

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH FOR TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS INDUSTRY



AND



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Message from the Chairman Sri Lanka Society for Transport and Logistics (SLSTL) and R4TLI – 2016 Conference Chair

The inauguration of the R4TLI - Research for Transport and Logistics Industry came from a growing understanding of the gulf that exists between the practice and research of transport and logistics in many



developing countries including Sri Lanka. It is becoming increasingly apparent that Sri Lanka which seeks to exploit its geographic position to re-establish itself as a global logistics hub needs to reach the state of the art operational levels to compete with the already well established and rapidly advancing hubs both to the east and west of Colombo. Its poor choice of investment in logistics infrastructure, lack of cutting edge research or development does not auger well for its ambitions to become a logistics hub.

The R4TLI conference is a humble, yet significant beginning to harnessing the synergies of academia and industry in an effort to improve the performance of the transport and logistics industry in Sri Lanka and other developing countries. The conference which has attracted abstracts from senior academics as well as young researchers both from Sri Lanka and the region, is a validation of the potential for research and development.

Since the conference aims at high-end research, rigorous quality control has been carried out to ensure that all papers presented at the conference are of international standard. A panel of international reviewers from Japan, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, Taiwan, Sri Lanka and Singapore have reviewed and recommended papers for presentation. While over 60 abstracts were received, only around 40 were accepted for inclusion in the proceedings. Only around 20 authors have been invited to submit full papers.

I am also encouraged by the assistance given by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Sri Lanka (CILTSL) and the membership of the Sri Lanka Society for Transport and Logistics (SLSTL). The unstinted financial support from the industry lead by the sole sponsors Walkers CML and the enthusiastic sponsorship received for the research awards from several leading establishments in the field of transportation and logistics has been overwhelming.

I also wish to place on record the assistance received from the Joint Organising Committee and the Scientific Committee of this conference which has greatly contributed to making this conference a success. Furthermore, the assistance received from the Secretariat of the CILTSL and the SLSTL is also duly acknowledged. The support extended by the Eastern Asia Society for Transport Studies (EASTS) and the personal attendance at the conference by its leadership is also greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Amal S. Kumarage PhD Chairman - Joint Organising Committee

Message from the Chairman Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport -Sri Lanka

I am extremely happy and privileged to avail this opportunity to share a few congratulatory words with all those who are involved with the inaugural symposium on Research for Transport & Logistics Industry (R4TLI). This



is an initiative spearheaded by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport - Sri Lanka (CILTSL) and the Sri Lanka Society of Transport and Logistics to foster a culture of research and development within our industry in Sri Lanka.

This research symposium provides a forum for bringing academics, industry professionals, and students together to share their findings with the Logistics and Transport community. I am encouraged by the very high response received for the Call for Abstracts, which reflects the demand for such an opportunity by the research community into this very important and internationally relevant subject area, and the research potential and talents of the authors. It also demonstrates the possibility of this initial effort turning out to be a great success in bringing out items of immense interest to all stakeholders, both from Sri Lanka and overseas. I wish to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of the Scientific Committee and the Review Panel for making this an outstanding event. I also congratulate the authors who have put in so much effort in preparing their submissions and presentations. Moreover, I extend a warm thank you to each and every person and organisation that have been involved in this endeavour and their generous support in making this conference a success.

I trust that this symposium will be the first of many, and will serve a catalyst for further research on these aspects, enabling us to have more events of this nature in the coming years. I strongly believe that the outcome of such events will bring tangible benefits to the industry, both at home and abroad, and will pave the way for its furtherance into the future.

Have a successful and enjoyable R4TLI.

Capt. Lasitha Cumaratunga, Master Mariner, CMILT, MICS Chairman - CILTSL

Message from Professor Tetsuo Yai, President of the Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS)

Dear Distinguished Members of Sri Lanka Society for Transport & Logistics,

I am pleased to extend, on the behalf of Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS), the warmest congratulations to the first international conference of SLSTL, Research for Transport & Logistics Industry (R4TLI).



