

Republic Polytechnic partners Johor Corporation to elevate talent development in the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone

Singapore, 17 February 2025 – Republic Polytechnic (RP) is pleased to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), through its international arm, RP International Pte Ltd with Johor Corporation's training and skills development entity, Johor Skills Development Centre (Johor Skills). This strategic partnership with the Johor state-owned investment holding corporation underscores a mutual commitment to cultivate a skilled workforce tailored for the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone (JS-SEZ).

The JS-SEZ, a collaborative initiative between Singapore and Malaysia, aims to bolster economic growth across 11 sectors such as manufacturing, logistics, and the digital economy. Aligned with this vision, RP and Johor Skills will jointly develop and implement skills-training initiatives and education programmes focused on talent development to meet the demand for future-ready professionals as industries advance up the value chain in an evolving global landscape.

Leveraging RP's expertise as an institute of higher learning in areas like supply chain management and logistics as well as artificial intelligence and agrifood, the partnership will see the co-creation of upskilling programmes to enhance the competencies of workers and professionals in the economic zone and emerging sectors such as the digital economy. Additionally, the companies can also tap on RP's track record of helping industries adopt automation solutions to remain competitive, particularly in supporting high-tech manufacturing industries.

On the Pre-Employment Training (PET) front, RP students are also able to benefit from internship placements and industry visits within the JS-SEZ, providing them with invaluable exposure to real-world applications and cross-border industry practices. This collaboration not only enriches the educational experience for RP students but also aligns with Singapore's broader national agenda of fostering regional cooperation and developing a future-ready workforce.

Ms Jeanne Liew, Principal and CEO of Republic Polytechnic, remarked, "In line with our commitment to excellence in education, RP hopes to reinforce its role as a pivotal educational institution driving capacity development in the region by contributing to the upskilling of talent within the JS-SEZ. It reflects our dedication to contribute towards the region's economic development and marks a significant milestone in our cross-border collaborations."

The partnership with JCorp is expected to benefit its network of companies spread across four core business pillars, namely agribusiness, wellness & healthcare, food & restaurant as well as real estate and infrastructure. Combining Singapore's advanced infrastructure and Johor's resources to attract global investments, the JS-SEZ is also projected to generate 20,000 skilled jobs within its first five years with the potential for competitive salary packages.

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About Republic Polytechnic

Established in 2002, Republic Polytechnic (RP) is Singapore's youngest polytechnic. RP offers over 40 full-time courses across diverse fields, including Applied Science, Business, Engineering, Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports and Health, and Technology for the Arts, Media, and Design. Through its "Becoming Greater Me" framework, RP endeavours to spark joy in learning by helping students discover their purpose and aligning their goals and passions with both academic and life pursuits.

RP adopts effective learner-centred pedagogies to equip students with a wide range of skills needed to thrive in an ever-evolving world. The polytechnic envisions its graduates as Articulate Self-Starters, Passionate Community Builders, and Purposeful Game-Changers. Additionally, RP's Academy for Continuing Education offers a comprehensive suite of lifelong learning programmes, providing graduates and adult learners with upskilling opportunities.

About Johor Corporation

Johor Corporation (JCorp) is a Value-Driven Organisation with total assets in excess of RM25 billion as at end FY2023. JCorp's flagship companies; Kulim (Malaysia) Berhad, KPJ Healthcare Berhad, QSR Brands (M) Holdings Bhd and JLand Group Sdn Bhd, spearhead the Group's interests across four core sectors namely Agribusiness, Wellness & Healthcare, Food & Restaurant and Real Estate & Infrastructure.

Its mission and purpose of creation – 'Membina & Membela' or Creating Value, Enabling Sustainable Communities, has driven remarkable growth and community development across Johor and Malaysia. To learn more about JCorp, please visit jcorp.com.my or follow @johorcorporationofficial on social media.

About Johor Skills Development Centre

Johor Skills Development Centre (Johor Skills) was established in 1993 by Johor Corporation with the objective to produce skilled and semi-skilled workforce by providing Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) and skills upgrading to the future workers.

Programmes offered by Johor Skills are recognised by the industries with certification issued out by JPK, SIRIM SST, NIOSH, ST, TWI, UK, BGAS-CSWIP and Mobius Institution of Vibration. The recognition can be reflected by the support shown by the large numbers of companies including multinational companies that have participated in various training programmes provided by Johor Skills.

After 30 years since establishment, Johor Skills is currently undergoing a massive transformation exercise, to cater for emerging demands of the new era. Upon completion of the total transformation project, Johor Skills will be able to provide a more inclusive and comprehensive needs for the future. Meanwhile, Johor Skills's strive for quality and excellence in the delivery of technical programmes is never compromised, as it continues to operate while the transformation process is in motion.