

The Institution of Engineers, Singapore

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22 January 2021

**STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 22 JANUARY 2021, 11:15AM**

# Media Release

## **New Certification Scheme to Recognise Engineering Technologists and Technicians**

*Opens up skills-based, non-academic pathway for career progression in engineering*

As part of its efforts to uplift professional recognition of engineering technicians and technologists, The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES) today unveiled the Chartered Engineering Technologist (CETg) and Technician (CETn) Certification Scheme and recognised the first batch of Chartered Technologists and Technicians under the scheme. Ms. Gan Siow Huang, Minister of State, Ministry of Education & Ministry of Manpower, graced the launch event held at the Singapore Polytechnic Auditorium as the guest-of-honour.

The scheme will open up an unprecedented non-academic route for engineering technicians and technologists to move towards the Chartered Engineer status based on their technical skills and competences and work experience. This evolves from the National Engineering Career Progression Pathway for Technologist and Technician launched in July 2019.

Besides enhancing career opportunities for technicians and technologists, the scheme will also build a pool of engineering professionals with complementary skillsets to contribute to the growth of Singapore's industry sectors. It is a step towards IES' vision to forge an inclusive engineering community to support Singapore's increasingly innovation-driven economic growth. It has also been developed in alignment with the SkillsFuture Skills Framework to boost skills and mastery-based career development and foster a culture of lifelong learning.



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The event saw the recognition of 84 Chartered Technologists and 46 Chartered Technicians from the Built Environment, Land Transport and Water & Environment sectors, as the pioneer batch of recipients under the scheme. Many of the qualified Chartered Technologists will also be appointed as the first batch of Independent Assessors for Chartered Technician.

The official installation of members to the Chartered Engineering Technologist and Technician Accreditation Board (CETTAB) also took place at the event. CETTAB, a multi-organisational body set up to operationalise the scheme, will serve in the areas of registration, accreditation and quality assurance of the scheme.

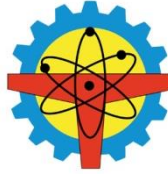
At the event, IES also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Singapore Bus Academy (SGBA) to recognise their on-going collaboration in setting standards and quality assurance in the assessment of technicians and technologists under the Land Transport – Automotive (Bus) sector.

The recipients of Chartered Technician Land Transport – Automotive (Bus) are also holders of Certification for Technical Specialist (CTS), Level 2, issued by SGBA to candidates who meet the pre-requisite of at least three years of work experience in the automotive industry and have also successfully gone through practical and theoretical assessments.

“As the national society of engineers in Singapore, IES has always strived to raise the status and profile of the engineering profession. This scheme brings us a step closer to our vision of building an inclusive engineering community, where all practitioners have the opportunity to learn, earn professional recognition and contribute to their organisations and industries, regardless of their level of academic qualifications,” said Dr. Richard Kwok, President of IES.

The scheme is the fruit of development by more than 40 partners from the public sector, private sector, government agencies, associations and Institutes of Higher Learning. It follows the MoU signing for the National Engineering Career Progression Pathway for Technologists and Technicians and set up of a Pro-tem Committee in July 2019.

“With the support of several sector-based Work Groups, we have set up a rigorous competency-based framework, clear assessment criteria and a proficient accreditation board. Our aim is to recognise the technical competency level of Chartered Engineering Technicians and Technologists nationally and internationally. We urge all technicians and technologists to come forth to be chartered. It will open up new possibilities for their



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career and enable them to make even greater contributions to our society,” said Er. Tan Seng Chuan, Chairman of CETTAB.

For more information on the scheme and CETTAB, please visit [www.CETTAB.com.sg](http://www.CETTAB.com.sg).

