Republic Polytechnic and PSA launch joint Experiential Laboratory to prepare young talents for port operations of the future

Joint lab will provide a simulated environment to facilitate skills-based learning in port and operations management for RP students.

Republic Polytechnic, 5 January 2018 – Republic Polytechnic (RP) and port operator PSA Corporation Limited (PSA) officially launched the RP-PSA Experiential Laboratory on the second day of RP's Open House 2018. The lab will provide an authentic simulated environment for classes to be conducted based on real-life port management and operations scenarios. **The launch was attended by Guest-of-Honour, Minister for Education (Schools) and Second Minister for Transport, Mr Ng Chee Meng, who toured the lab and observed a live demonstration of simulated port operations led by RP students.**

Part of a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between PSA and RP in 2015, the new lab will further port operations and technology-related training and development among RP students and staff.

The lab is equipped with a port simulation hardware and software system mimicking operations at actual PSA container terminals allowing students to visualise how changes affect plans and their dependency effects. In addition, a group of RP final-year students built a customised port model from scratch, allowing the demonstration of different modes of transport and job roles in a port setting.

Around 400 RP students from the Diploma in Industrial and Operations Management, Diploma in Supply Chain Management and Diploma in Aviation Management are expected to benefit from the lab yearly for their respective discipline modules.

"The RP-PSA Experiential Lab underscores our commitment to developing industry-ready professionals to take on port management and operations jobs of the future. The lab will support the growth of Singapore's port and shipping industry, enabling the mastery of skills relevant to the industry. Coupled with Republic Polytechnic's Problem-based Learning pedagogy, students will undergo contextualised learning according to the needs of the industry, allowing them to be industry-ready upon graduation," said **Mr Yeo Li Pheow, Principal/CEO, Republic Polytechnic.**

"RP and PSA have had a longstanding partnership over the years. As an important industry partner for RP, PSA has provided internship opportunities for our students to benefit from valuable practical experience in the port industry. We believe this lab will further raise the productivity levels and excellence of Singapore's ports and ultimately boost Singapore's position as a global maritime hub. We look forward to our continued collaboration with PSA into the future," added Mr Yeo.

"As PSA develops our next generation of highly automated and intelligent container terminals, we need to continue to attract young talents who possess the necessary competencies. The RP-PSA Experiential Laboratory will equip RP students with a base of foundational knowledge which will be further sharpened through internships at PSA. This collaboration is a win–win arrangement for both RP and PSA, and I look forward to welcoming more young talents to join the vibrant and exciting port industry," said **Mr Ong Kim Pong, Regional CEO Southeast Asia, PSA International.**

The joint lab is part of PSA's ongoing effort to cultivate an increased awareness of careers in the port. It will also serve as a career hub for RP students who are interested in exploring a career in port operations.

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Republic Polytechnic Open House 2018

During the RP Open House 2018 from **4-6 January**, visitors can expect an exciting and interactive experience while discovering RP's range of full-time diplomas and lifelong learning courses. The three-day event is packed with numerous hands-on experiential activities and tours of our top-notch applied learning spaces await. Vibrant student performances across music, dance and theatre will also be staged.

Education and Career Guidance (ECG) counsellors will also be on hand at the ECG booth to guide students on their post-secondary education options.

Parents have not been left out – they will have the opportunity to attend two free talks that will help them make informed decisions on their child's education. The talk on the Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) will take place on **6 January** while the talk on options after the O-levels will take place on **11 and 12 January**.

For more about RP Open House 2018, please visit: www.rp.edu.sg/discover

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 seven schools and one academic centre offering forty-one diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Management and Communication, 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 PSA Corporation Limited (PSA)

PSA Singapore, a fully-owned subsidiary of PSA International, operates the world's largest container transhipment hub in Singapore, linking shippers to an excellent network of major shipping lines with connections to 600 ports globally. Shippers have access to daily sailings to every major port in the world at this mega hub. Its excellence in port operations has consistently been recognised by the shipping community. In 2017, it was voted the "Best Container Terminal (Asia)" at the Asian Freight, Logistics and Supply Chain Awards. PSA Singapore Terminals handled 30.59 million TEUs of containers in 2016. Visit us at www.singaporepsa.com and www.facebook.com/singaporepsa.

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