

# Dr Amal Punchihewa

## **Director Technology, Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)**



Dr Amal Punchihewa is currently the Director of Technology at ABU. In that position, Dr Punchihewa leads a team of specialists, driving innovation of media technology in the best interest of ABU members. He facilitates technical guidelines and standards, providing expertise related to the convergence of media, and evolving technical needs. As a member of the ABU Headquarters Management Team, he also plays a major part in shaping ABU strategy.

Dr Punchihewa is active in many of the WBU-TC and ITU broadcast related technical activities. He is a vice chairman of the WBU-TC. He is an advisor to IET Vision and Imaging Technical and Professional Network, having previously served as an Executive committee member.

Dr Punchihewa possesses more than 29 years of experience in all three sectors of broadcasting; viz. academia, research and industry, including roles in regional capacity building in media and as head of engineering of national TV-Sri Lanka.

Dr Punchihewa graduated with BSc (Eng) Hons specialised in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering from Sri Lanka, MEng from Technical University of Eindhoven, the Netherlands & PhD from Massey University in New Zealand. He has published over 100 scholarly articles in various journals including IEEE and IET digital libraries and transactions. He has held visiting positions at Tokyo University of Science (Japan) as a visiting Associate Professor and visiting Professor. He was a Royal Dutch fellow of the Netherlands and JSPS of Japan. He is a Senior Member of IEEE, Chartered Professional Engineer-CEng, Fellow of IET (UK) & Fellow of IPENZ (New Zealand).