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NEWS RELEASE

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EDUCATION FIRM ACCLAIMED AS SINGAPORE'S FASTEST GROWING COMPANY

DP Info identifies the success factors of Singapore's most dynamic companies

16 July 2009 [SINGAPORE] – Education has long been a priority for all Singaporeans so it comes as no surprise that an education and training company has finally made the list of Singapore's Fastest Growing 50 (FG50) companies.

In a remarkable accomplishment, SIM Pte Ltd, the global education arm of the SIM Group has become the first education provider to make the FG50 list – and they have emerged in the top spot for 2009.

The FG50 is compiled by DP Information Group (DP Info) - Singapore's leading provider of business and credit information. To qualify, a company must achieve a minimum of 10% turnover growth every year for the last three years while remaining profitable each year. The qualifying companies are then ranked by their three-year compounded annual growth rate (CAGR), with the top 50 receiving an award.

Over the last three years, SIM Pte Ltd has recorded a CAGR of 820.8% - more than 167% greater than the second best performing company International Paint Singapore Pte Ltd.

Ms Chen Yew Nah, Managing Director of DP Info said the financial growth of SIM Pte Ltd mirrored the growth in the institution's enrolments, making it the largest private education organization in Singapore in terms of student population and campus size.

"Singapore has earned an international reputation for delivering quality education. By topping this year's FG50 list, SIM Pte Ltd shows our local institutions are not just high quality education providers, they also have quality management running the businesses."

"SIM Pte Ltd is a good example of the success of the Government's strategy to make Singapore an education hub, attracting quality students from overseas to study in a world class environment," Ms Chen said.

RECORD NUMBER OF QUALIFYING COMPANIES

This year a record 384 companies met the qualifying criteria compared to 350 in 2008. Only 132 companies qualified five years ago, indicating that Singaporean companies made full use of the economic upswing of the last few years.

The top CAGR recorded by SIM Pte Ltd is the second highest ever recorded in the Award's eight year history – the highest being 1,027.9% recorded in 2003.

Singaporean companies dominate the 2009 list with 34, followed by China, France and Germany each represented by two companies.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?

To understand what it takes to be one of Singapore's fastest and most dynamic growth companies, DP Info has analysed the 250 companies that have made the list over the last five years and identified the most common and prevalent characteristics.

So if you want to be a millionaire business leader here is what you need to know:

- **Wholesale companies lead the pack** – with 93 out of 250 companies involved in wholesale trade, this industry sector has dominated the last five years of FG50 rankings. Companies involved in the wholesale of Solid/Liquid/Gaseous Fuels have done particularly well and are the most represented of all wholesale companies on the list.
- **Serious growth kicks in at \$10 million** – the most common company size is one with annual sales of between \$10 million and \$50 million, with 52 such companies making the list. By contrast only six companies with annual sales of less than \$10 million made the list, indicating companies need to reach a certain level before their growth can increase exponentially.
- **Younger companies are sprinting** – not surprisingly, there were 115 companies under 10 years of age, making this the most common age category in the FG50 list. The youngest FG50 company was 5 years old, while the oldest had been in business for 120 years. In a testament to the power of renewal, 26 companies that have been in business for more than 30 years have made the list in the last five years.
- **FG50 Companies manage their credit ratings** – 52% of all FG50 companies over the last five years have Investment Grade DP1-4 credit ratings, showing they have achieved growth without taking on excessive debt and without unnecessary risks. It also strongly suggests that companies need to manage their credit risk well in order to sustain their growth trajectories. A further 43% are DP5-6 High yield rated companies while only 5% fall into the DP7-8 High Risk band.

- **Profitability does not need to be compromised for growth** – while all FG50 companies are profitable, 60% or 150 companies make profits in excess of \$5 million a year. A healthy 14% are ultra-profitable with profits exceeding \$50 million a year.
- **Local firms dominate** - 166 Singaporean companies made the list in the last five years. Companies from Japan are the next most represented with 13, followed by the USA with 9.
- **Overseas Revenue Critical** - The most common trait of all the 250 FG50 winners over the last five years is their ability to generate revenue in international markets, affirming the belief that Singapore companies need to look overseas in order to grow. Of the 250 companies, four in every five generate revenue outside of Singapore.

8TH ANNUAL FASTEST GROWING 50 CERTIFICATION EVENT

The “Fastest Growing 50” companies for 2009 will be honoured at a certification event on 17 July 2009 at The Ritz Carlton Millenia Hotel Singapore. Dr Balaji Sadasivan, Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs is the Guest of Honour for the event.

After the certification event, a special forum will be examining the economic opportunities in the European Union. The keynote speaker is Ambassador Holger Standertskjöld, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Singapore.

The “Fastest Growing 50” is organised and certified by DP Information Group. The supporting organisations are Ernst & Young LLP, IDA Singapore, IE Singapore, SPRING Singapore and The Business Times.

