

26th Global Design Summit & Exposition 2026

‘Design for the **5Ps**: **People** – **Planet** – **Prosperity** – **Purpose** – **Partnership**’

8 – 9 October 2026; Hotel Leela Bhartiya City, Bengaluru

Day 1 - 08 October 2026; Thursday; 1000- 1900 Hours

Detailed Agenda

Timings	Session name
0730 -0930 Hrs	Registration/ Tea & Coffee

1000 – 1100 Hrs	Inaugural Session	
1000 – 1010 Hrs	Welcome & Opening Address	Dr Udayant Malhoutra Chairman, CII National Committee on Design Innovation and CEO and Managing Director, Dynamatic Technologies
1010 – 1015 Hrs	Perspectives on CII Design Movement	Mr S Raghupathy Principal Adviser Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
1015 – 1025 Hrs	Industry Design perspectives	Ms Revathi Kant Executive Vice President and Chief Design Officer, Titan Company Limited and Co-Chair, CII National Committee on Design
1025 – 1035 Hrs	Global Design Perspectives and CII’s Design Journey	Prof Pradyumna Vyas President, World Design Organization (WDO) And Senior Adviser, CII
1035 – 1045 Hrs	Special Address	Mr Apparao Venkata Mallavarapu Founder, Chairman, and Managing Director Centum Electronics
1045 - 1055 Hrs	Special Address	Mr Lutz Dietzold Chief Executive Officer German Design Council

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Release of CII Design Thought Leadership Reports

1055- 1100 Hrs

Vote of Thanks

Dr Ashish Mohan

Executive Director

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

1100 – 1115 Hrs

Design Talk 1: Moving Business By Design

The German Design Council: Who We Are, What We Do & What the Evidence Shows

- **By Mr Lutz Dietzold, CEO, German Design Council**

A concise overview of the German Design Council, its role in advancing design-led business, and evidence demonstrating how design contributes to innovation, competitiveness and business growth.

1115 -1130 Hrs

Design Talk 2: Designing More with Less: The VICTORIS Sustainability Story

- **By Ms Akanksha Sethi, General Manager, Maruti Suzuki India Limited**

Designing more with less is about making thoughtful choices at every stage of the design process. The VICTORIS sustainability journey focuses on using design, materials and innovation to create products that deliver greater value while using fewer resources and reducing environmental impact.

1130 - 1145 Hrs

Design Talk 3: Automotive and Design

- **By Mr Andreas Kurbos, Founder & CEO, StudioKurbos**

Design is playing an increasingly important role in shaping the automotive industry, balancing aesthetics, functionality, technology, user experience and sustainability. Thoughtful design is helping redefine mobility and create products and experiences that are relevant to the changing needs of people and society.

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1145 – 1200 Hrs	Design Talk 4: Design led Innovation By Mr Anuj Prasad, Founder & CEO, Desmania Design Private Limited
Finding the need gaps through study of culture and social needs, one can design & innovate using technologies. India being a unique culture, gives us many such opportunities.	
1200 – 1215 Hrs	Design Talk 5: Design-AI Partnership By Prof Vijay Kumar, Charles Owen Endowed Chair and Professor Emeritus at the Institute of Design; University of Illinois
Drawing on the seven modes of the Design Innovation Process, from sensing intent to realizing offerings, Kumar will examine how AI can expand research, accelerate exploration, and support new forms of collaboration in each mode. He will also make the case that human judgment, empathy, and strategic intent remain essential for deciding what is desirable, culturally meaningful, and responsible.	
1215 - 1230 Hrs	Design Talk 6: CREATING VALUE THROUGH DESIGN, ART AND STORYTELLING Making Space Mean More By Mr Nalin Gagrani, CEO & MD, Blue Pebble
Making Space Mean More: Creating Value Through Design, Art and Storytelling explores how spaces can move beyond function to create identity, emotion and lasting experiences. By bringing together design, art and storytelling, spaces can communicate a purpose, connect with people and create greater cultural, experiential and business value.	
1230 – 1245 Hrs	Design Talk 7: Designing products for new age factories By Mr Amod Gijare, Principal Designer, Forbes Marshall

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Designing Products for New-Age Factories looks at how product design is evolving with the changing nature of manufacturing. It focuses on designing products that work seamlessly with automation, advanced manufacturing, digital technologies and flexible production systems, while balancing usability, efficiency, scalability and sustainability.

