

Media Release

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Singapore Energy Award 2017 Honours Two Outstanding Leaders

Vision, drive, an entrepreneurial spirit and exemplary contributions to the energy sector underscored this year's winners of the Singapore Energy Award (SEA) 2017. At the Singapore International Energy Week 2017, Ms Sim Ann, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry & Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, conferred the SEA to individuals in the following two categories:

"Contributions to the Energy Sector" Category

- (i) Mr Tang Kin Fei, Former Group President and CEO of Sembcorp Industries¹

"Innovation" Category

- (ii) Professor Ng Wun Jern, Professor, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, NTU and Former Executive Director at the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute, NEWRI².

2. Mr Tang has, over a 30-year career with Sembcorp, demonstrated vision and exemplary leadership. He built up Sembcorp's utilities business and transformed the company into a global player in the energy and water arena. Mr Tang has also been instrumental in pushing for new technologies, developing manpower for the local energy sector, and spearheading various successful R&D and manpower collaborations between Sembcorp and the Energy Market Authority, including the Sembcorp EMA-Technology

¹ Mr Tang retired from Sembcorp's executive management on 31 March 2017. He was succeeded by Mr Neil McGregor.

² Professor Ng retired as founding executive director of NEWRI on 31 July 2017.

Partnership and Sembcorp-EMA Energy Challenge. The latter incorporates gamification, learning journeys and exclusive internship opportunities to reach out to youths.

3. On receiving his award, Mr Tang said: "I am very humbled and honoured to be given this award. I would like to thank the wonderful Sembcorp family and various industry partners who have strongly supported me over the years. More than winning this award, I am privileged to have been part of Singapore's energy story and proud to have contributed to the growth and development of the sector. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Union of Power and Gas Employees for their continued commitment to ensure that the sector and its workforce remains competitive in an ever-changing environment."

4. Professor Ng founded the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute (NEWRI) in 2007, and has received numerous accolades for his achievements, which include pioneering research efforts across the waste-to-energy and energy recovery value chains. A recognised expert in anaerobic processes, he conducted studies on bacteria that produce energy from food molecules without the presence of oxygen.

5. Professor Ng also played a key role in driving collaborations between the Government and industry on various innovative projects. This includes a tie-up between NTU and the National Environment Agency on the Tuas incineration research facility – the first of its kind to turn waste heat into synthetic gas for reuse.

6. Being recognised by this Award is "an incredible honour and a validation of my research career after all these years", said Professor Ng. "Nonetheless, my work has never felt like a job as I have always been passionate about energy and the environment, and relish every opportunity to contribute to the development of Singapore's energy sector. With the growing focus on sustainable energy, waste-to-energy and its related technologies will only increase in importance. I am excited by the many upcoming developments in the sector, and am proud to be playing my part in moulding Singapore's future energy workforce."

(More information on this year's SEA recipients can be found in the ANNEX below)

7. EMA Chief Executive Ng Wai Choong said: “Both Mr Tang and Professor Ng have contributed significantly in making our energy sector more vibrant and dynamic in their own different ways. They are excellent role models and an inspiration to many of us in the energy sector. I hope that nominations for the Singapore Energy Award will continue to grow, as we have seen in this round, to recognise deserving contributors who have made a difference to the sector.”

8. The biennial SEA recognises outstanding contributions to Singapore’s energy sector in the areas of capabilities development and/or innovation. The next SEA will be held in 2019. Nomination details will be released in the second half of 2018.

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**Singapore Energy Award -
Contributions to the Energy Sector**

Award Winner: Mr Tang Kin Fei
Former Group President and CEO of Sembcorp Industries



- Built up Sembcorp's utilities business from scratch, transforming it from a fledgling local company into a global player in the energy and water arena.
- Led Sembcorp's move beyond the waste and water nexus and into the broader energy space, in areas such as cogeneration, natural gas and energy recovery.
- Played a key role in the successful development of the Sembcorp Global Asset Management System. This utilises data analytics to facilitate plant optimisation, predictive maintenance and process improvements.
- Fostered Sembcorp's R&D and manpower collaborations with the Energy Market Authority (EMA), including:
 - The Sembcorp-EMA Technology Partnership - which encourages the translation and commercialisation of energy research into technologies and solutions to address Singapore's energy needs;
 - The Sembcorp-EMA Energy Challenge - which serves to inspire more young Singaporeans to consider careers in the Power sector.
- Since Mr Tang's tenure, Sembcorp has been a regular participant in EMA's annual Powering Lives @ Career Fairs at NUS and NTU, and a contributor to EMA's Powering Lives Supplement. The publication first launched at the NTU and National University of Singapore career fairs, focusing on career opportunities in the Power sector.

