



## Media Release

### 17 business leaders named The Entrepreneur of the Year 2022

**Singapore, 20 October 2022** – 17 local entrepreneurs were announced as Winners of The Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA) 2020/21 at the Award Certificate Ceremony today. Of these, 8 entrepreneurs were Winners of the Established Entrepreneur category and 9 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 32<sup>nd</sup> year of honouring and celebrating the achievements of local entrepreneurs. With the theme “Strength, Courage, and Leadership”, EYA 2022 identifies enterprising business leaders who challenge the norm, overcoming restrictions in the business landscape to achieve ground-breaking business goals. This requires entrepreneurs to possess ambition, foresight, and adaptability to embrace change and viable opportunities.

Mr. Thomas Fernandez, Co-Chairman of the EYA 2022 Organising Committee, Association of Small & Medium Enterprises (ASME) said, “It takes a good leader to grow in good times, a great leader to weather the bad, but it takes a strong and courageous leader to take their business into an uncertain future and rise to new heights. Like the lion from the EYA 2022 theme, this year’s winners have shown their strength, courage, and leadership amidst the changing business landscape. And like the king of the jungle, these entrepreneurs have fought through the challenges, and they are now one of the winners for this year’s EYA.”

Mr. Alan Tan, Co-Chairman of the EYA 2022 Organising Committee, Rotary Club of Singapore, said, “The latest cohort of EYA winners comprises entrepreneurs who have shown themselves to be both resilient and resourceful, and very determined to distinguish themselves in their chosen fields. They worked hard, extremely hard, to bring their ideas to fruition, continually adapting, sometimes innovating, and most times challenging the status quo.”

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OCBC is the main sponsor of the EYA for the 19<sup>th</sup> year running, affirming its commitment to celebrating and honouring outstanding entrepreneurship.

Mr Tan Chor Sen, Head, International, Global Commercial Banking, OCBC Bank, said, "The very best entrepreneurs are not content with repetition. They grow through innovation, and with today's pace of change, they are looking to disrupt rather than run the risk of being disrupted. Sustainability is also a growing focus for them as they are aware of the impact that their businesses have on the community at large. To me, these are the elements of a boundary-breaking entrepreneur and this year's winners are leaders in this regard. A hearty congratulations to them!"

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 2022 Award Presentation Ceremony on 8 December 2022.

- END -

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## THE ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD 2022

### Winners of the Established Entrepreneur Category

S/N	NAME OF COMPANY	NAME OF ENTREPRENEUR	DESIGNATION
1	DICKSON GROUP PTE LTD	KIM WAH BOON, DICKSON	FOUNDER & GROUP CEO
2	DN HYBRID PTE LTD	DESMOND TO	DIRECTOR
		NELSON HAM	DIRECTOR
3	HAKO TECHNOLOGY PTE LTD	GERRY ENG	CEO & CO-FOUNDER
		YUSHO LIU	CTO & CO-FOUNDER
4	HOCK TONG BEE PTE LTD	CLINTON ANG	MANAGING DIRECTOR
5	INEX INNOVATE PTE LTD	A/PROF. MAHESH CHOO LANI	FOUNDER & CHIEF SCIENTIFIC OFFICER
6	NEW LIFE GLOBAL PTE LTD	LYNN ZHANG	DIRECTOR
7	PC DREAMS PTE LTD	TAN CHING HWEI	MANAGING DIRECTOR
8	VICTOR YEAP	YEAP MEDICAL SUPPLIES	MANAGING DIRECTOR

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## THE ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD 2022

