

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Republic Polytechnic partners key MICE industry partners**

***MOUs provide breadth of industry-relevant learning experiences for students as part of curriculum in integrated events management***

**Singapore, 4 November 2016** – Republic Polytechnic (RP) today inked three Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with key players in the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE) industry. These include an MOU renewal with Singapore Association of Convention and Exhibition Organisers and Suppliers (SACEOS), as well as new MOU signings with SingEx Holdings Pte Ltd (SingEx) and Koelnmesse Pte Ltd.

Through the three-year collaborations, around 600 students from the Diploma in Integrated Events Management (DIEM) at RP's School of Hospitality will continue to benefit from authentic learning experiences, including industry-based final-year projects and internship placements with the partners. Students will also be mentored by company professionals during their final-year project and six-month internship stints, allowing them to gain deeper insights into the industry.

“We are excited to take these strides forward with our partners SACEOS, SingEx and Koelnmesse to jointly train and groom students for the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE) industry through this collaborative effort. These partnerships signal our continued efforts to forge deep industry linkages and ensure that RP students are able to hit the ground running when they enter the workforce upon graduation,” said **Dr Michael Koh, Deputy Principal (Academic Services), Republic Polytechnic**.

SACEOS will provide RP students with opportunities to attain professional certifications such as the Professional Exhibition Management (PEM) and Professional Conference Management (PCM), giving them a head start as they embark on their careers in the dynamic MICE industry.

“With a strong passion to nurture young talents and groom them into future leaders of our industry, we recognise the need to educate and provide necessary mentorship to the students even before they commence their career”, said **Ms Janet Tan-Collis, President of SACEOS**. “We are indeed pleased to renew our partnership with RP and we look forward to welcome more RP graduates in the MICE industry in the near future.”

SingEx will sponsor the Gold Medal and a scholarship to top-performing students from DIEM over the next three years, in addition to providing students with applied learning opportunities through final-year projects and internship placements.

**Mr Aloysius Arlando, Chief Executive Officer, SingEx Holdings Pte Ltd**, said: “SingEx is delighted to mark its formal collaboration with Republic Polytechnic's School of Hospitality. This partnership underscores our firm belief in the important role talent development plays in growing Singapore's MICE sector. Provision of practical real life work experiences as a vital component in our tertiary education system is now a continuous and interspersing process, and we are proud to be a part of this paradigm shift.”



Koelnmesse will provide one scholarship per year for the next three years for top-performing DIEM students. In addition, the company will take in RP students for final-year projects and internship placements.

“We are excited to continue our collaboration with Republic Polytechnic to develop hands on educational and training opportunities for future MICE professionals. We have had excellent experiences with past and present students in our internship programs, and have successfully spearheaded the “INSPIRE 360” initiative offering mentoring opportunities for RP graduates. Koelnmesse strongly believes in contributing to developing academic capabilities and professional skills for future MICE leaders. We look forward to deepening our existing partnership with Republic Polytechnic further with this MOU”, said **Mr Mathias Küpper, Managing Director of Koelnmesse Pte Ltd.**

### **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, Enterprise 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>

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