1245– 1315 Hrs

Felicitation of the CII Design Excellence Awards 2026 (Part-1)

Recognising outstanding design achievements and celebrating the organisations and designers shaping innovation, creativity and excellence across industries through the CII Design Excellence Awards 2026.

1315 – 1400 Hrs

Networking Lunch

1400 - 1415 Hrs

Design Talk 8: India at Work: Designing for a New Commercial Reality

- **By Mr Swaviman Das, Senior Director, Space Matrix**

India is moving from being a destination for global execution to a centre for innovation, decision-making and global business. The rise of GCCs, technology companies and global Indian enterprises is changing not just how India works, but how its commercial spaces are designed. The conversation will explore the shift from adapting global design models to developing spaces with a stronger sense of Indian context, identity and experience across workplaces, commercial environments and emerging businesses. What could an Indian design language look like today, not defined by tradition alone, but by contemporary Indian culture, behaviour, ambition, craft, technology and experience?

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1415 - 1515 Hrs	Panel Discussion 1: Designing for Global Impact: Products, Innovation, & the 5Ps
Designing for global impact goes beyond creating products that succeed in the market. It is about using innovation and design to address real needs, create meaningful experiences and deliver long-term value for People and Planet, while advancing Purpose, Prosperity and Profitability. The discussion brings together perspectives on how design can help businesses create solutions that are relevant, responsible and competitive in a rapidly changing world.	
Moderators	Prof Pradyumna Vyas President, World Design Organization (WDO) And Senior Adviser, CII Mr Lutz Dietzold CEO German Design Council
Speakers	Ms Sonia Manchanda Board Member & Founding Partner World Design Organization (WDO) & Spread and Innovation Prof. Dr.-Ing. Jens Krzywinski Professor of Industrial Design Engineering TU Dresden · Faculty of Mechanical Engineering Co-Director, Department of Speculative Transformation, CIDS Mr Premraj Keshyep Chairman Conmat Group of Companies Mr Saurabh Singh Sr Vice President Design & Modeling Maruti Suzuki India Limited Mr Michele Straniero Vice President for International Business Development Blue Engineering Group Mr Ashish Vijay Technology Fellow (System Engineering) Collins Aerospace

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	Mr Vashikaran RajendraSingh Managing Director Bell Printers Pvt Ltd.
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515 -1530 Hrs	Design Talk 9: Designing What You Can’t See By Mr Harjeet Gulati, Chairman, Millipixels Interactive LLP AI models are invisible, but their impact is not. You realize value from AI when people choose to trust, act on, or question their decisions. That moment of human judgement is what designers must design for.
1530-1545 Hrs	Design Talk 10: Designing an Indian Icon: Tata Sierra: Passion. Perseverance. Persistence. By Mr Ajay Jain, Head of Design (India), TATA Motors The Tata Sierra is a testament to the power of believing in a vision and pursuing it relentlessly. Its journey reflects the passion to reimagine an icon, the perseverance to refine every detail, and the persistence to transform an idea into a product that resonates deeply with customers. More than the revival of a nameplate, Sierra demonstrates how design-led thinking creates emotional connection, strengthens brand value, and drives sustainable business growth. It is proof that when passion is matched by perseverance and persistence, great design becomes a catalyst for success.
1545- 1600 Hrs	Design Talk 11: Designing Behaviour: What Happens When Experiences Produce Themselves? By Ms Marin Grace, Managing Director, Accenture Design does more than shape what people see and use; it can influence how they think, choose and act. Designing Behaviour looks at how products, services and environments can be intentionally designed to encourage certain behaviours, from everyday choices and interactions to more responsible and sustainable habits. The focus is on understanding people, identifying the triggers that shape behaviour, and using design to create meaningful and lasting change.
1600 - 1615 Hrs	Design Talk 12: Designing the Future Designer from Education to Design Led Innovation

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	By Prof Milind Dhobley, Director, DPU School of Design, Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune
As technology, industry and society continue to change, design education needs to prepare students for roles that go beyond traditional design practice. The focus is on building stronger connections between education and industry, developing critical and strategic thinking, and enabling young designers to use design as a tool for innovation, problem-solving and meaningful impact.	

