

Media Release

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Striking Gold in Entrepreneurship: 18 business leaders named The Entrepreneur of the Year 2018

Singapore, 10 October 2018 – 18 local entrepreneurs were announced as Winners of The Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA) 2018 at the Award Certificate Ceremony today. Of which, 11 entrepreneurs were Winners of the Established Entrepreneur category and 7 entrepreneurs were Winners of the New Entrepreneur category.

The EYA is one of Singapore's most established business accolades showcasing entrepreneurs on a platform of national scale. The EYA is currently in its 30th year of honouring and celebrating the achievements of local entrepreneurs. With the theme "Striking Gold", EYA 2018 identifies enterprising business leaders who possess the definitive qualities of a goldsmith – commitment, perseverance, creativity and keen vision, to grow and develop further in their respective entrepreneurial journeys.

Mr Thomas Fernandez, Co-Chairman of the EYA 2018 Organising Committee, Association of Small & Medium Enterprises (ASME) said, "The entrepreneurship journey is always filled with highs and lows. Those who have gone through or are going through this arduous journey will tell you much energy has been sapped along the way. A salient qualifier of an entrepreneur is that he or she must embrace challenges, learning as he or she prods along."

Mr Alan Tan, Co-Chairman of the EYA 2018 Organising Committee, Rotary Club of Singapore, said, "The winners who are here today do not just have ideas, as ideas alone are not good enough. They worked very hard to turn their ideas into reality, creating jobs and wealth. They are resilient and possess the tenacious ability to bounce back in the face of setbacks and failures."

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OCBC is the main sponsor of the EYA for the 17th year running, affirming its commitment to celebrate and honour outstanding entrepreneurship.

Mr Linus Goh, Head, Global Commercial Banking, OCBC Bank, said, “It is an honour for us to be returning as the main sponsor of the Entrepreneur of the Year Award for the 17th consecutive year. Running a successful business takes a visionary – someone who sees opportunity in change, and has the tenacity and innovative spirit to take on the different challenges of today. This year’s winners, like the ones before them, embody these traits. In addition, they have been quick to embrace technology which will stand them in good stead in the years to come. We would like to congratulate them and look forward to providing them with the support that they need to grow their businesses in Singapore and beyond.”

The Overall Winners for the Established Entrepreneur and New Entrepreneur categories, as well as the Winners for the EYA Sub-Category Awards will be announced at the EYA 2018 Award Presentation Ceremony on 22 November 2018.

- END -

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THE ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD 2018

Winners of the Established Entrepreneur Category

S/N	NAME OF COMPANY	NAME OF ENTREPRENEUR	DESIGNATION
1	DIAN XIAO ER	SAMUEL YIK KUEN KOON	MANAGING DIRECTOR
		ELIZA GUNAWAN RUAN YI	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
2	DR STEVEN ANG AESTHETIC & FAMILY CLINIC	DR. STEVEN ANG	DIRECTOR
3	MARUNDA UTAMA ENGINEERING PTE LTD	RACHEL WONG MAI KIM	MANAGING DIRECTOR
4	PBA INTERNATIONAL PTE LTD	DERRICK YAP KHIAM WEE	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
5	REAL YOGA PTE LTD	SAUMIK BERA	CEO & DIRECTOR
6	RIVERWOOD PTE LTD	SYAFIQ YUSSOFF	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
7	TOPZONE E&C PTE LTD	TAN POO SENG	MANAGING DIRECTOR
8	VROBAL ENERGY & RESOURCES PTE LTD	RYAN SUMESH	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
9	YITAC (S) PTE LTD	BEH LIAN CHAI	MANAGING DIRECTOR
		KELVIN CHAY	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD 2018

Winners of the New Entrepreneur Category

S/N	NAME OF COMPANY	NAME OF ENTREPRENEUR	DESIGNATION
1	EATZ GROUP PTE LTD	NOVIE DJAYAYANTI TJOA	MANAGING DIRECTOR
2	GABKOTECH INNOVATIONS PTE LTD	AARON LEE WAI LOONG	MANAGING DIRECTOR
3	INFOCORP TECHNOLOGIES PTE LTD	LAI KIAN MING, ROY	FOUNDER & CEO
4	OLD VILLAGE PUER PTE LTD	CHRISTOPHER CHAU TUNG LU	DIRECTOR, TEA MASTER
5	SKYFY TECHNOLOGY PTE LTD	NG KIM WAH	CEO
6	TOP INTERNATIONAL HOLDING PTE LTD	DATO' VICTOR TAN JENN CHYEN	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
7	WHITE BEEHOON RESTAURANT PTE LTD	TAY YOUXIAN VICTOR	MANAGING DIRECTOR

ABOUT THE AWARD

THE ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

A ROTARY SINGAPORE-ASME AWARD

Inaugurated in 1989 by the Rotary Club of Singapore, The Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA) is the most established Award in Singapore that honours local Entrepreneurs who have shown outstanding performance as business owners, be they emerging or established enterprises, in their respective industry fields.

Upholding the prestige of the Award, the EYA prides itself for the high qualifying criteria, rigorous rounds of site visits and stringent judging processes.

Enterprise Singapore is the supporting organisation of the EYA.

Celebrating its 30th year, The Entrepreneur of the Year Award continues to build upon its legacy as one of Singapore's most established business accolades where Top Entrepreneurs are showcased annually on a platform of national scale. The EYA is also an excellent opportunity to embark on a fulfilling and rewarding Award Journey that spurs business owners and aspiring Entrepreneurs to aim higher and achieve greater victories in the business arena.

