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KEPPEL PARTNERS SINGAPORE TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION (STTA) TO CHAMPION SPORTS EXCELLENCE

The Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA) and Keppel Corporation today announced Keppel's continued sponsorship of the Keppel-STTA Awards Night. The annual event to honour Singapore's paddlers was held this evening at the Orchid Country Club. Keppel sponsored all cash awards which ranged from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Keppel's partnership with STTA builds on a separate sponsorship agreement which sees Keppel contributing \$300,000 over three years towards STTA's Clementi Zone Training Centre. The Centre offers professional table tennis coaching for Singaporeans aged 5 to 11 years old with the aim of broadening the base of competitive players to be infused into the National Youth Squads.

"The players' discipline, resilience and iron will to win resonate with Keppel's core values of passion and excellence. We recognise the intangible value of sports to inspire, ignite national pride and bond communities, and are proud to once again sponsor the Keppel-STTA Awards Night to elevate sporting champions in Singapore. In recognising our athletes' achievements, we spur them on to reach greater heights," said Mr Loh Chin Hua, CEO of Keppel Corporation.

"The Keppel-STTA awards night is to to pay tribute to our top sporting talents, congratulate them on a job well done, and spur them on to do even better in their future sporting pursuits. Looking back, 2013 has been a momentous year for Singapore table tennis with our athletes achieving significant sporting successes. I would like to congratulate all of our athletes for their outstanding performances. We are all proud of what they have achieved and we hope that they will continue to bring glory to Singapore and inspire the rest of us with their commitment, dedication and passion," said Er Dr Lee Bee Wah, Member of Parliament for Nee Soon GRC and President of STTA.

The Keppel-STTA Awards comprise:

- Player of the Year 2013
- Coach of the Year 2013
- Young Player of the Year 2013
- Young Achiever Award 2013
- Excellence in Sports Performance (World Championships 2013) 3 awards
- Excellence in Sports Performance (SEA Games 2013 & Commonwealth Championships 2013) 2 awards
- Special Awards of the Year 2013 5 awards
- Best Boy Performance for the SEA Junior Table Tennis Championships
- Best Girl Performance for the SEA Junior Table Tennis Championships

(Refer to Appendix A for details on the Keppel-STTA Awards and award recipients)

About STTA

Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA) is a National Sports Association affiliated to the Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC) and Singapore Sports Council (SSC). Our mission is to develop world class table tennis players by identifying, nurturing and motivating aspiring table-tennis talents to become the best that they could be. STTA is also committed to promoting table tennis vigorously by building a significant number of table tennis players to help make a vibrant sporting Singapore. Our vision is to make table tennis the most popular game in Singapore.

Visit www.stta.org.sg.

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 Energy, Keppel Integrated Engineering, Keppel Telecommunications & Transportation (Keppel T&T) and Keppel Land, among others. Visit <u>www.kepcorp.com</u>.

Keppel – STTA Player of the Year 2013

Feng Tianwei is currently ranked number 5 in the world. She has brought much honour to Singapore with her sporting achievements.

Last year, her sporting achievements include leading the women's team to a bronze medal in the women's team event at the Asian Table Tennis Championships. At the World Table Tennis Championships 2013, Feng Tianwei and her doubles partner Yu Mengyu won a bronze medal in the women's doubles event.

Feng Tianwei's strong performance continued at the Women's World Cup. She scored victory over Hong Kong's Jiang Huajun to clinch the bronze medal.

Feng Tianwei truly deserved this award and she has previously won the award thrice.

Keppel –STTA Coach of the Year 2013

As the head coach of the women's team, Coach **Jing Junhong** demands a high standard of training and discipline from the athletes. She is actively involved in all aspects of the athletes' development, and works closely with them on their styles and techniques in their sport.

Notably, several of the athletes who represented Singapore to the 27th Myanmar SEA Games were debutants. Jing Jun Hong raised the standard of these young athletes, leading them to win all the gold medals on offer at the 27th Myanmar SEA Games.

Under her charge, Singapore's young player Lin Ye scored a full house of titles at the South East Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships and earned a bronze medal at the Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships. Lin Ye also emerged as the Champion in the U21 girls' event at the ITTF World Tour Grand Finals in Dubai.

