

SALUTING THE BEST

HONOURING THE BEST IN ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

The Singapore Environment Council (SEC) yesterday honoured the best in Environmental Excellence at the Singapore Environmental Achievement Awards 2012. The SEAA 2012 – which opened for applications on 7 March 2012 and closed on 9 April 2012 – included three new awards; a new regional category for countries in the ASEAN region, the re-introduction of the Public Sector category and the establishment of an Outstanding Award category. The event was graced by Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, as Guest-of-Honour.

Speaking at the event, SEC Chairman Ms Isabella Loh said: "We strive to frame environmental issues for all our stakeholders, making it simpler to navigate the complexity of changes in today's world. We will continue to make it simpler for business to sustain through Green living and Green products, thus enabling impact through communities."

The winners for the various categories for the SEAA 2012 are as follows:

CDL Outstanding Singapore Environmental Achievement Award

- Woodgrove Secondary School

Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Manufacturing)

- Winner: Asia Pacific Breweries Singapore
- Merit Winner: Komatsu Asia & Pacific

Nissan Leaf Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Services)

- Joint Winners: IBM Singapore and Sea Hounds

Lee Foundation Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Public Sector)

- Winner: Woodgrove Secondary School

Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Regional)

- Winner: YTL Corporation Bhd.
- Merit Winner: PT Beton Elemenindo Putra

SEC-Senoko Energy Green Innovation Award

- Winner: Hydroemission Corporation Pte Ltd



Madam Tang Mei Hui, Principal of Woodgrove Secondary School receiving the CDL Singapore Environmental Achievement Award from Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, alongside Ms Isabella Loh, Chairman of the Singapore Environment Council and Mr George Huang, President of the Singapore Manufacturers' Federation.

"The SEAA impels the industry to push the envelope in terms of incorporating environmental sustainability into everyday business-as-usual activities on a holistic scale. It is also worth highlighting that environmental excellence has grown to become an integral part of companies and public sector agencies, which span a diverse spectrum of industries such as information technology, education, beer production and construction," said Mr Jose Raymond, Executive Director of the Singapore Environment Council.

The SEAA was launched in 1997 by Mr Yeo Chew Tong, Singapore's former Minister for the Environment. The awards, presented by the Singapore Environment Council, aims to inspire Singapore-based and regional organisations to become more committed to environmental and social responsibilities.



Winners of the Singapore Environmental Achievement Awards 2012 posing for a photo with Guest of Honour Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and Ms Isabella Loh, Chairman of the Singapore Environment Council.

A FRUITFUL PARTNERSHIP SINCE 2005

Initiated to encourage the creation or improvement upon products that are innovative and environmentally friendly, the SEC-Senoko Energy Green Innovation Award is sponsored by Senoko Energy Pte Ltd, Singapore's largest power generation company.

"As a long-standing partner of the Singapore Environmental Achievement Awards since 2005, Senoko Energy has always been about innovation and we hope that this award will further raise the bar of environmental excellence among businesses in Singapore. By harnessing the SEAA as a platform to allow the sharing of best practices with corporations and individuals, we hope to inspire a positive, collective effort in doing more for the environment," said Mr Brendan Waiters, President & CEO of Senoko Energy.

The award examines factors such as the reduction of environmental impact of products, improvements to efficiency or the use of alternate technologies and procedures. These include performance-enhancing capabilities that improve energy, water, or waste minimisation.

Jose Raymond, Executive Director of the SEC said: "SEC congratulates Hydroemission on the win. It is heartening to see a home-grown SME adopting a holistic approach towards environmental management that addresses the need for technological change, environmentally conscious management and raising awareness amongst the wider community. We would also like to thank Senoko Energy for this fruitful partnership. We are looking forward to continuing this partnership for many more years to come."

CHEERS TO BEER & THE ENVIRONMENT

More than just a beer brewer, ASIA PACIFIC BREWERIES SINGAPORE (APBS) is deeply committed to preserving the environment for the benefit of all stakeholders of today and future generations. APBS emerged as the winner of the manufacturing category of this year's Singapore Environmental Achievement Awards, a major recognition for its effort in the efficient use of water and energy resources. Over the last three years, APBS managed to reduce their consumption of thermal energy by 24%, electricity consumption by 12% and water usage by 14%. At the same time, APBS has successfully implemented initiatives to reuse and recycle general waste. Currently, 87% of bottles that leave the Tiger Brewery for the market are being returned and approximately 85.5% are reused.



