respectively. He joined the Institute in 1995 after obtaining his PhD in process technology from the University of Leipzig, Germany, in 1994. Prior to this, he had served the Government of Cambodia in various capacities in diverse departments such as Department of Planning under the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Publishing House under the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

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## **Dr. N.M. Mathew**

Dr.N.M.Mathew had retired as Director of the Rubber Research Institute of India in October 2006. He had been working in the Institute for over 34 years in various capacities. He is basically a postgraduate in chemistry from the Kerala University and Ph.D in rubber technology from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur. He had occasion to work as Research Fellow in the Tun Abdul Razak Laboratory of the Malaysian Rubber Board at Hertford in England and as Guest Professor in the Polytechnic of Furtwangen in Germany. Dr.Mathew's areas of research include primary processing of natural rubber, chemical modification of rubber, rubber compounding, polymer blends, latex technology and failure properties of rubber. He has to his credit over 100 research publications in reputed national and international journals. He had edited four important books on different aspect of rubber and had contributed chapters to different books. Dr.Mathew had been the Editor-in-Chief of the journal "Natural Rubber Research" from 1997 to 2006. Dr.Mathew is currently Chairman of the Kerala Branch of the Indian Rubber Institute, a professional body of rubber technologists and other thought leaders in the Indian rubber industry. He has also been working as Visiting Professor in the Department of Polymer Science and Rubber Technology of the Cochin University.

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## **Mr. Eugenio A. Alcalá**

Eugenio A. Alcalá is an advisor for the Rubber Development and Farming Systems for the private and government sectors. He was a university professor before retiring and held various key positions as Chair of the Philippine Rubber Research, IRRDB Country Director and served in the IRRDB finance committee. Eugenio A. Alcalá holds a Ph.D in Crop Physiology, Masters in Crop Production and Management, and Bachelor of Science in Agronomy. Eugenio A. Alcalá has authored a book for rubber smallholders in the Philippines. He has also presented scores of research papers at IRRDB and ANRPC conferences. He has received awards and recognitions in Research & Development and Extension.

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## **Mr. Hla Myint**

Mr. Hla Myint has a Master degree in Plant Pathology from Texas A & M University, USA. He was the former Director of Applied Research Centre for Perennial Crops (ARCPC), which he established in 1991-1994 and which became a landmark in the history of Myanmar's Perennial/Plantation Crops Industry. He has spent more than 47 years in the Natural Rubber Planting Industry, including 30 years in the government sector. He is an Advisor at Myanmar Rubber Planters & Producers Association (MRPPA) since 2005. Representing MRPPA, he is a Board Member and also a member of Plant Protection Specialist Group of IRRDB.

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## **Prof. Dr. Ho Chee Cheong**

Dr. Ho received his BSc (Hons) degree in Chemistry from the University of Malaya in 1968; MSc, PhD and DSc from the University of Bristol, England in 1969, 1972 and 1998 respectively. He was a former Professor and Head of Department of Chemistry, University of Malaya; Professor and Dean of Faculty of Applied Sciences, University AMIST. Currently he is an Adjunct Professor of Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia. His research interest is on rubber latex chemistry and technology, materials science with emphasis on green polymer and its applications. Dr. Ho is a Fellow of the Malaysian Institute of Chemistry and its Past President. He is a Senior Fellow of the Academy of Sciences of Malaysia and a council member. He is also a Chartered Chemist and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, England. He sits on the Council of the Pacific Polymer Federation and is a founding member of the Asian Oceania Green and Sustainable Chemistry Network.

# GRC-WICKHAM AWARDS

## PRIZE

The GRC-Wickham Awards were established in 2013 to recognize and acknowledge the remarkably compelling achievement by any scientist, group or institution globally who have made significant contributions and innovations in the development of new research discovery or technological innovation, and the outstanding efforts made by any individual, or group or organization globally to commercialize the technological innovations of any scientist, group or institution for the sustainable development of the natural rubber industry.

The prizes are categorized under two segments:

### Technology Innovation Segment

in the fields of rubber national policy to enhance productivity, new breakthroughs or innovative technologies to produce high yielding clones, quality planting materials, disease control, tapping and harvesting systems, stimulant, post harvesting technology for rubber processing to innovative technologies for new rubber applications in downstream sector and rubber product manufacturing. This category also includes best agronomy practices, certified rubber processing and product manufacturing best practices.

### Technology Commercialization Segment

any individual, or group or organization that have implemented, patented or operated any new breakthrough or innovative technology in commercially large scale basis that have brought positive impact on the development of the natural rubber industry.

The awards are open to all natural rubber producing and rubber product manufacturing countries to encourage continued development and excellence in the natural rubber research and application for the benefits of sustainable development of the natural rubber industry.

Presented annually at the Global Rubber Conference, the Laureate will receive a trophy and a certificate of recognition, and an opportunity to speak at the Global Rubber Conference.



## SELECTION PROCESS

A selection exercise is carried out through a stringent vetting process by the GRC-Wickham Awards Advisory Panel that involves an International Panel of technical experts from the natural rubber industry.



## NOMINATION

The GRC-Wickham Awards is accorded to any scientist, group or institute for the Technology Innovation Segment and individual, group or organization for the Technology Commercialization Segment globally in recognition of contributions and innovations towards development of natural rubber industry through research and technology and efforts by organizations for commercializing the breakthroughs and innovations.

The Nomination for the GRC-Wickham Awards is open through-out the year. However, the closing date for the nomination is on 3 months before the 1st day of the annual Global Rubber Conference. Unsuccessful nominations will be carried forward to the following year. The Global Rubber Conference Secretariat, the equity owner of the GRC-Wickham Awards, will announce the recipients of the Awards before the annual Global Rubber Conference.

The GRC-Wickham Advisory Panel will assess the merits of the nominees based on the materials which are being provided by the nominators.

It is essential that the nominator furnishes all background information about the nominee and his/her contribution that merits consideration for the Awards. Self-nomination will not be entertained.

## CONTACT

GRC-WICKHAM AWARDS SECRETARIAT | c/o Confexhub Group

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