



Celebrating 50 Years of Engineering Excellence

Media Release

The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES) Culminates Golden Jubilee Celebrations at Gala Dinner Graced by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong

Prime Minister Lee presents Engineering Feats @ IES-SG50 awards to honour top 50 engineering achievements in Singapore's nation-building years and IES-SG50 Golden Jubilee Scholarships to 50 needy engineering students

Professor Cham Tao Soon receives IES Lifetime Engineering Achievement Award and Minister Masagos Zulkifli conferred IES Honorary Fellow title

1 July 2016, Singapore – The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES) celebrated 50 golden years of growth as the national society of engineers at the Ritz–Carlton, Millenia Singapore with Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Hsien Loong gracing the event as the guest-of-honour. Mr. Chan Chun Sing, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Secretary–General of the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) and Mr. Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources also attended the event as special guests, together with more than 1,000 distinguished guests.

The event commemorated IES' contributions, as the heart and voice of engineers and the national body and home for engineers, to Singapore's past five decades of nationbuilding, since its establishment on 1 July 1966. IES has achieved significant milestones in fulfilling its various roles, including:

- Elevating the professional status of engineers: Professional Engineers bill in 1971, full signatory status in Washington Accord in 2006 and IES Chartered Engineer

Programme in 2013

- Providing lifelong training and professional development for engineers: Continuing Education Centre (CEC) in 1990, IES Academy in 2006 and new facility for IES Academy in 2016
- Providing a professional home for engineers: first acquired office at International Plaza in 1978, IES Charles Rudd building at Bukit Tinggi in 1987 and IES Green Building @ Bukit Tinggi in 2016
- Representing Singapore regionally and internationally to promote goodwill and fellowship among engineers: World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO), ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (AFEO) and the Federation of Engineering Institutions of Asia and the Pacific (FEIAP)
- Acting as a source of information, inputs and feedback to the Government on professional engineering matters: ABC water programme, workplace health and safety and process safety
- Growing the community of engineers: membership growth from 166 engineers from mainly electrical, civil and mechanical fields at time of establishment to more than 5,000 engineers from a multitude of engineering disciplines today.

“IES was one of the first professional institutions formed after Singapore became a nation. Since then, it has played a transformative role in advancing engineering to bring about economic well-being for Singapore and high standards of living for its people. As Singapore heads into its next 50 years of development, IES will leverage on our enduring legacy as the heart and voice of engineers to address new challenges and unlock new opportunities for growth through engineering,” said Er. Edwin Khew, President, IES.

The gala dinner marked the finale of IES-SG50, an IES initiative launched in January 2015 to commemorate Singapore’s 50th birthday in 2015 and IES’ 50th anniversary in 2016. A key part of IES-SG50 focused on honouring the past – paying tribute to past engineering achievements through the Engineering Feats @ IES-SG50 nation-wide competition, while the other looked to the future – nurturing the next generation of engineers through the IES-SG50 Golden Jubilee Scholarship Fund.

IES has also arranged for a record number of consecutive talks on past, current and future engineering challenges and achievements as part of its IES-SG50 celebrations. A total of 55 talks have been arranged to-date, out of which 47 have been conducted and attended by close to 4,000 students and members of the public.

Recognition of top 50 Engineering Feats in Singapore (1965 – 2015)

At the dinner, Prime Minister Lee presented commemorative plaques to 50 winning projects of the Engineering Feats @ IES-SG50 competition, identified by the public as having made the greatest impact to Singapore's economic, infrastructural and societal development since 1965. These projects received the highest number of public votes cast from 1 March to 30 May 2016 for 113 shortlisted projects.

Comprising 34 public sector projects and 16 private sector projects, the top 50 winners will go down in history as the most remarkable engineering achievements in various industry sectors including aerospace, defence and security, infrastructure, manufacturing, infocommunications, leisure, marine and transport. Members of the public can go to www.ies.org.sg/sg50/home/engineering-feats to find out about the impact of these projects on Singapore.

Fifty needy students receive IES-SG50 Golden Jubilee Scholarship

The dinner also saw Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and NTUC Secretary-General, presenting IES-SG50 Golden Jubilee Scholarships to 50 financially needy students from local polytechnics and universities from across 15 different engineering disciplines, to help them realise their dreams to become engineers.

IES received over S\$300,000 in donation from 93 organisations and individuals thus far towards the scholarship fund and applications from more than 400 students. About 92% of the scholarships were given to students from families with less than \$5,000 household income.

Lifetime Engineering Achievement Award 2016 winner – Professor Cham Tao Soon

Professor Cham Tao Soon received the highest honour in engineering in Singapore – the IES Lifetime Engineering Achievement Award, from Prime Minister Lee at the dinner, in recognition of his lifetime accomplishments in engineering that have made profound impact to the industry and community and contributed towards Singapore's progress.