The implemented initiative to reuse and recycle has resulted in the reduction of 25,000 tonnes of waste annually. Bottle labels are not spared either. This year, recycling bottle labels alone resulted in saving over 83 tonnes of paper waste, the equivalent of saving 1411 trees. APBS's exemplary environmental practices have been paid off with Singapore Environment Achievement Awards (SEAA) being the third award conferred to them for sustainable business practices in recent months.

There is more to come from the brewery giant. With the values of Doing Good and Doing Well, APBS's leadership team has outlined a three-year plan with the objective of reducing its environmental resource utilisation by 20%.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE A KEY INDICATOR OF SUCCESS



The first to launch the Hybrid Hydraulic Excavator - which reduces fuel consumption by as much as 25% and lowers harmful emissions such as carbon dioxide - KOMATSU ASIA & PACIFIC PTE LTD, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Komatsu, is the merit winner of the Singapore Environmental Achievement Award in the manufacturing category.

With its Japanese industrious ingenuity and respect for nature as roots of its practices, this global heavy equipment player develops CSR themes to do good for society. One example is Komatsu's very own Earth Environment Charter that has three underlying principles: Contribution to Realisation of Sustainable Society, Simultaneous Realisation of Environmental and Economic Performance and Observing Corporate Social Responsibility. Komatsu constantly invests heavily in new technologies to develop solutions that improve both environmental performance throughout the products' life cycle and economic performance at the same time.

Also, under The Komatsu Way every employee of the group abides by a set of values designed to do their part in protecting the environment. Each division or company sets up its own mid to long term environment targets, develops and implements specific actions, reviews these regularly and works with the aim of improving the environment.

A DEDICATED EFFORT TOWARDS OUR GOOD EARTH



Long before words like "carbon credits" and "climate change" came into mainstream consciousness, YTL CORPORATION BHD has been clean and green, having successfully incorporated sustainability into their global business strategy for over a decade. Its tagline "A Steward of Our Good Earth", defines its commitment. Bringing positive change to the community and environment, the company has gone the extra mile by sharing their best practices with other corporations and individuals. This year, YTL emerged as a winner of the Singapore Environmental Achievement Award's regional category.

YTL's achievements include managing its carbon footprint by measuring emissions, establishing the YTL Group Sustainability Committee to look at sustainability practices across businesses and establishing YTL-SV Carbon, an in-house Clean Development Mechanism Consultancy, to help companies develop green profitable practices, just to name a few.

YTL's environmental achievement has definitely made a huge impact in Singapore. YTL Power Seraya (a SEAA 2011 Merit Award winner) has reduced its carbon emissions by 30% over the past decade through improvements in overall plant efficiency and by switching to less carbon intensive fuels. It also achieved water sufficiency of 98% where its power plants' water demands are met by its in-house seawater desalination plant, recycled water called NEWater and reclaimed industrial water.

PARTNERING WITH NATURE TO GAIN A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

With numerous companies vying for the Singapore Environmental Achievement Awards, home-grown HYDROEMISSION was the surprise package that won the SEC-Senoko Energy Green Innovation Award this year. What made Hydroemission's innovation stand out from the rest were its product design, technology and R&D that are driven by an industrious effort to protect nature. Hydroemission's path towards this achievement leverages on the elements identified in its corporate identity of being innovative, sustainable and responsible. With the desire for its technology to be recognised in Singapore and Asia, firmly places Hydroemission in the privileged league of being an environmentally and socially responsible company.

Hydroemission has developed a sought-after biodegradable controlled release technology to increase products' efficiency, which at the same time greatly reduces environmental impact and cost. With planned further investments in research and development over the next five years, Hydroemission aims to continuously improve its technology and manufacturing processes to better serve the industry.



CREATING A SPLASH IN MARINE CONSERVATION

The only PADI National Geographic Dive Centre in Singapore, SEA HOUNDS PTE LTD is the winner of the Nissan Leaf Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Services) category. The company has been implementing conservation-based training, eco-tours and environmentally responsible business practices since 2004. It strives to educate through sports, providing opportunities for people to experience adventure, exploration and nature.

Sea Hounds has dedicated twelve years to environmental conservation in Singapore, protecting the likes of Pulau Hantu's reef and the biodiversity it supports, Sungai Buloh and Singapore's remaining wetlands resources, Chek Jawa and other intertidal habitats. Their marine conservation, eco-expeditions and education programmes are accessible to people of all ages including children and businesses alike to forge a greater understanding between people and nature. Sea Hounds believes this is instrumental in fostering responsible behaviour.