Key Sponsor



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APPENDIX 1

FASTEST GROWING 50 2009 CERTIFICATION RECIPIENTS

Rank	Company Name	CAGR (%)	Business / Industry Classification
1	SIM PTE. LTD.	820.77	Services - Education / Training / Development
2	INTERNATIONAL PAINT SINGAPORE PTE. LTD.	653.58	Mfg - Chemical / Chemical Products
3	CAPITALAND TREASURY LIMITED	648.24	Finance - Others
4	AET TANKERS PTE. LTD.	364.88	Transport/Storage - Transport - Marine
5	SING HOLDINGS LIMITED	312.30	Property - Real Estate Investment / Developers
6	MCC TRANSPORT SINGAPORE PTE. LTD.	263.49	Transport/Storage - Transport - Marine
7	UBS SECURITIES PTE. LTD.	230.56	Finance - Investment / Stockbroking
8	SYNERGIC INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS & SERVICES PTE. LTD.^	223.51	Wholesale - Construction Materials / Hardware / Metals
9	CONVERSANT SOLUTIONS PTE. LTD.^	213.72	Information & Communications - Computer / E-Commence / IT related
10	KEPPEL INTEGRATED ENGINEERING LIMITED	208.21	Construction - Structural / Mechanical Engineering
11	COSCO CORPORATION (SINGAPORE) LIMITED#	168.88	Transport/Storage - Supporting / Auxiliary Transport / Post Activities
12	HSR INTERNATIONAL REALTORS PTE LTD#	165.02	Property - Real Estate Investment / Developers
13	INDOFOOD AGRI RESOURCES LTD.	154.81	Wholesale - Agricultural / Animal Produce
14	NORDEN SHIPPING (SINGAPORE) PTE. LTD.	145.79	Transport/Storage - Transport - Marine
15	IFAST CORPORATION PTE. LTD.	143.75	Finance - Finance Services
16	SCHAEFFLER (SINGAPORE) PTE. LTD.	139.97	Wholesale - Machinery / Equipment NEC
17	SUNVIC CHEMICAL HOLDINGS LIMITED	138.61	Mfg - Chemical / Chemical Products
18	MC2 PTE. LTD.^	134.83	Retail - Computers / IT / Telecom / Office Apparatus
19	B. T. I. HOLDINGS PTE LTD	134.07	Services - Consultancy / Business Activities
20	TARGET ASSET MANAGEMENT PTE LTD*	133.98	Finance - Investment / Stockbroking
21	ELICO OIL PTE. LTD.	132.63	Wholesale - Solid / Liquid / Gaseous Fuels and Related
22	INTRA ASIA TRADING PTE LTD	130.15	Wholesale - General Wholesale Trade
23	CBS VENTURES PTE. LTD.	126.63	Transport/Storage - Transport - Marine
24	SINGAMAS PETROLEUM TRADING PTE. LTD.	117.83	Wholesale - Solid / Liquid / Gaseous Fuels and Related
25	LVMH FRAGRANCES AND COSMETICS (SINGAPORE) PTE LTD#	115.02	Wholesale - Apparel / Personal Effects

Rank	Company Name	CAGR (%)	Business / Industry Classification
26	FELIX MARITIME PTE LTD#^	107.89	Transport/Storage - Transport - Marine
27	BEYONICS ADVANCED MANUFACTURING PTE. LTD.	107.68	Mfg - Electrical / Electronics
28	NILGIRI'S JEWELLERS PTE LTD	107.15	Wholesale - Apparel / Personal Effects
29	HO BEE INVESTMENT LTD#	104.47	Property - Real Estate Investment / Developers
30	ASIAN VENTURE CAPITAL PTE. LTD.*	101.51	Finance - Others
31	FCI MICROCONNECTIONS ASIA PTE. LTD.	101.07	Mfg - Electrical / Electronics
32	P & N HOLDINGS PTE. LTD.	100.83	Property - Real Estate Activities
33	AQUA-TERRA SUPPLY CO. LIMITED*	98.53	Wholesale - Machinery / Equipment NEC
34	UNIVERSAL INTEGRATED CORPORATION CONSUMER PRODUCTS PTE. LTD.	97.85	Mfg - Chemical / Chemical Products
35	PPL SHIPYARD PTE LTD	94.60	Transport/Storage - Supporting / Auxiliary Transport / Post Activities
36	CFE ENGINEERS ASIA PTE LTD*^	93.82	Construction - Structural / Mechanical Engineering
37	MATTERHORN ADVISORY SINGAPORE PTE LTD^	93.51	Finance - Investment / Stockbroking
38	SAMBO E&C PTE. LTD.	93.14	Construction - Structural / Mechanical Engineering
39	PACIFIC WORKBOATS PTE. LTD.	92.72	Transport/Storage - Transport - Marine
40	SANOFI-AVENTIS SINGAPORE PTE. LTD.	90.89	Wholesale - Medicinal / Pharmaceuticals Products
41	UNIPEC SINGAPORE PTE. LTD.#	90.40	Wholesale - Solid / Liquid / Gaseous Fuels and Related
42	PEARL ENERGY LIMITED	90.19	Wholesale - Solid / Liquid / Gaseous Fuels and Related
43	ALLGREEN NUTRITION PTE LTD^	88.58	Mfg - Chemical / Chemical Products
44	NORDAD PTE. LTD.^	88.15	Wholesale - Transport Equipment / Accessories
45	AMOS INTERNATIONAL (S) PTE. LTD.^	86.89	Transport/Storage - Supporting / Auxiliary Transport / Post Activities
46	JACOBS ENGINEERING SINGAPORE PTE LTD	85.22	Construction - General Construction Activities
47	CSC HOLDINGS LIMITED	84.58	Construction - Structural / Mechanical Engineering
48	SCHENKER (ASIA PACIFIC) PTE LTD	82.20	Services - Others
49	CABLES INTERNATIONAL PTE. LTD. #^	82.07	Wholesale - Electrical / Electronics
50	FORTIS PRIVATE BANKING SINGAPORE LIMITED	81.52	Finance - Banking Services

