

1st Interop Mumbai – October 7-9, 2009 Mumbai

Interop Mumbai 2009 was held on 7th – 9th October 2009 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai, India after a strategic decision on changing the dates of the event from February 2009 to October 2009 due to the Mumbai terror attack and a global economic crisis.

Interop Mumbai was applauded and well accepted by the IT industry as a serious business technology event catering to the Indian and Asian market opening gateway to investments and potential business opportunities.

Interop Mumbai 2009 witnessed 74 participants as sponsors and exhibitors with support from Industry associations, IT media partners, Consulting firms and other allied bodies with a gross exhibition area of 3000 square meters.

The event delivered some extremely important conference tracks on: Network Access Control, Risk Management & Compliance, Data Protection, Data Center, Application Delivery, Mobile & Wireless, Networking & Storage, SOA, SaaS, Virtualisation, Unified Communication, Green IT, Threat Management, Wireless /UC Security, Document Management, Cloud Computing, Enterprise 2.0 and Open Source. The event provided the highest quality of content delivered by the industry's most respected subject experts.

The inauguration function of Interop Mumbai 2009 was attended by Key dignitaries – Mr. Wim Elfrink – Executive Vice President, CISCO Services & Chief Globalisation Officer, Cisco; Mr. Sandeep Nair - Western region Vice Chairman – MAIT & Managing Director – Emerson Networks; Mr. Vijay Pradhan, Executive Director, SNIA India and Mr. Lenny Heymann, General Manager - INTEROP, TechWeb.

The three-day Interop Mumbai 2009 exhibition & conference - Mumbai, concluded with great success for the first time in Mumbai, India, with active representation from the IT enterprise and channel fraternity. With a total of 120 speakers (including keynotes, session chairs, track speakers, moderators, panelists and workshop presenters) – the event presented each attendee with a unique opportunity to interact face-to-face with industry experts and global thought leaders. For three days, the event conducted 30 technical sessions that were very well received by the attendees. In addition, the renowned trainer Mr. Shiva Subramaniam conducted a separate CIO Creativity Boot camp and CRN Creativity workshop for Channel fraternity.

There were keynote address from leading vendors that included industry veterans such as Mr. Wim Elfrink – Executive Vice President, CISCO Services & Chief Globalisation Officer, Cisco, Mr. Steve Hanna, Distinguished Engineer, Juniper Networks, Mr. Rajesh Jain, MD, Netcore, Mr. B V Jagadeesh, Chairman of the Board, Netmagic, Mr. Akash Saraf, MD & CEO Zenith. There were also sponsored session presentations from Microsoft, IBM, CISCO, Zenith Infotech, Huawei-Symantec, Fluke Networks, Quest Software, Netmagic and Fortinet.

The exposition held alongside the conference with sponsors & exhibitors, included companies such as Cisco, Microsoft, Zenith Infotech, Fluke Networks, Huawei-Symantec, IBM, Canon, EMC, Emerson, HP, Polycom, Array Networks, Brocade, Extreme Networks, Microland, NComputing, Netmagic, Safenet, Toshiba, Versign and others and many other global IT giants. Interop Mumbai also received praiseworthy feedback from all the sponsors and exhibitors.

The important attraction for the event was the EDGE Awards – an initiative to honour the best IT implementations in the country. This initiative was co-located with Interop Mumbai, which was to felicitate the Diamond and Silver Edge winners. Among the winners were also the 10 Indian CIO's who made it to the first ever Global CIO 50 list instituted by Information Week. Cisco and Zenith in association with UBM were sponsors of this event.

The delegates at Interop Mumbai included CIO's / CTO's, IT heads & IT Managers from the SMB /SME across all industry verticals and SI's SP's, VAR's, Dealers and Distributors from the channel community. Interop Mumbai registered 2690 unique visitors and 652 repeat visitors.

Interop Mumbai 2009 was supported by the leading industry association such as CIO Klub, ISPAI, MAIT, OSPAI, SNIA and Wi-Fi Alliance. Interop Mumbai 2009 was also supported by media partners such as CRN, EFY Group, ETM, Information Week, Fanatic Media, Network Computing and Toolbox.com. In addition, the knowledge partners included CIO Klub, EC Council, Ovum, PwC and Springboard Research.

Interop Mumbai was appraised as one of the best business technology event by some of the industry's most respected experts. This can be seen in the following quotes:

Mr Shirish Gariba, General Secretary, CIO Klub said, "It's good for businesses to meet vendors under one roof. Such events are common outside India, but Interop 2009 gave Senior IT managers/professionals a chance to visit an exhibition of international repute."

"Big conferences are common abroad, but this is for the first time that an event of this scale has been organized in India. I am sure it's the beginning of a new era in Indian conferences and exhibition space", remarked Sunil Mehata, CIO, JWT.

Askash Saraf, CEO of Zenith Infotech said "India should strive to be No. 1".

"You get the sense that even IT leaders are surprised at how much they've accomplished in a short time that mirrors the recent sharp growth of Indian consumers. It was just a little more than a decade ago that he returned to India and had difficulty ordering a dial-up line. He had no way of imagining then that today he'd be offering mobile banking services to people who are illiterate. That comment speaks volumes about the different challenges and opportunities in IT in India", noted Pravir Vohra, CTO, ICICI Bank.

Mr. David Briskman, CIO of Ranbaxy declared that he was proud to be CIO of an Indian company. His declaration drew the loudest applause of a very exuberant night.

Truly, Interop Mumbai is now Asia's definitive enterprise business technology event.

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