

9 September 2022

SMRT and Singapore's five polytechnics collaborate to enhance workforce readiness, support lifelong learning and employability

1. SMRT Corporation Ltd (SMRT) and all five of Singapore's polytechnics have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to build a stronger talent pipeline for SMRT's operations, services and businesses, and Singapore's rail industry.
2. This collaboration builds upon SMRT's ongoing efforts to enhance workforce readiness & employability, as well as support lifelong learning for its employees. Apart from rail engineering positions, SMRT offers polytechnic graduates a wide range of career opportunities, from engineers and cybersecurity experts to operations, communications and behavioural science specialists.
3. Working with Nanyang Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Republic Polytechnic, Singapore Polytechnic, and Temasek Polytechnic, SMRT aims to expose students to practical challenges, as well as equip them with the most up-to-date knowledge and skillsets to meet evolving industry demands upon graduation.
4. In addition, SMRT and the polytechnics will provide their staff and alumni with upskilling and reskilling opportunities for their continuous learning and lifelong employability.
5. The MoU was signed today (9 Sep) by SMRT's Group Chief Executive Officer Mr Ngien Hoon Ping; Ms Jeanne Liew, Principal & Chief Executive Officer (PCEO), Nanyang Polytechnic; Mr Lim Kok Kiang, PCEO, Ngee Ann Polytechnic; Mr Yeo Li Pheow, PCEO, Republic Polytechnic; Mr Soh Wai Wah, PCEO, Singapore Polytechnic; and Mr Peter Lam, PCEO, Temasek Polytechnic. Witnessing the signing ceremony was Minister for Education Mr Chan Chun Sing, the event's Guest-of-Honour, and Mr Seah Moon Ming, Chairman, SMRT Corporation.
6. Mr Ngien said: "The signing of the MOU between Singapore's five polytechnics and SMRT underscores our strong and long-term commitment to offer job opportunities for graduating students, and provide for continuous industry-relevant training and lifelong education for our SMRT staff. The cross-attachment of polytechnic teaching staff to SMRT to acquire first-hand industry experiences, and SMRT staff to the polytechnics to share industry knowledge, will allow for the development of curriculum and teachings that are relevant to the land transport industry needs. Through this close

collaboration, students can transit seamlessly upon graduation and contribute to the transport industry, with up-to-date skillsets. This will be win-win for all.”

7. To strengthen the connection between classroom knowledge and industry expertise, we will formalise the initiative to encourage teaching staff from all the polytechnics to be attached at SMRT through flexible arrangements that best suit their needs. Conversely, SMRT engineers will have teaching stints at the polytechnics to facilitate continuous learning. Equipment and facilities will be made available for both student and staff training. SMRT will also support the polytechnics in the development of curricula for courses such as service leadership.
8. For the workforce, SMRT and the polytechnics will collaborate on in-demand relevant Continuing Education and Training (CET) programmes to meet industry needs, drive workforce transformation, and provide career development opportunities for staff. When opportunities arise, SMRT and polytechnic staff can work together on projects to deepen industry knowledge and expertise, for the benefit of the land transport eco-system.

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About SMRT Corporation Ltd

SMRT Corporation Ltd (SMRT) is a public transport services provider. Our primary business is to manage and operate train services on the North-South Line, East-West Line, the Circle Line, the new Thomson-East Coast Line and the Bukit Panjang Light Rail Transit. This is complemented by our bus, taxi and private hire vehicle services.

We have set our core values as Respect, Integrity, Safety & Service, and Excellence. SMRT is committed to provide safe, reliable and comfortable service for our commuters.

About Nanyang Polytechnic

Established as an institution of higher learning in 1992, Nanyang Polytechnic's (NYP) academic schools offer quality education and training through 40 full-time diploma courses and common entry programmes. NYP also has a full suite of Continuing Education and Training (CET) options for lifelong learning, ranging from specialist and advanced diplomas to SkillsFuture-supported modules and courses. NYP's Asian Culinary Institute Singapore and the Singapore Institute of Retail Studies are CET institutes set up in partnership with SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG) to champion and transform Singapore's F&B and retail sectors respectively. A third NYP CET institute – the National Centre of Excellence for Workplace Learning – also set up in collaboration with SSG, will spearhead the development of progressive workplace learning strategies

and programmes for companies here. For more information, visit www.nyp.edu.sg

About Ngee Ann Polytechnic

Ngee Ann Polytechnic started in 1963 and is today one of Singapore's leading institutions of higher learning with over 13,000 enrolled students and an alumni network of more than 160,000. The polytechnic offers more than 40 full-time courses through its 9 academic schools in Business & Accountancy, Design & Environment, Engineering, Film & Media Studies, Health Sciences, Humanities & Social Sciences, Infocomm Technology, Life Sciences & Chemical Technology, and Interdisciplinary Studies.

It seeks to develop students with a passion for learning, values for life, and competencies to thrive in a global workplace. The polytechnic also supports Continuing Education and Training (CET) through its CET Academy, which offers a wide range of part-time programmes and short courses. It works closely with industry partners to curate programmes to develop talent pipeline for the industries and help adult learners stay agile in today's rapidly changing global economy. <http://www.np.edu.sg>

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 36 full-time diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Management and Communication, Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports, Health & Leisure, and Technology for the Arts.

RP is committed to nurturing professionals with strong problem-solving capabilities through an innovative and entrepreneurial learning environment, based on a holistic and industry-relevant curriculum. RP's Academy for Continuing Education also offers a comprehensive suite of lifelong learning programmes to provide adult learners with skills upgrading opportunities. For more information, visit <http://www.rp.edu.sg>.

About Singapore Polytechnic (www.sp.edu.sg)

Established in 1954, Singapore Polytechnic (SP) is Singapore's first polytechnic. It has 10 schools that offer 30 full-time diploma courses and three common entry programmes for more than 12,800 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 223,000 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 clinched the inaugural ASEAN People's Award in 2015 for its contributions toward the region's community-building efforts. SP is also 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 <http://www.facebook.com/singaporepolytechnic> and Twitter and Instagram at @singaporepoly.

About Temasek Polytechnic

Established in 1990, TP is one of the leading institutions of higher learning in Singapore. Currently it offers 36 full-time diploma courses in the areas of applied science, business, design, engineering, humanities & social sciences and informatics & IT. It also offers over 40 part-time courses, up to the advanced diploma level. TP students undergo a holistic learning system that combines hands-on experience, character education and relevant life skills, in an enriching learning environment.

The Polytechnic has also infused global realities into its programmes and developed a mindset on campus that embraces socio-cultural diversity. Believing in the possibilities of tomorrow, Temasek Polytechnic is committed to co-creating a better world with its stakeholders by nurturing the next generation of values-centred leaders, lifelong learners and future-oriented creators. For more information, please visit www.tp.edu.sg.

Media Contact:

SMRT Corporate Communications

Tel: +65 9822 0902

Email: media@smrt.com.sg

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