



JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

LOCAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY RENDERS ASSISTANCE TO STUDENT DEVELOPERS OF SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGIES

200 engineering students from TP will stand to benefit from the joint collaboration; receiving work placement opportunities in areas of Clean Energy; and counsel from industry to fine-tune projects for commercialisation

8 January 2010 – Aspiring young inventors and developers with their green technologies can now look forward to the industry test by experienced businessmen. This long-awaited call for greater involvement and interaction between the Temasek Polytechnic's engineering students and industry veterans in areas of manufacturing and sustainable practices is the keynote of all three organisations that signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) yesterday.

Singapore Manufacturers' Federation (SMa), Singapore Environment Council (SEC) and Temasek Polytechnic (TP) will collaborate towards identifying and developing environment and manufacturing policies and emerging technologies through collaborative research studies, and identifying and providing job opportunities for TP graduates.

The MOU signing ceremony was held in conjunction with the Engineering Project Show 2010, which showcased a wide range of innovative technologies across industries such as clean energy, building, automotive, media and info-communications, robotics and automation, biomedical informatics and more.

To create a sustainable environment and landscape for Singapore, the three parties will look into joint research and development opportunities, commercialisation of technology and projects undertaken by engineering students as well as the research-based Clean Energy Centre. In particular, hydrogen fuel cell is marked as the frontier of sustainable technologies and student projects such as the fuel cell hydrogen powered motorbike are garnering the interest of industry players and environmentalists.

The collaboration will also focus on matching students and their inventions with local manufacturers, in particular to undertake technology and applications development, leading to test beds in the companies' premises and operations.

The collaboration underscores the need for a new breed of engineers that can incorporate or help manufacturers embrace sustainable technologies and improve their operations such as process efficiency or even business value proposition. These students, especially from courses such as Diploma in Clean Energy and Diploma in Green Building & Sustainability, can look forward to internship placements or job offerings from manufacturers.

Mr Renny Yeo, President of Singapore Manufacturers' Federation (SMA) noted that some of the projects showcased could go further with developed commercial viability. "Some of the inventions have market potential, but we need to develop them further to meet actual market needs."

He continued, "SMA's role is to facilitate collaboration and communications between businessmen especially manufacturers and inventors and developers of emerging technologies, in this case, TP students. We have a pool of experienced businessmen who can act as mentors for TP students in their feasibility analysis, defining of value proposition and developing of these technologies and applications. This collaboration will serve as a catalyst in the commercialization of green manufacturing projects."

Mr Howard Shaw, Executive Director of Singapore Environment Council said, "Through this partnership, SEC will be able to offer valuable insights to students into the rapidly evolving green technology and services industry, as well as management practices. The knowledge and experienced they gained through internship programmes will give them a competitive edge in the new green economy."

Mr Wong Kin Nyen, Deputy Director of Temasek Engineering School, said that the agreement would help students find jobs and give them extra knowledge about working in the area of clean energy. He said, "Each year, we produce 200 students with experience in the area of green energy and sustainability. By tying up with the industry, we can get the students' prototypes out into the marketplace."

The Engineering Project Show at the Temasek Convention Centre is open to the public. The last day of the show is on Saturday.

About Singapore Environment Council (SEC)

Established in 1995, the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) is an independently managed, non-government organisation that strives to nurture, facilitate and co-ordinate environmental causes in Singapore. SEC's work is founded on three pillars of action – firstly, partnership with the people, private and public sectors of Singaporean society, to nurture a culture aligned with sustainable development concepts. SEC also rewards environmental excellence through awards schemes and product endorsement programmes, such as the Singapore Green Labelling Scheme. Third, the Council, together with partners, develops and implements training and learning programmes to build competencies within companies, thus keeping our business leaders ahead of the curve.

For more information, please visit <http://www.sec.org.sg>

About Singapore Manufacturers' Federation (SMA)

Established since 1932, SMA's mission is to represent the interest of the Singapore manufacturing community and to drive its competitiveness and sustainable growth through serving industry-specific needs.

SMA is supported by 11 industry groups to serve diverse industry-specific needs, as well as five Centres of Excellence to offer a holistic approach towards improving competitiveness, upgrading skills and capitalizing on new technologies to grow market share. Current membership is more than 2,600 corporations ranging from MNCs to SMEs. SMA carries out a myriad of activities to enhance the competitive edge of our members.

For more information, please visit <http://www.smafederation.org.sg>.

About Temasek Polytechnic (TP)

Temasek Polytechnic (TP) is a significant contributor to the field of para-professional education in Singapore. TP currently offers 51 full-time diploma courses in the areas of applied science, business, design, engineering, humanities & social sciences and informatics & IT. It also offers over 40 part-time courses, up to the advanced diploma level. TP students undergo a holistic learning system that combines hands-on experience, relevant life skills and an enriching learning environment. Through this approach, we ensure that our graduates are economy relevant, future relevant and life relevant.

For more information, please visit www.tp.edu.sg.

About Temasek Polytechnic's Clean Energy Centre (CEC)

This centre deals with clean energy technology and applications such as fuel cell technology and applications, solid-state power electronics and energy efficiency and management. It has modern research facilities with state-of-the-art equipment for conducting applied and industry-relevant research & development in clean energy technology such as fuel cell technology, LED lighting, solar-hydrogen technology & applications and analogue switching power circuits.

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