

Media Release

Singapore, 28 November 2013

2013 Enterprise 50 Awards Productivity and innovation: value drivers and catalysts of growth

Singapore's 50 most enterprising privately-owned companies were unveiled at the 19th Enterprise 50 (E50) Awards presentation and gala dinner held at Resorts World Sentosa this evening.

The theme for this year's E50 Awards was 'Creating value to stay ahead'. It underscored the need for companies to reshape their business models and focus on value creation as a competitive advantage to stay ahead.

Coming in first on the 2013 E50 list was Soon Li Heng Civil Engineering Pte Ltd, an excavation specialist. Property developer Teambuild Land Pte Ltd was second in the list while Borden Company Pte Ltd, a home-grown pharmaceutical manufacturing company, was ranked third.

Acting Minister for Manpower, Mr **Tan Chuan Jin** graced the E50 gala dinner and presented the awards to the top 10 E50 companies for 2013. Companies in the 11th to 50th positions received their awards from Minister of State for Trade and Industry, Mr **Teo Ser Luck**, at a ceremony held earlier this morning.

Keeping the competitive edge

This year's entrants represented a good cross-section of Singapore's manufacturing, construction and services sectors. The judges were impressed with the performance of the enterprises despite challenging trade and industry conditions. Also noteworthy was the enterprises' focus on leveraging productivity to drive their growth strategy and boost economic competitiveness amidst a tight labour market.

Mr **Owi Kek Hean**, Deputy Managing Partner and Head of Enterprise Services at KPMG in Singapore said: "The entrants for this year's E50 Awards are enterprises in a league of their own, especially given the business and market challenges they have had to weather in recent years.

"The 50 enterprises that made the rankings turned in healthy numbers that were driven by intentional investments in productivity improvements that are aligned with a sustainable business model.

As a result, they have significantly raised performance and successfully positioned their company for business expansion, whether into new lines of business or to grow geographically."

Future-proofing the business

This year's E50 winners not only demonstrated strong business acumen, innovation and leadership, but also a track record in value creation and future-proofing their businesses.

Mr **Alvin Tay**, Editor of The Business Times, said: "The Business Times, KPMG and the other event partners would like to extend our heartiest congratulations to all the winners. The key theme this year was creating value to stay ahead, and this year's E50 winners have shown that they can stay resilient and effectively manage their strengths to build new strategic relationships and seek new markets to sustain their businesses."

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Participants this year were evaluated against a rigorous set of quantitative and qualitative criteria. Quantitative factors included financial performance indicators such as operating profit before tax, turnover and profit growth.

The qualitative criteria included management and marketing strategies such as the applicants' business model and their innovations, management ideals and governance, market branding and overall potential.

The judging panel comprised senior management representatives from KPMG in Singapore, The Business Times, the Infocomm Development Authority (IDA), International Enterprise (IE) Singapore, the Singapore Business Federation (SBF), SPRING Singapore and OCBC Bank, which is the sponsor of the E50 Awards.

Mr **Linus Goh**, Head, Global Commercial Banking, OCBC Bank, said: "OCBC Bank is delighted to return as the main sponsor of the Enterprise 50 Awards for the eighth year running. This year's winners showcase the best of our Singapore enterprises, adapting and innovating even under uncertain market conditions to build successful and sustainable international businesses. We congratulate each of these deserving winners and look forward to seeing them leverage this award platform for greater success."

Mr **Steve Leonard**, Executive Deputy Chairman, IDA, said, "Innovation and productivity remain as two critical ingredients for our Singapore companies to transform their businesses and stay ahead of competition. Moving towards becoming a Smart Nation, Singapore is unifying technology, policy and industry to create an enabling environment to accelerate innovation and increase productivity through information technology."

Said Mr **Teo Eng Cheong**, CEO of IE Singapore, "Internationalisation is a critical component that will help companies become bigger and more competitive. Our latest survey showed a 30 percent increase in SMEs with clear internationalisation strategies¹. To help companies do so effectively, IE Singapore will continue to support them with on-the-ground insights, market connections and strategic assistance."