Vision

The Award that recognises and inspires entrepreneurship in the local SME community.

Mission

To maintain the highest standards in the process of uncovering successful Entrepreneurs through stringent judging criteria and creating an Award Journey for all participants.

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ABOUT THE AWARD: QUALIFYING CRITERIA

NEW ENTREPRENEUR CATEGORY

The New Entrepreneur category aims to recognise fledging Entrepreneurs who demonstrate keen business acumen, innovation & creativity in differentiating their new businesses from the market.

The Entrepreneur must:

(A) The Participant:

- I. Has been operating the business for a period of more than 2 years but less than 7 years
- II. Is a Singaporean or Permanent Residents above the age of 18
- III. Owns at least 30% of the Company's shares (Endorsement from the Board of Directors is required for candidates with less than 30% ownership)

(B) The Participant's Company:

- I. Has at least 30% local equity
- II. Must not be a listed company nor a subsidiary of a listed company
- III. Has at least 3 years of financial statements, which must be submitted for evaluation (Companies that have been operating the business for less than 3 years may submit 2 years of financial statements.)

ESTABLISHED ENTREPRENEUR CATEGORY

The Established Entrepreneur category aims to uncover veteran businessmen who possess the tenacity and resourcefulness that brought their enterprises to success, while embracing innovation and keeping with the changing landscape and maintaining a strong foothold in the business arena.

The Entrepreneur must:

(A) The Participant:

- I. Has been operating the business for a period of 7 years and above
- II. Is a Singaporean or Permanent Residents above the age of 21
- III. Owns at least 30% of the Company's shares (Endorsement from the Board of Directors is required for candidates with less than 30% ownership)

(B) The Participant's Company:

- I. Has at least 30% local equity
- II. Must not be a listed company nor a subsidiary of a listed company.
- III. Has at least 3 years of financial statements, which must be submitted for evaluation.

ABOUT THE AWARD CO-ORGANISERS

ASSOCIATION OF SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (ASME)

The Association of Small & Medium Enterprises (ASME) is a not-for-profit organisation established in 1986 for entrepreneurs, by entrepreneurs. With wide-ranging services and programmes, ASME strives to equip member SMEs with the business knowledge and market opportunities to help them grow their businesses.

ASME, as the champion of a pro-enterprise Singapore, bridges the public and the private sectors to promote a more conducive business environment which facilitates the start-up, growth and development of a larger pool of SMEs. The two ASME flagship awards - The Entrepreneur of the Year Award and Singapore Prestige Brand Award are in recognition of SMEs' successes.

ASME will continue to roll out new SME-relevant programmes to enhance its position as THE business association For Entrepreneurs, By Entrepreneurs.

www.asme.org.sg

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ABOUT THE AWARD CO-ORGANISERS

ROTARY CLUB OF SINGAPORE

The Rotary Club of Singapore was incorporated on 6 June 1930 and will be celebrating its 88th charter anniversary this year. The object of Rotary is to promote international peace, goodwill and understanding by fostering the ideals of service and ethics as a worthy enterprise.

Recognising the importance of an accepting and conscientious society for economic progress, the Rotary Club has embarked on many national projects, having founded more than five institutions and associations dedicated to the welfare of the underprivileged and communities in need around Singapore.

Its vision of altruism and philanthropy has also driven the Rotary Club to perform diverse services of charity for a holistic range of social groups. This includes sponsoring youth leadership programmes, running computer literacy programmes for adults, and providing guidance and shelter to prison inmates.

Across national borders, the Club regularly launches international welfare missions to render assistance to less developed countries and sends healthcare personnel to support residents living there.

In 1989, the Rotary Club established the annual prestigious Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA). Jointly organised with the Association of Small & Medium Enterprises, the EYA acknowledges the accomplishments of local Entrepreneurs who epitomise the true meaning of entrepreneurship. In line with its inclusive and holistic vision, the Rotary Club initiated the Rotary Youth Social Entrepreneurship Challenge for aspiring young social Entrepreneurs in Singapore in 2009.

Dedicated to the principles of Rotary embedded in its motto, “**Service Above Self**”, the Rotary Club of Singapore continues to be an active great-grandfather club in promoting international peace, goodwill and understanding throughout Singapore.

www.rotary.org.sg

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ABOUT THE AWARD MAIN SPONSOR

OCBC

OCBC Bank, Singapore's longest established local bank, is the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets. With a network of over 600 branches and representative offices in 18 countries and regions, it is one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's.

It is consistently ranked among the World's Top 50 Safest Banks by Global Finance and has been named Best Managed Bank in Singapore and the Asia Pacific by The Asian Banker.

OCBC has been supporting SMEs in key markets of Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Greater China and Myanmar. Our industry expertise, strong regional network and innovative banking solutions have helped customers achieve their ambitions across the business life cycle.

Our successful partnerships with SMEs have earned us industry recognition with the following Awards:

- Best Small Business Bank by the Asian Banker, 2018
- Myanmar's Best International Bank by Asiamoney, 2018
- Asia's Best Bank for SMEs by Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2016 – 2017
- Best Bank for SMEs in Singapore by Asiamoney 2017
- ASEAN SME Bank of the Year by the Asia Banking & Finance, 2011 – 2017
- Best SME Bank in Southeast Asia by Alpha Southeast Asia, 2013 – 2017
- Best SME Bank in Singapore by Alpha Southeast Asia 2010, 2012 – 2017

As a main sponsor of the Entrepreneur of the Year Award for the 17th consecutive year, we remain committed to helping Entrepreneurs and SMEs succeed locally and internationally.