

## News Release

# SingTel first to offer diploma scholarships in support of SkillsFuture

## Partners Singapore Polytechnic & Republic Polytechnic to nurture young talent

**Singapore, 6 January 2015** – SingTel today introduced a diploma scholarship programme in support of SkillsFuture, a national initiative that will help Singapore through its next phase of growth with an integrated system of education, training and career progression for all Singaporeans.

The first corporate programme of its kind, the SingTel Cadet Scholarship Programme, is fully aligned with SkillsFuture's objectives. The new programme exemplifies the importance of having industry partners and employers on board the journey to help individuals advance based on skills.

Jointly developed with Singapore Polytechnic and Republic Polytechnic, the SingTel Cadet Scholarship Programme focuses on nurturing young talent, in the areas of Engineering, Cyber Security and Customer Experience (refer to Annex 1 for details). The scholarships, which start in 2015, are worth over S\$2 million a year in total and provide students with industry-relevant training, as well as employment and progression opportunities.

Mr Bill Chang, SingTel's Country Chief Officer, Singapore, said: "We are championing SkillsFuture with our SingTel Cadet Scholarship Programme. Through our scholarships, we can help polytechnic students acquire relevant skills and develop them in critical roles within SingTel and across the broader industry. Our partnership with the educational institutions will help the nation build a strong talent pool in the ICT sector and enhance customers' experience."

This is the first time that SingTel is offering diploma scholarships, with a total of 90 scholarships available each year to top students across the three programmes in the two polytechnics. Scholars will serve a one-year bond with SingTel upon joining the company. In addition, SingTel is working with Singapore Polytechnic to refine its Diploma in Computer Engineering programme by including industry best practices and knowledge, to better equip students with the necessary engineering skills.

In summary, SingTel cadets will be offered exciting career paths that include:

- Scholarships and internships while undertaking their diploma course;
- Secured technical or customer experience management roles and developmental opportunities upon graduation, such as *Place-and-Train* and structured *On-the-Job-Training*, which may lead to additional certification;
- Overseas assignments, degree sponsorships in related fields and subsequent progression opportunities for high-performing cadets.

Mr Tan Choon Shian, Singapore Polytechnic's Principal and Chief Executive Officer, said: "This is SP's most significant collaboration with SingTel, and we welcome the opportunity to help train our students and align better with the industry. Students from the Diploma in Computer Engineering and Diploma in Infocomm Security Management will benefit tremendously from the deep skills and knowledge they will acquire in the journey. In the long run, they will be able to stay relevant in the workforce and contribute meaningfully to Singapore's future."

Mr Yeo Li Pheow, Republic Polytechnic's Principal/Chief Executive Officer, said: "We greatly value this partnership with SingTel, which underscores our close working relationship since 2012. Republic Polytechnic fosters close industry engagements to ensure relevant curriculum and skills-based training for our students. The SingTel Customer Experience Cadet Programme offers a structured career pathway that gives our students the opportunity to be trained as customer experience professionals in a leading telecommunications company."

### **Memorandum of Understanding with Singapore Workforce Development Agency**

SingTel also signed a memorandum of understanding with the Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA), with the intention to collaborate on building a pipeline of skilled professionals including ICT professionals and customer service professionals through *Place-and-Train* programmes and *On-the-Job Training* targeted at fresh graduates from the polytechnics and the Institute of Technical Education.

Mr Ng Cher Pong, Chief Executive of WDA said: "SingTel's Cadet Programme is exemplary of an organisation that takes ownership of skills development, as well as promotes career progression based on skills and mastery. Through this memorandum of understanding, WDA seeks to work closely with SingTel to develop *Place-and-Train* programmes to help fresh polytechnic and ITE graduates continue to deepen their skills through structured learning opportunities and to advance in their careers through placements into relevant job roles, which are aligned to the National Infocomm Competency Framework and consistent with SkillsFuture's objectives."

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### **About SingTel**

SingTel is Asia's leading communications group providing a portfolio of services including voice and data solutions over fixed, wireless and Internet platforms as well as infocomm technology and pay TV. The Group has presence in Asia and Africa with over 500 million mobile customers in 25 countries, including Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand. It also has a network of offices throughout Asia Pacific, Europe and the United States.