Moving forward, Sea Hounds will focus on children and youth in Singapore by providing enrichment and community involvement programs to schools, clubs and businesses. Sea Hounds continues to pledge as an Eco-operator and strives to impart their beliefs and proven practices to other industry professionals and diverse clientele.

A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR GREEN DEVELOPMENT

Unintentionally participating in this year's SEAA, PT BETON ELEMENINDO PUTRA's emergence as a Merit Winner of the Singapore Environmental Achievement Award's regional category is definitely not a coincidence. The Bandung-based eco-building material startup's flagship product, b-panel, offers built-in thermal insulation to significantly reduce air-conditioning energy consumption, and therefore carbon footprint, of any building that utilizes it. The company operates on a host of credible and comprehensive environmental measures, such as zero waste at the project site as well as at its production line, as 100% of their panel cutout waste are meticulously reprocessed into the next batch of building panels. Another example is their biomass-fired boiler unit, a rarity in a place where cheap but polluting coal-fired boilers are the norm.



The company's management has moved away from the "small company in small town Indonesia" mentality, and aimed much higher - the kind of people it hires, the way they position their products, and naturally, their environmental aspiration. The company wishes to one day become a role model for sustainable construction businesses - showcasing that one can be genuinely green and achieve good financial results at the same time.

With the award, team b-panel intends to leverage this win to expand further regionally, while maintaining its Indonesian domestic market leadership. The company will exhibit at Build Eco Xpo Asia (BEX) 2012 at the Marina Bay Sands in October.

A FIRM COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is a key component in IBM SINGAPORE LIMITED's corporate responsibility and environmental management. IBM Singapore Limited's commitment to the environment is integral to its history and is evident in every aspect of the company: products, process, business with clients and partners in Singapore and around the world. This year, IBM Singapore emerged as the winner of the Singapore Environmental Achievement Award's services category.



IBM Ireland Production Distribution Limited Singapore Branch (IPDL) has also received the Green Mark Gold Award. The IPDL facility has had environment measurements in place since it began operations and achieved 99% instead of the targeted 75% for recycling and reusing non hazardous wastes, packaging materials and consumables and achieved 6% instead of the targeted 4% of energy savings. The IBM Singapore Data Centre has been classified by IDA as a Tier Three Green Data Centre.

In Singapore, the IBM Corporate Citizenship contributes to the respective communities and encourages volunteerism amongst employees, partners and customers. In 2011, employees initiated activities with the aim of making positive impacts on the environment including coastal clean-ups and coral reef clean-up in neighbouring Malaysia as part of IBM's centennial celebrations. A submission from IBM Singapore won the US\$100,000 centennial grant for raising awareness of energy efficiency in 20 pilot schools in Singapore with the Smarter Planet competition. This was in collaboration with the Singapore Green Building Council (SGBC) and the Ministry of Education.

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GROOMING STUDENTS AS AMBASSADORS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

WOODGROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL is the biggest winner of this year's Singapore Environmental Achievement Awards and has set an excellent example of environmental conservation. The school bagged two awards this year - the Lee Foundation Singapore Environmental Achievement Award (Public Sector) and CDL Outstanding Singapore Environmental Achievement Award. This achievement is testimony of the school's efforts to educate youths into picking up good habits such as conserving resources, keeping Singapore litter free and eventually, becoming role models for their peers. The school was recently conferred the Niche Status in environmental education by the Ministry of Education.



Success definitely did not come easy. There were various challenges that Woodgrove had to overcome in the initial years of the environmental journey, seeking out the best opportunities for students to gain exposure on environmental issues that are meaningful and sustainable, being resourceful in acquiring funding for programmes and projects as well as balancing environmental programmes with the demand on curriculum time. The collaborations with various partners such as Senoko Energy Pte Ltd, Waterways Watch Society, NParks, Singapore Environment Council, National Environment Agency, Public Utilities Board and Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources have also been instrumental in helping Woodgrove Secondary School in her journey through the provision of learning opportunities and resources for programmes implementation for students.

Unlike most corporate organisations, Woodgrove Secondary School's mission lies in moulding the minds of the young, shaping the character, igniting passion, and promoting innovation. With this recognition, Woodgrove Secondary hopes to rally more schools and inspire more educators to join in the journey of making environmental education viable and possible in schools to ensure that we have passionate and dedicated citizens in the future who are aware of environmental issues and concerns within Singapore and beyond.