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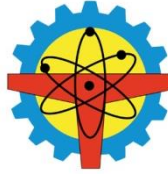
### Notes to Media:

#### i. Annexes

- Annex 1 – Launch Programme
- Annex 2 – Organisations that contributed to the development of the chartership framework and MoU partners
- Annex 3 – CETTAB Board Members
- Annex 4 – Frequently Asked Questions

#### ii. Chinese Glossary

Terms in English	Terms in Chinese
The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES)	新加坡工程师学会
National Engineering Career Progression Pathway for Technician and Technologist	全国技师与技术专家职业进展途径
Chartered Engineering Technologist and Technician Accreditation Board	特许工程技术专家与技师认可委员会
Chartered Technologist	特许工程技术专家
Chartered Technician	特许工程技师
Chartered Engineer	特许工程师
Dr. Richard Kwok, IES President	郭威安博士, 新加坡工程师学会会长
Er. Tan Seng Chuan, CETTAB Chairman	陈成川, 特许工程技术专家与技师认可委员会主席
Singapore Bus Academy	新加坡巴士学院



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### **About The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES)**

The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES) was formally established in July 1966 as the national society of engineers in Singapore. IES is the premier engineering institution in Singapore and is called upon by the Government to provide feedback on professional engineering matters.

IES is well represented among the faculty members of the major engineering institutions of higher learning in Singapore. Through close collaboration with the local universities and polytechnics, IES organises courses, seminars and talks for engineers and IES members to advance the continuous development of engineers.

The Institution maintains close links with professional organisations of engineers regionally and throughout the world. These include organisations in Australia, China, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States. The Institution also represents Singapore in the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (AFEO) and the Federation of Engineering Institutions of Asia and the Pacific (FEIAP) in promoting goodwill and fellowship among all engineers in ASEAN and the Asia-Pacific region.

Through its Engineering Accreditation Board (EAB), IES obtained full signatory status in the Washington Accord (WA) in June 2006. The entry grants IES the authority to represent Singapore, the first country within the ASEAN region which has obtained full signatory status in the WA, to vet education systems under the WA mutual recognition framework.

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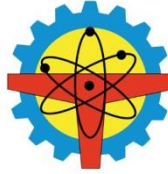
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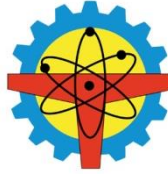
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## Annex 1

### Programme for the Launch of Chartered Engineering Technologist and Technician

Friday 22 January 2021 @ Auditorium, Singapore Polytechnic

Time	Programme
09:00am	Registration
09:45am	Guests to be seated
09:50am	Arrival of Guest of Honour – Ms Gan Siow Huang, Minister of State for Ministry of Education and Ministry of Manpower
10:00am	Opening Address by CETTAB Chairman Er. Tan Seng Chuan
10:10am	Welcome Address by IES President Dr. Richard Kwok
10:20am	Keynote Address by Guest of Honour – MOS Ms Gan Siow Huang
10:35am	Official Launch by Guest of Honour and video screening of presentation of certificates to Chartered Technicians and Chartered Technologists that took place on 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
10:45am	Appointment of CETTAB members
11:00am	MoU Signing Ceremony between IES and Singapore Bus Academy
11:10am	Video: Testimonials from Technicians / Technologists
11:15pm	<p>Panel Discussion:  <i>The Potentials and Opportunities of Chartered Engineering Technologist and Technician in Meeting the Needs of Singapore Industry Transformation.</i></p> <p><b>Panel Moderator:</b>            Mr. Lew Yii Der, Member, CETTAB</p> <p><b>Panellists:</b>            Mr. Suresh Natarajan, Principal, ITE College Central            Mr. Melvin Yong, Assistant Secretary-General, NTUC            Dr. Michael Fung, Deputy Chief Executive (Industry); Chief Human Resource Officer &amp; Chief Data Officer, SkillsFuture            Er. Tan Seng Chuan, Chairman, CETTAB            Mr. Clifford Keong, Director, SMRT Trains HRBP</p>
12:00pm	End of Programme