EASTS was founded in November 1994 with 13 countries/regions in Eastern Asia. As of September 2015, the member domestic societies join from 19 countries/regions, including Sri Lanka. More countries/regions are expected to join as member domestic societies.

The primary objective of EASTS is to foster and support excellence in transportation research and practice. Under the objectives, EASTS is organizing biennial International Conferences. Since the 1st Conference held in Manila, Philippines in 1995, 11 conferences were held in EASTS area and provided great opportunities to enrich participants' professional knowledge. The 12th conference will be held in September 2017 in Binh Duong, Vietnam.

We believe SLSTL has contributed significantly in Sri Lanka and could be a more essential key player throughout the world. I believe SLSTL has significant potential and will thrive more with your continuous support and contribution.

Once again, congratulations to the first international conference.

Tetsuo Yai,
President of EASTS
Professor, Dr. of Eng., Tokyo Institute of Technology

Message from Professor Chan Wirasinghe

I am pleased to be associated with the inaugural international conference on "Research for Transport and Logistics Industry (R4TLI 2016)" to be held in Sri Lanka in June 2016, organized by the Sri Lanka Society of Transport and Logistics and the Chartered Institute of Transport and Logistics Sri Lanka. The submissions selected for the



conference, from authors ranging from international experts to Sri Lankan students, are of high quality and cover a wide range of topics from theoretical to practical applications as well as logistics to passenger transportation. The Conference will in particular be a boon to the burgeoning logistics sector of Sri Lanka. I am very confident that the R4TLI 2016 will be an outstanding success. I congratulate Professor Amal Kumarage and others for organizing an international conference that will have an impact on academia and industry beyond the shores of Sri Lanka.

Sincerely,

S.C. (Chan) Wirasinghe Co-Chair, Scientific Committee Professor of Civil Engineering Founding Dean (Emeritus) Schulich School of Engineering

Editorial Preface

Modern society faces a real challenge of producing and delivering transport and logistics services demanded through the production and consumption activities of the socio-economy. It is imperative that these services are generated and supplied efficiently in order to make such economic activities competitive and less costly while making the maximum possible contribution to the nation's GDP through the process of providing such services. Yet, at the same time, it is equally important that their derived necessity in the socio-economy be minimised, given the negative externalities with which their production and delivery are associated.

These twin challenges call for scientific endeavours in the transport and logistics sector to diagnose the issues it faces, to evolve innovative methods for the industry-wide adoption, to ensure continuous technological advancement, and to formulate and implement strategic plans and policies, in view of supporting it to emerge successful in the ever-intensifying competition of a business environment.

The inaugural Research Conference R4TLI-2016 was organised jointly by the *Sri Lanka Society for Transport and Logistics* and the *Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport - Sri Lanka* as part of an effort to address this need, by encouraging the pursuit of research and dissemination of their findings. This publication is the culmination of that effort, and an accomplishment in itself.

As the Editorial Committee, we consider it a privilege to have had the opportunity to go through the rich collection of abstracts compiled herein, which proved to be a reward in itself. We are confident that this book provides ample proof of the potential *R4TLI* 2016 has, to become an intellectually stimulating event.

We are grateful to the eminent reviewers from both Sri Lanka and abroad who tirelessly contributed through an intensive process of reviewing abstracts, and without whom it would not have been possible to compile this publication in its present quality and standing.

It is our hope that the *SLSTL* and *CILT-SL* will sustain the momentum that *R4TLI* 2016 has gained in stimulating discourse on the significance, potential and challenges of the transportation and logistics industry, and in strengthening it, in years and conferences to come.

Chief Editor

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CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH FOR TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS INDUSTRY 2016



Inaugural International Symposium

organised jointly by
Sri Lanka Society for Transport and Logistics (SLSTL)
in association with
Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) Sri Lanka
in partnership with Walkers CML

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