

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Republic Polytechnic introduces two new diplomas to meet industry demand**

*New diplomas address talent demand in infocomm and engineering sectors*

**SINGAPORE, 3 December 2014** –To build a talent pipeline for Singapore’s evolving manpower needs, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has introduced two new diplomas with to meet the growing demand for specialised skillsets in the Engineering and Infocomm sectors.

The polytechnic has also renamed three of its existing diplomas to better reflect the courses’ relevance to changing industry landscapes. Course syllabuses for these diplomas have also been fine-tuned to ensure students are equipped with the most up-to-date and relevant skills to meet industry developments.

**Building the talent pool to fulfill Singapore’s vision as an engineering hub**

Singapore’s engineering and related services sector currently accounts for about 1.2% of its GDP, employing about 35,000 in the workforce, and is expected to grow 5-6% annually between now and 2020, as the city aims to become a high value manufacturing hub that develops innovative engineering solutions. Keeping pace with the evolving landscape, RP’s School of Engineering will launch the new **Diploma in Engineering Systems and Management (DESM)** to provide students with theoretical knowledge and technical skills training in the traditional disciplines of electrical, electronic and mechanical engineering. Beyond the fundamentals, the DESM will imbue students with inter-disciplinary knowledge, cultivating adept graduates who are able to comprehend the complexity of large-scale modern engineering systems.

Graduates of DESM will be able to access a wide range of careers in engineering, operations and project management across industries including urban transport, defence, automation and manufacturing services. The DESM programme’s curriculum meets the requirements for advanced standing in local and overseas universities to provide students with further education opportunities.

**Dr. Wang Jianguo, Director, School of Engineering said, “To achieve Singapore’s vision of being an engineering solutions hub for the world, we will need adept and versatile engineers who can adopt a multi-disciplinary approach to solving complex engineering problems. Modern engineering systems are large-scale and complex, challenging our engineers to think out of their traditional domain of expertise and apply inter-disciplinary skillsets in problem-solving and project management. The Diploma in Engineering Systems and Management will provide a strong foundation for engineers who want to solve the problems of tomorrow.”**

RP will take in 60 students in the first batch for this diploma with effect from academic year 2015.

### **Building a defence force against cyber security threats**

On the back of a spate of major online security compromises globally<sup>1</sup>, the Infocomm Development Authority (IDA) recently introduced the National Cyber Security Masterplan 2018 which aims to secure Singapore's cyber environment from potential malicious attacks. Plans include upgrading the Government's Cyber-Watch Centre to monitor critical public sector IT installations as well as projects in cyber security research.

Infocomm security management in Singapore remains a largely untapped choice of profession with only 1,200 information technology (IT) security specialists, making up only 0.8% of the entire IT workforce in Singapore in 2012. RP's new **Diploma in Infocomm Security Management (DISM)**, offered by the School of Infocomm aims to address this need for skilled manpower by producing technically competent cyber security professionals.

The course will focus on network and systems security, covering topics including operating systems security, inter-networking security, cloud infrastructure security and ethical hacking in detail. With opportunities for network and system penetration testing and real-time monitoring, the curriculum will provide both practical and theoretical foundations for students to face new infocomm security challenges.

Graduates from RP's DISM will be sought after in IT security-related careers in established organisations such as government agencies, IT security service and solution providers and software companies.

**“With Singapore’s high level of connectivity and the proliferation of data over shared networks, cyber security breaches can be highly detrimental to organisations from both the public and private sectors. RP’s new Diploma in Infocomm Security Management will equip students with strong technical skills to uphold the integrity of Singapore’s cyber networks, as we grow the pool of infocomm security experts for the industry,” said Mr Boo Chong-Han, Director, School of Infocomm.**

RP will take in 75 students in the first batch for this diploma with effect from academic year 2015.

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<sup>1</sup> Audit company PwC reported that cyber attacks had increased by 48 per cent over the year to 42.8 million cases this year

### **Enhancing current courses to meet industry trends**

Three existing diplomas will be renamed to better reflect their relevance in light of evolving industry needs.

- The **Diploma in Design for User Experience (DDUX)**, previously the Diploma in Design Interactivity, introduces two specialisation tracks allowing students to augment their skills in either Digital or Physical Experience Design. Emphasising a user experience approach, the new modules have been enhanced from existing ones and will be available to students who enroll into the programme.
- On 10 September 2012, the Singapore Parliament passed the Building Control (Amendment) Bill to introduce new measures to improve energy efficiency of buildings. The Diploma in Renewable Energy Engineering will be renamed the **Diploma in Green Building Energy Management (DGEM)** to address the greater need for green energy professionals for the building and construction sector. New modules will be inducted into the course to cover additional topics on energy audit and management. Students will also gain a stronger foundation in electrical applications with external modules from the Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering incorporated into the revised curriculum.
- The Diploma in Healthcare Administration will be renamed the **Diploma in Health Services Management (DHSM)** to reflect the Diploma's intent of preparing graduates to become healthcare operations professionals who will work with clinicians to deliver quality healthcare services.

Prospective students can look forward to finding out more about these and other courses that RP offers at Open House 2015 from 8 to 10 January 2015.

### **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>

### **For media enquiries, please contact:**

#### **Republic Polytechnic**

Patrick Seng / Julian Soh

Office of Corporate Communications

Tel: 9767 6701 / 9018 0719

Email: [patrick\\_seng@rp.edu.sg](mailto:patrick_seng@rp.edu.sg) / [julian\\_soh@rp.edu.sg](mailto:julian_soh@rp.edu.sg)