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## **Annex 2**

### **List of organisations that contributed to the development of the chartership framework and MoU Partners**

1	Association of Aerospace Industries (Singapore)	22	Singapore Manufacturing Federation*
2	Bombardier Aerospace Services	23	Singapore Polytechnic*
3	Building and Construction Authority*	24	Singapore University of Social Sciences*
4	Civil Aviation Authority Singapore	25	SIA Engineering Company
5	Collins Aerospace	26	Singapore Aero Engine Services Pte Ltd
6	Comfort Delgro	27	SembCorp
7	GE Aviation	28	Singapore Industrial Automation Association (SIAA)
8	Go-Ahead Singapore	29	Singapore Semiconductor Industry Association (SSIA)
9	Housing Development Board	30	Singapore Precision Engineering & Technology Association (SPETA)
10	Institute of Technical Education*	31	SkillsFuture Singapore Agency*
11	JTC Corporation	32	SMRT Corporation Ltd*
12	Land Transport Authority*	33	Society of Floating Solutions (Singapore)*
13	Nanyang Polytechnic*	34	ST Engineering*
14	National Environment Agency*	35	Temasek Polytechnic*
15	National Trades Union Congress*	36	Tower Transit Singapore
16	Ngee Ann Polytechnic*	37	The Institution of Engineers, Singapore*
17	Pratt & Whitney-United Technologies	38	Veolia
18	Public Service Division*	39	Workforce Singapore*
19	Public Utilities Board*	40	WMRAS
20	Republic Polytechnic*		
21	Singapore Institute of Technology*		

\*Organisation which signed the MOU during National Engineering Day, July 2019



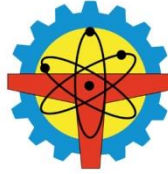
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### **Annex 3**

#### **Chartered Engineering Technologist and Technician Accreditation Board Member List**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Nominated Member</b>
1	IES	CETTAB Chairman, IES Emeritus President	Er. Tan Seng Chuan
2	IES	CETTAB Deputy Chairman, IES Honorary Secretary	Mr Danny Lee
3	IES	CETTAB Ex-Officio, IES President	Dr Richard Kwok
4	IES	CETTAB Member, IES Council Member	Mr Mervyn Sirisena
5	IES	CETTAB Member, IES Member	Mr Lew Yii Der
6	ACES	President	Er. Teo Yann
7	BCA	Group Director, Manpower Strategy and Planning Group	Ms Grace Mui
8	ITE College Central	Principal	Mr Suresh Natarajan
9	LTA	Senior Group Director, Public Transport	Mr Yeo Teck Guan
10	MINDEF	Director, Industry and Resources Policy Office	ME7 Tan Mu Yen
11	NEA	Group Director, Resource & Sustainability Group	Mr Desmond Tan
12	NP	Director, School of Engineering	Mr Ng Kee Wan
13	NTUC	Deputy Executive Secretary (UWEEI/SPWU)	Ms Khoo Woon Kung
14	NYP	Director, School of Engineering	Mr Lee Youn Kay
15	PSD	Deputy Secretary (Transformation)	Ms Teoh Zsin Woon
16	PUB	Director of Singapore Water Academy	Mr Koh Siong Teck
17	RP	Director, School of Engineering	Mr Soh Lai Seng
18	SCAL	Council Member	Mr Jacob Wong
19	SIT	Deputy Cluster Director (Applied Learning), Engineering	Mr Eicher Low
20	SP	Senior Director, Engineering	Mr Loh Yew Chiong
21	SSG	Deputy Chief Executive (Industry), Training Partners Group	Dr Michael Fung
22	SWA	Vice-President (General Affairs)	Mr Chew Men Leong
23	TP	Director, School of Engineering	Mr Wong Kia Ngee
24	WMRAS	Vice Chairman	Mr Matt Stanelos



## **Annex 4**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **1. What are the objectives of the National Engineering Career Progression Pathway for Technologist and Technician?**

- To allow practising technicians and technologists who attain competency either through the traditional academic channel and/or skill-based training, such as on-the-job training, to gain recognition as Chartered Technicians or Chartered Technologists through a rigorous system of accreditation, assessment, certification and registration.
- To align with Singapore's Industry Transformation Maps for various industry sectors supported by engineering professionals.
- To support the national Skills Framework in promoting skills- and mastery-based recognition amongst employers and fostering a culture of lifelong learning.