### Winners of the New Entrepreneur Category

S/N	NAME OF COMPANY	NAME OF ENTREPRENEUR	DESIGNATION
1	1728 DENTAL PRACTICE	DR AARON TAN	GROUP PRINCIPAL DENTIST
		MS KAREEN KAN	GROUP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
2	ABBA OL2 PTE LTD	MDM LI LIN	MANAGING DIRECTOR
3	DECLARATORS PTE LTD	MR JAVIER YIP	MANAGING DIRECTOR
4	EMBRACE FUNERAL SERVICES PTE LTD	MR JEFFREY LEE	MANAGING DIRECTOR
5	FINNEX PTE LTD	MR CHIA KOK WEI	DIRECTOR
6	JNR ENTERTAINMENT PTE LTD	MR ROBIN GOH	MANAGING DIRECTOR
7	LA PARFUMERIE PTE LTD	MR JASON LEE	CEO
8	OTSAW DIGITAL PTE LTD	MR LING TING MING	CEO
9	W CAPITAL MARKETS PTE LTD	MR WAYNE LEE	CEO

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## ABOUT THE AWARD

### THE ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

#### A ROTARY SINGAPORE-ASME AWARD

The Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA) is the oldest award in Singapore that honours local entrepreneurs who have shown outstanding performance as business owners, be they emerging or established enterprises, in their respective fields. Now in its 32<sup>nd</sup> year, the EYA is jointly organised by the Association of Small & Medium Enterprises (ASME) and the Rotary Club of Singapore. The Award prides itself for the high qualifying criteria, rigorous rounds of site visits, and stringent judging process.

The EYA continues to build upon its legacy as one of Singapore's most established business accolades where top entrepreneurs are showcased on a platform of national scale. It 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 success 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 a meaningful 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 and creativity in differentiating their new businesses in the market.

#### Qualifying Criteria:

##### (A) The Participant:

- I. Has been operating the business for a period of more than 2 years but less than 7 years
- II. Owns at least 30% of the Company's shares. Candidates who possess less than 30% ownership must submit an endorsement letter from the Company's Board of Directors.
- III. Is a Singaporean or Permanent Resident above the age of 18

##### (B) The Participant's Company:

- I. Has at least 30% local equity
- II. Is not a listed company or 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 in operation for less than 3 years may submit 2 years of financial statements.

### ESTABLISHED ENTREPRENEUR CATEGORY

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

#### Qualifying Criteria:

##### (A) The Participant:

- i. Has been operating the business for more than 7 years
- ii. Owns at least 30% of the Company's shares. Candidates who possess less than 30% ownership must submit an endorsement letter from the Company's Board of Directors.
- iii. Is a Singaporean or Permanent Resident above the age of 21

##### (B) The Participant's Company:

- i. Has at least 30% local equity
- ii. Is not a listed company or a subsidiary of a listed company
- iii. Has at least 3 years of financial statements, which must be submitted for evaluation

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

[www.asme.org.sg](http://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 92<sup>nd</sup> 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 The 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 club in promoting international peace, goodwill and understanding throughout Singapore.

[www.rotary.org.sg](http://www.rotary.org.sg)

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## ABOUT THE AWARD MAIN SPONSOR

### OCBC

OCBC Bank, Singapore's longest established bank, is the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets. With a network of over 420 branches and representative offices in 19 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 like Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. Our industry expertise, strong regional network and innovative banking solutions have helped businesses achieve their ambitions across the business life cycle.

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

- Best SME Bank in Asia-Pacific in Global Finance SME Banking Awards 2023
- SME Banking Market Leader in Euromoney Market Leaders 2022
- Best Bank for SMEs in Singapore and Indonesia in Asiamoney Best Bank Awards 2022
- Best SME Bank in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Southeast Asia in Alpha Southeast Asia Best FI Awards 2022
- ASEAN SME Bank of the Year in Asian Banking and Finance Retail Banking Awards 2022
- Best Transactional Online Banking Platform Southeast Asia in Alpha Southeast Asia Best FI Awards 2022
- Best Digital Trade Finance Platform "OCBC Velocity" in The Asian Banker Transaction Finance Awards - Frictionless Transaction Awards, Asia Pacific 2022
- Best Trade Finance Bank in Singapore in The Asian Banker Transaction Finance Awards 2022

As a main sponsor of the Entrepreneur of the Year Award for the 19th consecutive year, we remain committed to helping entrepreneurs and SMEs to succeed locally and internationally.

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