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MEDIA RELEASE

KEPPEL PARTNERS WITH SINGAPORE TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION (STTA) TO GROOM YOUNG TABLE TENNIS TALENTS

The Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA) is sparing no effort in producing champions of tomorrow. The emphasis on youth development at the STTA has never been greater. The STTA is proud to announce that it has signed a three-year sponsorship agreement with Keppel Corporation (Keppel), marking the start of a partnership between STTA and Keppel to advance the efforts of STTA to nurture more table tennis talents.

Under the sponsorship agreement, Keppel will provide funding of S\$300,000 over three years towards the zone training centre at Clementi.

"Keppel and STTA share the same vision and that is to develop more young talents through the zone training centres. With an elite structured system in place, we hope that these young paddlers are able to represent Singapore in the coming years. Furthermore, we are committed to launch more training zones if the demand for them grows," says Er. Dr. Lee Bee Wah, Member of Parliament for Nee Soon GRC & President STTA.

Mr Choo Chiau Beng, CEO of Keppel Corporation said, "The Singapore Table Tennis Association has done a marvelous job of not only producing world champions but also promoting the sport of table tennis in Singapore. Keppel is proud to partner the STTA in their relentless commitment and dedication to nurture and groom young talents in this sport."

The STTA has in place elite programmes to develop local youth players for progression into the National Team. With the STTA-PCF kindergarten table tennis programme at 18 constituencies and our five Junior Sports Academy (JSA) Programme, as well as our collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MOE), we are able to monitor over 1,000 promising children from Kindergarten 2 to Primary 6 and groom them. Talented and promising players are sent to the association's training zone centres at Bishan, Tampines, Toa Payoh, Yishun, Jurong West, Innova Primary School and Clementi for intensive training. From these zones training, the more promising ones will be directed to our Youth Development Squads when they get to Primary 6.

This is where the youth paddlers will be groomed for the Youth Development Squad and National Youth Team and eventually, the National Team. With the seeds for the growth of local-born talent planted, we believe the programme will start to see results in the next 10 years. And we hope these young paddlers are able to represent Singapore within 15 to 20 years.

About Keppel Corporation

With a global footprint in over 30 countries, Keppel Corporation leverages its international network, resources and talents to grow its key businesses. It aims to be the Provider of Choice for Solutions to the Offshore & Marine Industries, Sustainable Environment and Urban Living, guided by its key business thrusts of Sustaining Growth, Empowering Lives and Nurturing Communities.

The Keppel Group of Companies includes Keppel Offshore & Marine, Keppel Integrated Engineering, K-Green Trust, Keppel Energy, Keppel Telecommunications & Transportation (Keppel T&T) and Keppel Land, among others.

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