* Repeat winners for the last 3 years (4 companies)

Repeat winners for the last 2 years (7 companies)

^ SME winners (10 companies)

APPENDIX 2

PROFILE OF TOP 3 WINNERS

FG50 2009 :: 1

SIM PTE LTD

SIM Pte Ltd is the largest private education organisation in Singapore in terms of Student population and campus size. It pioneered the 'overseas degree programs delivered locally' model and offers high quality overseas degree programmes through partnerships with established international universities and institutions from the US, UK, Australia and Switzerland. Most of its students are full-time, both school leavers and working adults. Current enrolment is 18,000 including 3,000 foreign students.

FG50 2009 :: 2

INTERNATIONAL PAINT SINGAPORE PTE. LTD.

International Paint Singapore Pte Ltd is an investment holding company, engaged in the manufacture and sale of industrial coatings. In end 2004, International Paint Singapore Pte Ltd entered into an agreement to transfer the business operations from its subsidiary, International Coatings Pte. Ltd. In 2005, it acquired the entire business operations and net assets of its wholly owned subsidiary, International Coatings Pte. Ltd., which was in the business of manufacture and sale of industrial coatings. In 2007, International Coatings Pte. Ltd expanded its business interests in Vietnam by way of "Business Co-operation Contract" with Dong Nai Paint Joint Stock Company ("Vietnam Branch").

FG50 2009 :: 3

CAPITALAND TREASURY LIMITED

Capitaland Treasury Limited is engaged in the provision of financial and treasury services to its related companies. Its growth may be attributed to its sharp increase in turnover due to the restructuring of its business operations in 2004. With this restructuring and consolidation of its business activities in 2004, Capitaland Treasury Limited was now involved in providing of financial and treasury services to its related corporations. In 2005, it saw a strong 3,830.25% growth in its turnover mainly driven by increasing interest income from related corporations. Subsequently in 2006 and 2007, Capitaland Treasury Limited continued to have an extraordinary financial result in 2007, showing an 85.74% turnover from S\$121.6 million in 2006 to S\$225.9 million in 2007.

APPENDIX 3

FASTEST GROWING 50 CERTIFICATION METHODOLOGY

Ranking period is for 4 financial years.

For the 2009 FG50 certification, the financial years considered is from 1 June 2004 – 31 May 2008.

In addition to the ranking criteria of the Singapore 1000 & SME 500 (*ref www.dpgroup.sg/s1000 for full ranking methodology & criteria*), companies need to fulfill the following to qualify for consideration as a Fastest Growing 50 company:-

1. Must fulfill 4 full years of operations.
2. Be ranked in the Singapore 1000 and SME 500 rankings.
3. Must demonstrate 10% sales/turnover growth or better every year for the last 3 years and must be profitable for each of last 3 years.
4. Companies' financials must be certified true and fair according to auditors for all 4 years.

The final order of position is from the last 3-years CAGR growth (in percentage) in sales/turnover, in descending order.

ABOUT THE CERTIFICATION BODY

DP INFORMATION GROUP

DP Information Group (DP Info) is Singapore's leading credit and business information bureau. A veteran of 30 years, it currently serves 95% of Singapore's financial institutions and 75% of its leading law firms. Through its online information portal, QuestNet, DP Info enables clients to make confident credit management decisions everyday based on comprehensive, accurate and reliable information.

DP Info offers a credit scoring solution for the national credit consumer market and is also a developer of DP Credit Ratings, a proprietary corporate credit ratings model based on the probability of default.

DP Info is an advocate of the SME and entrepreneurial communities. Through its ACRA-appointed service bureau, DP Bureau, it assists these 2 segments in starting their business and operating them effectively and efficiently through their initial years.

DP Info Group's minority stakeholder is Experian®, one of the world's largest credit reference agencies. With this relationship, Experian brings to DP Info global technical and developmental expertise in a wealth of areas including consumer and corporate credit analytics. Additionally, it enhances DP Info's existing services and enables the implementation of international best practices to meet the demands of a global economy. Experian plc is listed on the London Stock Exchange (EXPN) and is a constituent of the FTSE 100 index.

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- MOF Appointed Bureau for Government Supplier Registration Services (GSRS)
- Corporate Secretarial & Management Services

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