

INFRATEL LAUNCHES ZAMBIA'S FIRST SOC AND ORACLE CLOUD SERVICES AT CEOS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION BREAKFAST

Mulungushi International Conference Centre, Lusaka – April 2025

INFRATEL, Zambia's premier digital infrastructure enabler, convened top CEOs, policymakers, and industry players for a high-level Digital Transformation Breakfast that marked the launch of its Security Operations Centre (SOC) and Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) services - both firsts of their kind in the country.

The event, held at Mulungushi International Conference Centre, was officiated by the Honourable Minister of Technology and Science, Mr. Felix C. Mutati, whose presence added gravitas and urgency to the national digital conversation. His keynote address emphasised Zambia's readiness for the next chapter of tech evolution, centred around Trust, Confidence, Connectivity, and the Creation of Innovation Hubs.

He highlighted the Government's commitment to inclusive and investment-friendly digital policy frameworks, citing the widely consulted Cybersecurity and Cyber Crimes Act as an example of listening to public and industry voices. The Minister also revealed that the Government is transitioning from a Data Protection Bill to a Data Management Bill, a shift intended to unlock the value of data as a national asset. "Data must be the key driver of Artificial Intelligence. Without it, even the best AI tools will be ineffective," said Hon. Mutati.

INFRATEL's CEO, Dr. Evans Silavwe, delivered a powerful address mapping Zambia's tech journey, from early 2G adoption to today's expanding 5G, fibre, and AI capabilities. He positioned INFRATEL as a critical player in this transformation, unveiling the new SOC and OCI services as game-changing tools for businesses and public institutions seeking security, scalability, and cloud efficiency.

"This isn't just about technology, it's about trust, safety, and performance," said Dr. Silavwe. "As Zambia builds out its Smart Infrastructure, INFRATEL is stepping forward as the enabler."

The breakfast also featured an engaging CEO Panel Discussion with industry leaders from Standard Chartered Bank, NAPSA, and IHM Southern Africa. The dialogue explored how executive leadership can accelerate Zambia's digital maturity.

Mr. Sonny Zulu, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Zambia, stressed the importance of digitising paper-based legacy systems in preparation for AI integration.

"AI without quality data is like a car without fuel," he noted. "The time to digitise is now."

The panel applauded INFRATEL's efforts to develop local infrastructure that supports secure, interoperable digital ecosystems, essential for both national competitiveness and institutional resilience.

With active participation from Oracle, Cybernetics, senior government officials, and private sector executives, the event cemented a shared commitment to moving Zambia from digital ambition to digital action