### **About Singapore Polytechnic**

Established in 1954, Singapore Polytechnic (SP) is Singapore's first polytechnic. It has 10 schools that offer 49 full-time diploma courses for close to 16,000 students. SP adopts a proven creative teaching and learning framework and offers students a holistic, authentic

and industry-relevant curriculum, innovative and vibrant learning spaces, and enriching overseas programmes.

The Polytechnic is committed to producing competent and versatile graduates who are also imbued with sound values, so that they can be work ready, life ready and world-ready. SP has more than 178,000 graduates and among them are successful entrepreneurs, top executives in multi-national and public-listed corporations, and well-known professionals across various industries and leaders in government.

SP is the first polytechnic to be awarded the President's Award for the Environment in 2010 and the President's Social Service Award in 2011.

Follow SP on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/singaporepolytechnic](http://www.facebook.com/singaporepolytechnic) or Twitter at [www.twitter.com/SingaporePoly](http://www.twitter.com/SingaporePoly)

### **About Republic Polytechnic**

The first educational institution in Singapore to leverage the Problem-based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has six schools and two academic centres offering forty-one (41) diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Enterprise and Communication, Events and Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports, Health & Leisure, and Technology for the Arts.

Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving skills and lifelong learning opportunities. Its holistic and broad-based curriculum prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society as problem solvers, respected professionals and passionate citizens.

Republic Polytechnic strives for excellence by achieving various international and national accreditations, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 22301, Singapore Quality Class, People Developer, Innovation Class, and Service Class.

For more information, visit <http://www.rp.edu.sg>

### **About Singapore Workforce Development Agency**

The Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) enhances the competitiveness of our workforce by encouraging workers to learn for life and advance with skills. In today's economy, most jobs require not just knowledge, but also skills. WDA collaborates with employers, industry associations, the Union and training organisations, to develop and strengthen the Continuing Education and Training system that is skills-based, open and accessible, as a mainstream pathway for all workers – young and older, from rank and file to professionals and executives – to upgrade and advance in their careers and lives. For more information, please visit [www.wda.gov.sg](http://www.wda.gov.sg)

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ANNEX 1

SINGTEL CADET SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMMES

			
	Engineering Cadet Programme	Cyber Security Cadet Programme	Customer Experience Cadet Programme
<b>Faculty</b>	School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering	School of Digital Media and Infocomm Technology	School of Hospitality
<b>Scholarships on offer</b>	40	30	20
<b>Certification</b>	Diploma in Computer Engineering (DCPE)	Diploma in InfoComm Security Management (DISM)	Diploma in Customer Relationship & Service Management (DCRSM)
<b>Profile of students</b>	Current Year 1 DCPE students	Current Year 1 & 2 DISM students	Final Year DCRSM students
<b>Scholarship Model</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 2 years of Diploma studies sponsored</li> <li>• Bonded to SingTel for 1 year</li> <li>• Living allowances at \$550/ month</li> <li>• One-time laptop allowance of \$1,500</li> <li>• Internships with SingTel</li> <li>• <i>Place-and-Train</i> and <i>On-the-Job Training</i> to achieve additional certifications</li> <li>• Option to take on Part-Time or Full-Time University scholarship once employed, subject to performance.</li> </ul>		
<b>SingTel Business Units that will hire the graduates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IP Engineering</li> <li>• Fixed Network Engineering</li> <li>• Mobile Core Engineering</li> <li>• IPTV Engineering</li> <li>• Next Generation Value Added Services</li> <li>• Security</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product Management</li> <li>• Engineering &amp; Innovation</li> <li>• Technology Services</li> <li>• Managed Security Services</li> <li>• Technical Pre-Sales</li> <li>• Professional Services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singapore Contact Centre</li> <li>• Field Delivery Operations</li> <li>• Support Services</li> <li>• Customer Support</li> <li>• Client Business</li> <li>• Customer Solutions</li> <li>• Customer Management</li> </ul>