Mr **Victor Tay**, Chief Operating Officer, Singapore Business Federation, said: "In tandem with the overall growth and performance of sectors in Singapore this year, we see majority of winners from the Engineering Services and Real Estate and Construction sectors. It is heartening to see this year's E50 winners displaying competitiveness and resilience despite facing domestic challenges such as rising business costs and manpower constraints. We hope these companies will serve as role models to spur the wider business community to restructure and transform towards quality-driven and productivity-led growth for long-term business sustainability."

Please see **Annex A** for a list of the E50 winners.
Please see **Annex B** for details about the top 10 E50 winners.

¹ The IE Internationalisation Survey 2012/13 showed a significant increase in SMEs that have clear priorities in internationalisation for the next 12 months, rising from 57% to 86%.



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Note to editors:

About the Enterprise 50 Awards

The Enterprise 50 Awards, which is in its 19th year, was launched in 1995 to identify, support, recognise and reward enterprising privately-owned, local companies across all sectors. Since then, it has become a definitive list of the 50 most enterprising, privately-held local companies in Singapore.

E50 Awards is jointly organised by The Business Times and KPMG in Singapore, and sponsored by OCBC Bank. Supporters of the awards include the Singapore Business Federation, the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore, International Enterprise Singapore and SPRING Singapore.

For more information, please visit www.enterprise50.org.

About The Business Times

The Business Times (BT), published by Singapore Press Holdings, is South-east Asia's leading business daily. It is Singapore's only financial daily and provides a complete guide on the local, regional and international business scene.

BT brings to its readers each day a comprehensive and concise package of corporate, financial, economic and political news, analysis and commentary. BT also carries features and the latest lifestyle trends in food, entertainment, shopping, arts, health, travel and design.

In June 1995, BT became the first English-language newspaper in Asia to go on the World Wide Web. Since January 2000, BT Online started to be available from 4am Singapore time (GMT +8 hrs) and to offer news updates throughout the day, from Mondays to Sundays.

Redesigned in September 2004 to engage a new generation of readers, a refreshing blue masthead, bigger fonts and friendlier layout were introduced. The content has been expanded to reflect a complete read, packing in loads of new features, such as specialty pages, a daily take on the health of the Singapore economy and dedicated regional pages.

For more information, visit www.businesstimes.com.sg

About KPMG in Singapore

KPMG in Singapore is part of a global network of professional services firms providing Audit, Tax and Advisory services. The independent member firms of the KPMG network operate in 156 countries and have more than 152,000 professionals worldwide.

Our professionals can help growing enterprises cut through the complexity in doing business across a broad range of business issues facing them in their growth, performance, governance, and compliance objectives. These include audit, tax, business planning, and advice on fundraising, acquisitions, process improvements, and risk management. For more information, visit kpmg.com.sg.

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About OCBC Bank

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's. It was ranked by Bloomberg Markets as the world's strongest bank in 2011 and 2012.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has a network of over 450 branches and representative offices in 15 countries and territories, including more than 330 branches and offices in Indonesia that are operated by its subsidiary, Bank OCBC NISP.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the largest insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia by assets. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia. Private banking services are provided by subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which continued to gain industry recognition in 2011 including being voted "Outstanding Private Bank in Asia Pacific" in 2013 by Private Banker International.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com.

About the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore

The mission of the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) is to develop information technology and telecommunications within Singapore with a view to serve citizens of all ages and companies of all sizes. IDA does this by actively supporting the growth of innovative technology companies and start-ups in Singapore, working with leading global IT companies as well as developing excellent information technology and telecommunications infrastructure, policies and capabilities for Singapore. For more news and information, visit www.ida.gov.sg.