A Professional Engineer by training with a PhD in Fluid Mechanics, Professor Cham has held various appointments in the educational, private and public sectors throughout his illustrious career. He is a reputed pioneer engineer and an inspiring engineer-leader in Singapore.

His most notable achievements include dedication of more than 30 years of his service to establish and grow engineering competence in institutes of higher learning in support of Singapore's progressive technology-driven economy. Professor Cham was instrumental in propelling the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) to become a global frontrunner in engineering education and a global research power house housing many internationally-recognised engineering research programmes. Even today, Professor Cham continues to blaze new trails for engineering, having been recently appointed to lead the establishment of the new Singapore Rail Academy (SGRA).

"The characteristic of an engineer is that he has the ability to apply his domain knowledge to solve engineering problems. His willingness to solve problems can be applied to many other fields besides engineering. I am fortunate that over 50 years of my working career I was able to use the same approach to make my contributions to a wide range of organisations including non-engineering companies like SPH, UOB and Soup Restaurant. Those enriching experiences are the most satisfying," said Professor Cham.

IES Honorary Fellow 2016 – Minister Masagos Zulkifli

At the dinner, IES also conferred Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources with the IES Honorary Fellow title in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the advancement of the engineering profession and to the nation at the highest level in the areas of environment and water resources planning.

An electrical engineer by training, Minister Zulkifli made history when he became the first Malay graduate engineer in Singapore Telecommunications Limited (SingTel) and rose to the position of the Chief Executive Officer of SingTel Global Offices. Since leaving SingTel for public office, Mr Masagos has held senior positions in various ministries.

In October 2015, Mr Masagos was appointed the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and since then, he has been leading the ministry to create a more liveable and sustainable future for Singaporeans through the Sustainable Singapore Blueprint (SSB). He plays a key role at the national level in ensuring long-term water sustainability through planning and investing ahead of demand while encouraging water conservation and efficient water use, focusing on co-location of infrastructure for efficient wasteenergy management, and actively working to promote regional cooperation to overcome transboundary haze pollution.

"Professor Cham Tao Soon and Minister Masagos Zulkifli are highly deserving recipients of the topmost accolades in engineering and IES. They are great role models attesting to the differences that engineers can make in various sectors of our economy. We hope that by

spotlighting their extraordinary achievements, the younger generation will be inspired to step forth and become engineers to lead Singapore to an even brighter, engineering-enabled future,” said Er. Khew.

To spur engineering students who have achieved exceptional academic results to continue to pursue engineering as a course of study or as a career, IES also presented the IES–Yayasan MENDAKI Scholarships to Mr Muhammad Firrian Bin Azman of Ngee Ann Polytechnic and Mr Sheik Mohamed Anees s/o Shiek Abdul Farook of Nanyang Technological University.

– END –

Notes to media:

1. Annexes

- Annex 1 – Top 50 Engineering Feats in Singapore (1965 – 2015): IES–SG50 Engineering Feats Winning Projects
- Annex 2 – IES–SG50 Golden Jubilee Scholarship Fund Donors
- Annex 3 – IES–SG50 Golden Jubilee Scholarship: 50 Student Recipients
- Annex 4 – Citation: Professor Cham Tao Soon, IES Lifetime Engineering Achievement Award 2016 Recipient
- Annex 5 – Citation: Minister Masagos Zulkifli, IES Honorary Fellow 2016
- Annex 6 – Biography of Er. Edwin Khew, IES President
- Annex 7 – Speech by Er. Edwin Khew, IES President

2. Chinese Glossary

Terms in English	Terms in Chinese
The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES)	新加坡工程师学会
Er. Edwin Khew, IES President	邱德福, 新加坡工程师学会会长
Engineering Feats @ IES–SG50	IES–SG50 卓越工程奖
IES–SG50 Golden Jubilee Scholarship	IES–SG50 金禧奖学金
IES Lifetime Engineering Achievement Award	新加坡工程师学会 终身工程成就奖
IES Honorary Fellow	新加坡工程师学会 荣誉院士
Professor Cham Tao Soon	詹道存教授
Mr Masagos Zulkifli Minister for the Environment and Water Resources	马善高环境及水源部长

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 Organizations (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.

MEDIA CONTACT

Desmond Teo

Publications Manager

The Institution of Engineers, Singapore

DID : (65) 6461 1229

Mobile: (65) 9747 9365

Email : desmond@iesnet.org.sg

Ng Rui Fen

Associate

The Right Spin Public Relations

Mobile: (65) 9681 5262

DID : (65) 6325 5927

Email: ruifen@therightspin.com.sg

Phoebe Pong

Senior Associate

The Right Spin Public Relations

Mobile: (65) 9128 6363

DID : (65) 6325 5935

Email: phoebe@therightspin.com.sg