Singapore Energy Award - Innovation

Award Winner: Professor Ng Wun Jern

Professor, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, NTU and Former Executive Director at the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute, NEWRI



- Founded and built the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute (NEWRI) from scratch to become a key player in the waste-to-energy arena.
- Stellar work with NEWRI has been recognised at both organisational and individual levels:
 - In 2013, NEWRI was ranked among the top nine global environmental engineering research organisations, with Prof Ng ranked among the top 25 global engineering thought leaders (LUX Report, 2013);
 - Recognised as an expert in the conversion of waste-to-energy and energy recovery techniques. Developed roadmaps and described pathways for Singapore to improve contributions of waste to our energy mix (beyond today's 2%); and
 - Prominent expert in anaerobic/biogasification processes (which is important, for example, in the conversion of food or industrial waste to energy). Has amassed 20 anaerobic-related intellectual properties to date (out of a current career total of 34).
- Played key role in driving collaborations between Government and industry. Partnered local companies such as SembCorp, Keppel and IUT Global to test-bed ideas.
- Sought-after technical advisor for waste-to-energy and energy recovery projects, having supervised the build-up of 130 energy-related facilities regionally.
- Facilitated partnership between NTU and the National Environment Agency to build an incineration research facility in Tuas that will be the first of its kind to turn waste heat into synthetic gas for reuse.

ABOUT THE SINGAPORE ENERGY AWARD

<p>ABOUT THE SINGAPORE ENERGY AWARD</p>	<p>Launched in 2013 by the Energy Market Authority, the Singapore Energy Award (SEA) is a biennial award that aims to recognise individuals and organisations that have made outstanding contributions to Singapore’s energy sector, in the areas of capabilities development and/ or innovation.</p>
<p>AWARD CATEGORIES</p>	<p>There are three award categories, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Singapore Energy Award for Capabilities Development - recognises outstanding organisations/individuals who have demonstrated strong and sustained efforts in nurturing a competitive, Singaporean-core workforce with the relevant skill sets for Singapore’s energy sector.• Singapore Energy Award for Innovation - recognises outstanding organisations/individuals who have made specific and sustained contributions to drive technological and business innovations in Singapore’s energy sector.• Singapore Energy Award for Contributions to the Energy Sector - Recognises energy leaders for their overall contributions to Singapore’s energy sector.
<p>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</p>	<p>All nominations received are evaluated based on the impact created on Singapore’s energy sector and society.</p> <p>There are four key assessment criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Establishing benchmarks and/or models in growing relevant talent pool and/or enabling research translation;2) Exhibiting outstanding leadership and governance in driving manpower efforts and enabling research translation that benefits Singapore’s energy landscape;3) Sharing knowledge that benefits industry stakeholders and/or wider society; and4) Demonstrating successful implementation, taking into account scalability and sustainability of manpower initiative(s)/research outcome(s).

<p>ASSESSMENT PROCESS</p>	<p>All nominations are put through a four-stage assessment process, culminating in the selection of award winners by a Judging Panel, as follows:</p> <p>Stage 1: SEA Secretariat conducts completeness and relevance check.</p> <p>Stage 2: Secretariat conducts preliminary assessment for nominations that have cleared Stage 1.</p> <p>Stage 3: Secretariat makes its recommendations to the Judging Panel.</p> <p>Stage 4: The Judging Panel selects the award winners.</p>
<p>Judging Panel</p>	<p>Chairperson</p> <p>Mr Ng How Yue Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Law</p> <p>Members</p> <p>Mr Ng Wai Choong Chief Executive, Energy Market Authority</p> <p>Mr Quek See Tiat President, Council for Estate Agencies</p> <p>Mr Pek Hak Bin Group CEO, Cronus Energy Pte Ltd</p> <p>Prof Phang Sock Yong Vice Provost (Faculty Matters), Celia Moh Chair Professor of Economics, Singapore Management University</p> <p>Mr Russell Tham Corporate Vice President and Regional President, Asia Business Development, Applied Materials</p> <p>Mr Andre Yeap Senior Partner, Dispute Resolution and Head, International Arbitration, Rajah and Tann Singapore LLP</p> <p>Ms Quah Ley Hoon Chief Editor (English Current Affairs & International News), MediaCorp</p> <p>Mr Kon Yin Tong Managing Partner, Foo Kon Tan LLP</p>

	<p>Mr Zia Zaman Founder & CEO, LumenLab and SVP & Chief Innovation Officer, Asia, MetLife Innovation Centre Pte Ltd</p> <p>Dr Liew Ah Choy Chief Executive Officer, Equivolt Pte Ltd and Adjunct Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, National University of Singapore</p>
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Contact Details

More information can be found at www.ema.gov.sg/Singapore_Energy_Award