Keppel –STTA Young Player of the Year 2013

Lin Ye has made tremendous improvement in the year 2013. Her world ranking has improved signicantly from 105 in January 2013 to 69 in December 2013

In 2013, Lin Ye scored victories at South East Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships and earned a bronze medal at the Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships. This is the first time that Singapore has scored the bronze medal in the junior girls' singles event.

At the ITTF Polish Open, Lin Ye upset two players seeded above her to win the Under-21 women's singles event. Lin Ye also emerged as the Champion in the girls' Under-21 singles title at the ITTF World Tour Grand Finals in Dubai, beating top seed Ng Wing Nam of Hong Kong.

Keppel – STTA Young Achiever of the Year

Isabelle Li successfully repeated her silver medal achievement event at the 27th Myanmar SEA Games. This proves that our local talent, Isabelle is a force to be reckoned with.

We hope that Isabelle will lead the women's team when Singapore hosts the SEA Games 2015.

Keppel –STTA Excellence in Sports Performance Award (World Championships)

This award is to reward **Feng Tianwei** and **Yu Mengyu** for scoring the bronze medal in the women's doubles event at the World Championships 2013. Credit also must go to Coach **Jing Junhong** for leading the doubles team to success.

This is Singapore's second ever medal at the women's event at the World Championships. The first was a women's doubles bronze won by Li Jiawei and Wang Yuegu in 2007.

<u>Keppel –STTA Excellence in Sports Performance Award (27th Myanmar SEA Games and Commonwealth</u> <u>Championships)</u>

This award is to reward **Zhan Jian's** exceptional performance at the 27th Myanmar SEA Games and Commonwealth Championships.

Zhan Jian is a team leader who is able to build confidence amongst members and keep his members focused. At the 27th Myanmar SEA Games, Zhan Jian led the men's team to win all the matches 3-0 to maintain Singapore's position as the top South-east Asian nation.

Zhan Jian dominated in the Commonwealth Championships, scoring a total of 4 golds in the men's team, men's singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles events.

Yang Chuan Ning, head coach of the men's team was instrumental in guiding Zhan Jian's wins at the 27th Myanmar SEA Games and Commonwealth Championships. This sport excellence award will also be presented to Coach Yang.

Keppel – STTA Special Award of the Year 2013

The Special Award of the year acknowledges the athletes' win against the tough Chinese opponents and their exceptional performances.

STTA presents the 5 special awards, as follow:

Feng Tianwei

Feng Tianwei beat China's Ding Ning, the top seed, in seven games (11-8, 5-11, 5-11, 12-10, 11-9, 8-11, 11-3) at the ITTF 2013 World Tour Kuwait Open. The win was not an easy feat and it clearly demonstrated that Feng is one tough opponent that can overcome all odds.

Feng continued her success against the Chinese player, Liu Gaoyang at the ITTF 2014 World Tour Korea Open. Liu was beaten by Feng in in six games (8-11, 11-4, 11-6, 11-5, 4-11, 11-9).

Wu Zhikang

Wu Zhikang defeated China's Wu Jiaji 4-2 in the men's singles (qualification stage) at the ITTF 2013 World Tour Japan Open.

Zhan Jian and Yang Zi

Yang Zi and Zhan Jian are one of the best doubles partnerships in the Pro Tour- circuit. They defeated Chui Qing Lei/ Xu Chen Hao in the men's doubles at the ITTF 2013 World Tour Japan Open.

Gao Ning/ Li Hu

At the ITTF 2013 Qatar Open, Gao Ning/ Li Hu, a formidable partnership won the match round of 16 against the Chinese players Xu Xin / Fang Zheng Dong in a dramatic five games finish (10-12,11-5,7-11,11-5,6-11).

Clarence Chew/Ma Liang

Clarence Chew/ Ma Liang beat China's Ma Te/ Wu Jiaji in the men's doubles event at the ITTF 2013 World Tour Japan Open. Against Ma Te and Wu Jiaji, the Singaporean pair showed great control and focus.

Keppel –STTA Young Best Boy Performance for the SEA Junior Table Tennis Championships

Clarence Chew was the top boy achiever for the SEA Junior Table Tennis Championships 2013, scoring a total of 3 golds in the boys' singles, mixed doubles' and boys' doubles events.

Keppel – STTA Young Girl Boy Performance for the SEA Junior Table Tennis Championships

Lin Ye emerged as the most bemedalled athlete of SEA Junior Table Tennis Championships, with four gold medals in the Under-18 girls' singles, team, doubles and mixed doubles.