About International Enterprise Singapore

International Enterprise (IE) Singapore is the government agency driving Singapore's external economy. For the past 30 years, we have been spearheading the overseas growth of Singapore-based companies and promoting international trade. Our vision is a thriving business hub in Singapore with globally competitive companies and leading international traders.

IE Singapore attracts global commodities traders to establish their global or Asian home base in Singapore. Today, Singapore is a thriving trading hub with a complete ecosystem for the energy, agri-commodities and metals & minerals trading clusters.

Through our Global Company Partnership and Market Readiness Assistance, we also work with Singapore-based companies in their various stages of growth towards being globally competitive.

Our global network of overseas centres in over 35 locations provides the necessary connections in many developed and emerging markets.

Visit www.iesingapore.com for more information.

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About SPRING Singapore

SPRING Singapore is an agency under the Ministry of Trade and Industry responsible for helping Singapore enterprises grow and building trust in Singapore products and services. As the enterprise development agency, SPRING works with partners to help enterprises in financing, capability and management development, technology and innovation, and access to markets. As the national standards and accreditation body, SPRING develops and promotes an internationally-recognised standards and quality assurance infrastructure. SPRING also oversees the safety of general consumer goods in Singapore.

Please visit www.spring.gov.sg for more information and news about SPRING Singapore.

About Singapore Business Federation (新加坡工商联合总会)

As the apex business chamber, the Singapore Business Federation (SBF) champions the interests of the business community in Singapore, in trade, investment and industrial relations. Nationally, SBF acts as the bridge between the government and businesses in Singapore to create a conducive business environment. Internationally, SBF represents the business community in bilateral, regional and multilateral for the purpose of trade expansion and business networking.

For more information, please visit www.sbf.org.sg

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Annex A: E50 winners 2013

Rank	Name of company	Rank	Name of company
1	Soon Li Heng Civil Engineering Pte Ltd	26	Linnhoff Technologies Pte Ltd
2	Teambuild Land Pte Ltd	27	Wong Fong Engineering Works (1988) Pte Ltd
3	Borden Company (Pte) Ltd	28	Dynasty Travel International Pte Ltd
4	Wee Tiong (S) Pte Ltd	29	Huatong (Asia) Pte Ltd
5	DLE M&E Pte Ltd	30	Stone Apple Solutions Pte Ltd
6	Star Controls Engineering Co Pte Ltd	31	Mercantile Pacific Asia Pte Ltd
7	Jay Gee Enterprises (Pte) Ltd	32	Zero Spot Laundry Service Pte Ltd
8	Excel Precast Pte Ltd	33	Earth Arts Pte Ltd
9	Seiko Architectural Wall Systems Pte Ltd	34	Victor Enterprises Pte Ltd
10	Falcon Incorporation Pte Ltd	35	Fagerdala Singapore Pte Ltd
11	S M C Food 21 Pte Ltd	36	Wiselink Technology Pte Ltd
12	Deluge Fire Protection (S.E.A.) Pte Ltd	37	Rigel Technology (S) Pte Ltd
13	SLP International Property Consultants Pte Ltd	38	Powerpac International Pte Ltd
14	Sunhuan Construction Pte Ltd	39	Pollisum Engineering (Pte) Ltd
15	Absolute Kinetics Consultancy Pte Ltd	40	Indoguna (Singapore) Pte Ltd
16	O.E. Manufacturing Pte Ltd	41	Bunkers Marine Pte Ltd
17	Mooreast Asia Pte Ltd	42	BLPL Singapore Pte Ltd
18	JCS-Echigo Pte Ltd	43	OrangeTee.com Pte Ltd
19	AllAlloy Pte Ltd	44	ITCAN Pte Ltd
20	Ensure Engineering Pte Ltd	45	P-One (S) Pte Ltd
21	Krislite Pte Ltd	46	CAD-IT Consultants (Asia) Pte Ltd
22	Vigcon Construction Pte Ltd	47	Comfort Design Pte Ltd
23	Feng Ming Construction Pte Ltd	48	Supreme Components International Pte Ltd
24	Rotating Offshore Solutions Pte Ltd	49	V8 Environmental Pte Ltd
25	Omni United (S) Pte Ltd	50	SOONSteel International Pte Ltd