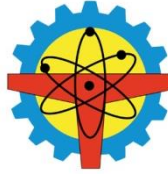
#### **2. Who is a Chartered Technologist (CETg) or Chartered Technician (CETn)?**

- A Chartered Technologist or Chartered Technician is one who has acquired the recognised academic qualification OR has relevant working experience; met the level of technical skills and competencies in accordance with the Chartered Engineering Technologist or Technician accreditation framework; and is registered as such with IES.

#### **3. How can one become a Chartered Technologist (CETg) or Chartered Technician (CETn)?**

- A technologist or technician first needs to fulfil standards in the competency certification framework developed by The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES), in collaboration with other stakeholders for Chartered Technologist and Chartered Technician.
- An eligible candidate can choose to attend courses provided by Assessment Centres relevant to his or her industry sector.





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- The candidate will then be required to pass assessment programme(s) conducted by the Assessment Centres which are accredited by the Chartered Engineering Technologist and Technician Accreditation Board (CETTAB).
- 4. Why should one register as a Chartered Technologist (CETg) or Chartered Technician (CETn)?**
- A registered Chartered Technologist or Chartered Technician will be professionally recognised by industry stakeholders such as the government, industry and academia in Singapore for his or her competencies. In the future, this recognition could be extended to other countries.
  - A Chartered Technologist or Chartered Technician will gain greater opportunities for career advancement; and for achieving greater competency, marketability and job mobility through continuous upskilling.
- 5. Who should apply to become a Chartered Technologist (CETg) or Chartered Technician (CETn)? Is it only for technologists and technicians in certain engineering fields?**
- The scheme aims to register practising engineering technologists and technicians who fulfil the necessary requirements (please refer to [Career Progression Pathway & Requirements](#)) in various industry sectors in Singapore.
  - The scheme will be progressively rolled out in other industry sectors, starting with the [five pilot sectors](#).
- 6. Who will govern and oversee the Technologist and Technician Chartership?**
- The Chartered Engineering Technologist and Technician Accreditation Board (CETTAB) set up by IES will govern and oversee the Chartership Scheme. (please refer to [CETTAB](#).)
- 7. What is the application fee for Chartered Technologist (CETg) certification and what is the renewal period?**
- During the promotional period, the subscription fee will be SGD \$128.40 (includes GST) + a non-refundable application fee of \$32.10 (includes GST). The certification has to be renewed once every two years.



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- For more information please refer to [Application Process & Fee](#).
- 8. What is the application fee for Chartered Technician (CETn) certification and what is the renewal period?**
- During the promotional period, the subscription fee will be SGD \$85.60 (includes GST) + a non-refundable application fee of \$21.40 (includes GST). The certification has to be renewed once every two years.
  - For more information please refer to [Application Process & Fee](#).
- 9. What are the requirements for the renewal of Chartered Technologist (CETg) and Chartered Technician (CETn)?**
- Chartered Technologist and Chartered Technician will need to participate in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programmes which aims to reinforce the need for lifelong learning and to provide a framework though which could systematically maintain and enhance competency to do a job in their area of expertise.
  - CPD points required for the renewal of Chartered Technologist : 40 (biennially)
  - CPD points required for the renewal of Chartered Technician: 20 (biennially)
- 10. What are the benefits of this Chartership scheme to the employers?**
- Support SkillsFuture Skills Framework and raise the technical skills and competency level of the workforce across the industry with a national level professional recognition.
  - Provide career progression pathway through both academic and non-academic (skilled based) pathways accredited independently.
  - Robust Continuing Professional Development (CPD) framework in renewal of chartership ensures lifelong learning to stay relevant to the industry throughout the employee's career.