



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Republic Polytechnic and SETSCO partner to boost Aerospace MRO manpower qualifications**

***Collaborative Training and Certification Agreement to provide aerospace students with industry experience and certification in non-destructive testing***

**SINGAPORE, 19 November 2014** – Singapore has become an important and competitive hub for aerospace maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) and for good reason too. With over 100 aerospace companies based in Singapore, and a key geographical location, Singapore now contributes to over a quarter of Asia-Pacific's MRO services<sup>1</sup>.

Non-destructive testing (NDT) is one of the key activities undertaken by MROs to ensure structural integrity of aircraft components which includes airframe, engine, parts and other critical components.

With the growing demand for qualified and skilled manpower in Singapore, in particular specialists in NDT, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has initiated a five-year Collaborative Training and Certification Agreement with Setsco Services Pte Ltd (SETSCO), a leading player in the NDT field to provide established international NDT personnel certification to its students.

The agreement was signed by Mr Seto Lok Yin, Deputy Principal (Industry Services), Republic Polytechnic and Mr Sze Thiam Siong, General Manager, SETSCO at a ceremony held at Republic Polytechnic today.

RP is the first polytechnic to partner SETSCO in providing training and certification opportunities for students in Aerospace Engineering. Students will have the opportunity to graduate with a Diploma in Aerospace Engineering and a Level II certification in two NDT techniques, namely penetrant and magnetic particle testing. This training, which focuses on the two most common NDT methods within the aerospace industry, will be offered by SETSCO during the students' 24-week internship. The student will obtain the PCN (Personnel Certification in Non-Destructive Testing) certification administered by BINDT (British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing), in which SETSCO is the only PCN authorised qualifying body in Singapore.

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.edb.gov.sg/content/edb/en/industries/industries/aerospace-engineering.html>



For the initial period, 10 RP students will be selected for this internship training per semester, starting in the Academic Year of 2015/2016 and the certification fees payable will be co-funded by SETSCO.

“This partnership with SETSCO means that our Aerospace Engineering students get to be certified in two NDT techniques by the time they graduate. With this certification, our graduates not only enjoy more employment opportunities but also are better equipped for skills deepening as they build their career,” said Mr Seto Lok Yin, Deputy Principal (Industry Services), Republic Polytechnic.

He added, “We are grateful to SETSCO for this partnership and look forward to more opportunities for collaboration.”

Mr Sze Thiam Siong, General Manager of SETSCO, said, “We are very excited to be embarking on this collaborative effort with Republic Polytechnic and look forward to working closely with the Aerospace Engineering students. Hopefully, they will be able to glean more from real-life on-the-job experiences.”

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### **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 thirty-nine 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 SETSCO Services Pte Ltd**

With 30 years of extensive experience, Setsco Services Pte Ltd, a subsidiary of VICOM Ltd, is one of Singapore's largest test and inspection companies accredited by the Singapore Accreditation Council – Singapore Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (SAC-Singlas) to ISO/IEC 17025, and by SAC to ISO/IEC 17020 and ISO/IEC Guide 65. SETSCO is also certified to ISO 9001, accredited by the British Institute of Non-destructive Testing (BINDT) as an Outside Agency (recognised by the UK National Aerospace NDT Board) for training and certification of NDT personnel, OHSAS 18001 and a People Developer organisation.

SETSCO offers a comprehensive range of testing, calibration, inspection, certification, consultancy and training services to key markets such as Aerospace, Oil & Gas, Marine & Offshore, Food, Electrical & Electronics, Environmental, Medical, Infrastructure, Construction, as well as Building & Facilities.

For more information, visit <http://www.setsco.com/setsco/index.php>

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