Annex B: About the Top 10 E50 Awards winners

1. Soon Li Heng Civil Engineering

Soon Li Heng Civil Engineering started its operations in the 1980s and was incorporated in 1994. The firm provides civil engineering and demolition services. It specialises in generalised earthwork and deep basement excavation projects, and also engages in construction-related activities such as the provision of transportation services for the removal of soil and equipment leasing.

2. Teambuild Land Group

Teambuild Land Group was set up in August 2008 and its primary interests are in property development, with a focus on residential projects. It has two complimentary business units – Spazio Construction and Spazio Concepts. Spazio Construction undertakes the construction jobs in the Group's development projects while Spazio Concepts supplies and installs interior finishing products for property developers and builders.

3. Borden Company (Pte) Ltd

Borden Company is a Singapore home-grown pharmaceutical manufacturing company. Incepted in 1960, Borden is best known for its Eagle Brand Medicated Oil which is sold and exported to more than 20 countries globally. Other products by Borden include balms, muscle rub, capsicum plaster, alcohol swipe, disinfectant spray, and inhaler & eucalyptus oil.

4. Wee Tiong (S) Pte Ltd

Wee Tiong (S) Pte Ltd, incorporated in 1993, started as an importer and wholesaler of rice and sugar. Today, it is a leading physical commodities trading company. Its product portfolio includes commodities like groundnuts and wheat flour. The company's main markets are Indonesia, Singapore, Korea, Malaysia, East Timor and Philippines.

5. DLE M&E Pte Ltd

DLE M&E Pte Ltd is a mechanical & electrical contracting firm for commercial, residential, industrial and healthcare projects. The company's services range from design and development to installation, coordination, execution, commissioning, handover and maintenance. It is registered with the Building & Construction Authority under the highest grading for both integrated building services engineering and electrical engineering workheads.

6. Star Controls Engineering Co Pte Ltd

Star Controls Engineering Co Pte Ltd was incepted in 1996 and is headquartered in Shanghai. It represents leading manufacturers of engineering products and solutions such as valves, instrumentation and related equipment for the oil & gas, petrochemical, chemical power and related industries in China.

7. Jay Gee Enterprises (Pte) Ltd

Jay Gee Enterprises (Pte) Ltd is in the fashion retail business and represents some of the finest international labels in the world of fashion and lifestyle. Some of its retail brands include Levi's, Denizen, Dockers, TM Lewin, New Look, Holland & Barrett, Aigner, Aldo, Aeropostale, Giuseppe Zanotti, Adidas Kids, Carters, Levis Kids, Nike Kids, Osh Kosh B'Gosh, Celio, Ashworth & Watches of Switzerland. The Group is headquartered in Singapore and has built its presence across Southeast Asia through several strategic ventures and associates.

8. Excel Precast Pte Ltd

Excel Precast Pte Ltd was incorporated in March 1999 as a 100% subsidiary of Santarli Construction Pte Ltd. The company undertakes precast concrete design and manufacturing to cater to the local construction market. It operates two factories, one in Singapore and the other in Johor, Malaysia.

9. Seiko Architectural Wall Systems Pte Ltd

The company, originally known as Seiko Glass Pte Ltd, was established in 1978 to provide services in the supply and installation of glass to the building industry. In 2002 it was renamed Seiko Architectural Wall Systems Pte Ltd to better reflect its services as an external façade specialist.

10. Falcon Incorporation Pte Ltd

Falcon Incorporation (Falcon) was established in 2002. It is a premier interior fit-out specialist and an integrated customised and contract furniture manufacturer catering to mid- to high-end market. Besides contract furniture, Falcon produces and exports a full range of home furniture to Europe, the Middle East, USA and Asia Pacific.