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**Speech by Prof S.K. Chou, President, The Institution of Engineers,  
Singapore, at Launch of the Mechanical & Electrical (M&E) Resident  
Engineers (RE) and Resident Technical Officers (RTO) Registry on Friday,  
14 March 2014 at 7pm at IES Auditorium**

- Dr John Keung, CEO, Building & Construction Authority (BCA),
- Engineer Koh Boon Liang, President of Association of Consulting Engineers Singapore (ACES),
- Dr. Ting Seng Kiong, President Society of Project Managers (SPM)
- Mr Theodore Chan, President Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)

Fellow Engineers, Resident Engineers and Resident Technical Officers,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening. On behalf of IES, I would like to extend the warmest of greetings to all of you for attending tonight's event.

From skyscrapers in the CBD, to world-famous structures such as the Marina Bay Sands and the myriad of highways and bridges, Singapore is constantly pushing the boundaries of design and technology not only to supply the best infrastructure but also to embody the best practices on

safety. Our beautiful, state-of-the-art built environment would certainly not have been realised without the support of Mechanical & Electrical (M&E) Resident Engineers (RE) and Resident Technical Officers (RTO), like many of you present tonight. You are the ones who play extremely important roles in ensuring the application of correct materials and workmanship of construction projects by providing on-site supervision.

As Singapore strives towards achieving BCA's target of 80% of green buildings by 2030, the role of M&E REs and RTOs will be even more significant. The onus is on you to see to the implementation of energy-saving mechanical and electrical amenities, and meet stringent quality control in the construction process.

In light of these developments, it is imperative that M&E REs and RTOs are professionally competent to maintain safety and quality standards. To this end, IES, together with ACES, is pleased to announce the launch of the Mechanical & Electrical Resident Engineers and Resident Technical Officers Registry. On the one hand, this registry serves to recognise M&E REs and RTOs who possess the necessary professional competence, skills and knowledge; and on the other, it will help employers ensure

that their building projects across Singapore are completed according to the highest safety standards and quality.

This is the second of such registries to be launched by IES and ACES. Back in 2009, we jointly introduced the Civil and Structural (C&S) REs and RTOs Registry, as it was a statutory requirement under the Building Control Act for C&S REs and RTOs to be accredited. To-date, we have registered about 5,000 C&S REs and RTOs, demonstrating the industry's aspiration to push the standards of building projects to greater heights. Although there is no mandate for M&E REs and RTOs to be registered at this point in time, we believe that it is important for IES to initiate such a registry, for the benefit of the advancement of building and construction industry and for individual engineering professionals.

With its rigorous entry requirements, the M&E registry will serve as a competency benchmark for employers and Professional Engineers looking to hire qualified REs and RTOs. Our aim is also to provide a platform for M&E REs and RTOs to acquire new knowledge, share experience, voice their challenges or concerns and network with like-minded people. IES and ACES will be jointly organising regular continued

professional development courses conducted by senior engineers for Registered M&E REs and RTOs and help them brush up their knowledge and technical skills.

At this point, I would like to encourage all M&E REs and RTOs to come forward and get yourselves accredited. As registered REs and RTOs, you will receive recognition for your professional competence, skills and knowledge.

We are honoured, to have Dr John Keung, CEO of the BCA, with us tonight as we celebrate this important milestone in the built industry. I would also like to thank Engineer Koh and the ACES team for your partnership and support as we work together to drive high standards in the industry and help raise the productivity of the industry to the next level.

My appreciation also goes to the IES organising committee and IES Secretariat for your hard work in the launch of the registry.

I wish you a wonderful evening ahead. Thank you.