1615- 1630 Hrs	Design Talk 13: Material Intelligence: From Inspiration to Solutions By Ms Pratima Nikam, Design Head- Creation Centre India, BASF
Explore how BASF combines material expertise, creativity, and collaboration to bring ideas to life. Through examples of co-creation projects and innovative applications, discover how inspiration can be transformed into practical solutions.	

1630- 1645 Hrs	Design Talk 14: Design Beyond the Interface By Prof Vikash Kumar, Assistant Professor, Shiv Nadar University
Design Beyond the Interface looks at how design is moving beyond screens and digital touchpoints to shape the wider experience around people, products, services and environments. It focuses on creating seamless interactions across physical and digital spaces, where technology becomes part of a larger, more meaningful user experience.	

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1645 - 1745 Hrs	Panel Discussion 2: Design Education: Shaping Future-Ready Designers and Innovators
As design enters a new era shaped by AI, immersive technologies, and digital transformation, education must evolve beyond traditional boundaries. This session explores how India can build a future-ready design education ecosystem that balances human-centered values with emerging technological frontiers. The session shall bring forth insights on how design learning can foster creativity, ethics, and innovation — empowering the next generation of designers to solve real-world challenges for people, planet, and purpose.	
Moderator	Mr Dhaval Joshi Founder Simulabs Creative Media Tech
Speakers	Dr Arindam Das Director Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design & Technology Ms Shimul Vyas Founder, TANGIBLY INTANGIBLE Former Principal Designer, National Institute of Design (NID) Dr Gopal Meena VP- Strategy Initiatives Chitkara Design School Representative from Pearl Academy Prof Archana Surana Founder & Director ARCH College of Design and Business Mr Thomas DAL Director- Dean STRATE BANGALORE Prof Prakash Unakal Dean – Business Design & Innovation S P Mandali's, Prin. L. N. Welingkar Institute of Management Development & Research

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1745- 1800 Hrs	Design Talk 15: Co-LIFE By Prof Archana Surana, Founder & Director, ARCH College of Design and Business
Design Thinking for Impact-Focused Entrepreneurship: International Co-Life Pilot Project in Jaipur brings design thinking and entrepreneurship together to develop innovative, practical and sustainable solutions for real-world challenges, with a focus on collaboration, community empowerment and creating meaningful social and economic impact.	
1800 – 1845 Hrs	Felicitation of the Category Winners of the CII Design Excellence Awards 2026
Celebrating the category winners of the CII Design Excellence Awards 2026, recognising outstanding design across diverse sectors and categories. The felicitation honours the organisations and designers who have demonstrated creativity, innovation, user-centric thinking and excellence in translating design into meaningful products, experiences and solutions.	
1845 Hrs	Networking Gala Dinner and Close of Day 1

Parallel engagements:

1. Design Exposition on the sidelines (1000- 1900 Hrs)
2. Closed door roundtable with German Design Council (1200- 1245 Hrs)

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Day 2 - 9 Oct 2026; Friday; 0900- 1300 Hrs

Timings	Experiential Industry Visits (For select participants only)
0830 Hrs	Delegates Assemble at Foley Designs Studio <i>Foley Designs Private Limited No.202, Second Floor, Yolee building, 14 Pottery Road, Richards Town, Bangalore - 560005 Landmark: Opposite Bangalore east railway station (rear entrance).</i>
0900 – 1030 Hrs	Industry Visit 1 – Foley Designs Private Limited
	Meeting with Mr Michael Foley, Founder, Foley Designs Private Limited
	Experiential Visit to Foley Designs Private Limited
1030 – 1100 Hrs	Delegates Assemble at Dynamatic Technologies <i>JKM Plaza, Dynamatic Aerotropolis 55, KIADB Aerospace Park Bengaluru – 562149, India</i>
1100 – 1240 Hrs	Industry Visit 2 – Dynamatic Technologies
	Meeting with Dr Udayant Malhoutra, Chairman, CII National Committee on Design Innovation and CEO and Managing Director, Dynamatic Technologies
	Experiential Visit to Dynamatic and Aerotropolis Museum
1240 Hrs	Networking Lunch and Close of Day 2
