



**EY Entrepreneur
Of The Year™**

2023 Awards
Singapore

What makes your business a masterpiece?

EY Entrepreneur Of The Year™
2023 Awards Singapore

#WEOY #EYEOYSG



The better the question.
The better the answer.
The better the world works.



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Welcome

to the 22nd **EY Entrepreneur Of The Year™** Awards Gala.

For the past 22 years, we have celebrated the successes of exceptional entrepreneurs in Singapore. This year, remarkably for the first time, the entire class of winners are women entrepreneurs - outstanding individuals who care deeply about making both business and social impact. Each a visionary, a changemaker, an innovator - the enduring spark of brilliance behind her masterpiece of work.

Their stories breathe life into this year's theme, The Art of Entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship is no easy feat. It is a constant pursuit of excellence in the face of geopolitical and market volatilities, evolving stakeholder expectations, and many other disruptions. Truly, entrepreneurship requires an artful balance of passion, innovation, risk-taking and resilience.

Congratulations to all our winners tonight! Let us recognize how they have continuously charted new grounds and the inspiration they bring to breaking gender barriers and advancing gender equity.

May their journeys also inspire us to do equally great things in our own capacity and be agents of change to build a better working world. 🙌

Liew Nam Soon

EY Asean Regional Managing Partner

EY Singapore and Brunei Managing Partner

About EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Singapore



As the first and only truly global awards program of its kind, the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year™ celebrates entrepreneurs who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses. The program makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement.

The awards program was launched in Singapore in 2002 to honor exceptional entrepreneurs locally, as well as to coincide with the government's focus on fostering entrepreneurship and grooming local entrepreneurs. 🏆

EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2023 judging panel



The award recipients of the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year awards Singapore are selected by a prestigious independent panel of judges, comprising leading figures from the Singapore business community, academia and past EY Entrepreneur Of The Year winners.



From left to right: Tan Kok Yam, Dr. Shi Xu, Chris Lee, Fang Ai Lian, Png Cheong Boon, Prof. Christina Soh and Dr. Zhou Lihan

“

The four winners this year clearly demonstrate strong business acumen and innovation paired with passion and purpose. Whether it is breaking new grounds in traditional industries or charting unknown territories in emerging sectors, the winners have been bold with their vision in growing a business that not only responds to but creates new market demands locally and abroad, while making an impact on the wider communities that they serve or operate in.

Dr. Shi Xu

Chairperson of the judging panel
Founder and Executive Chairman, Nanofilm Technologies International Ltd

Meet our EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2023 judging panel



Dr. Shi Xu

Nanofilm Technologies International Ltd



Dr. Zhou Lihan

MiRXES



Prof. Christina Soh

Nanyang Technological University



Fang Ai Lian

Board of Trustees
Singapore Business Federation



Png Cheong Boon

Singapore Economic Development Board



Tan Kok Yam

SkillsFuture Singapore



Chris Lee

Softbank Vision Fund



Judging criteria

Entrepreneurial spirit

Growth

Purpose

Impact

[Find out more](#)



Class of

2023

EY Entrepreneur
Of The Year

(Information provided by winners' companies)



Phyllis Ong

Group CEO
Armstrong Industrial Corporation Limited



Phyllis Ong is the second-generation family business leader of Armstrong Group. Her vision is for the company to become a scalable world-class manufacturing gateway, partnering diverse talents and organizations from all over the world.

Partnerships with quality enterprises have always formed the cornerstone of Armstrong Group's 50-year journey and this continues to be in their DNA and growth strategy.

She started her entrepreneurial journey 20 years ago in 2003, cofounding Whole Earth, Singapore's first and only Michelin-awarded (Bib Gourmand) plant-based restaurant.

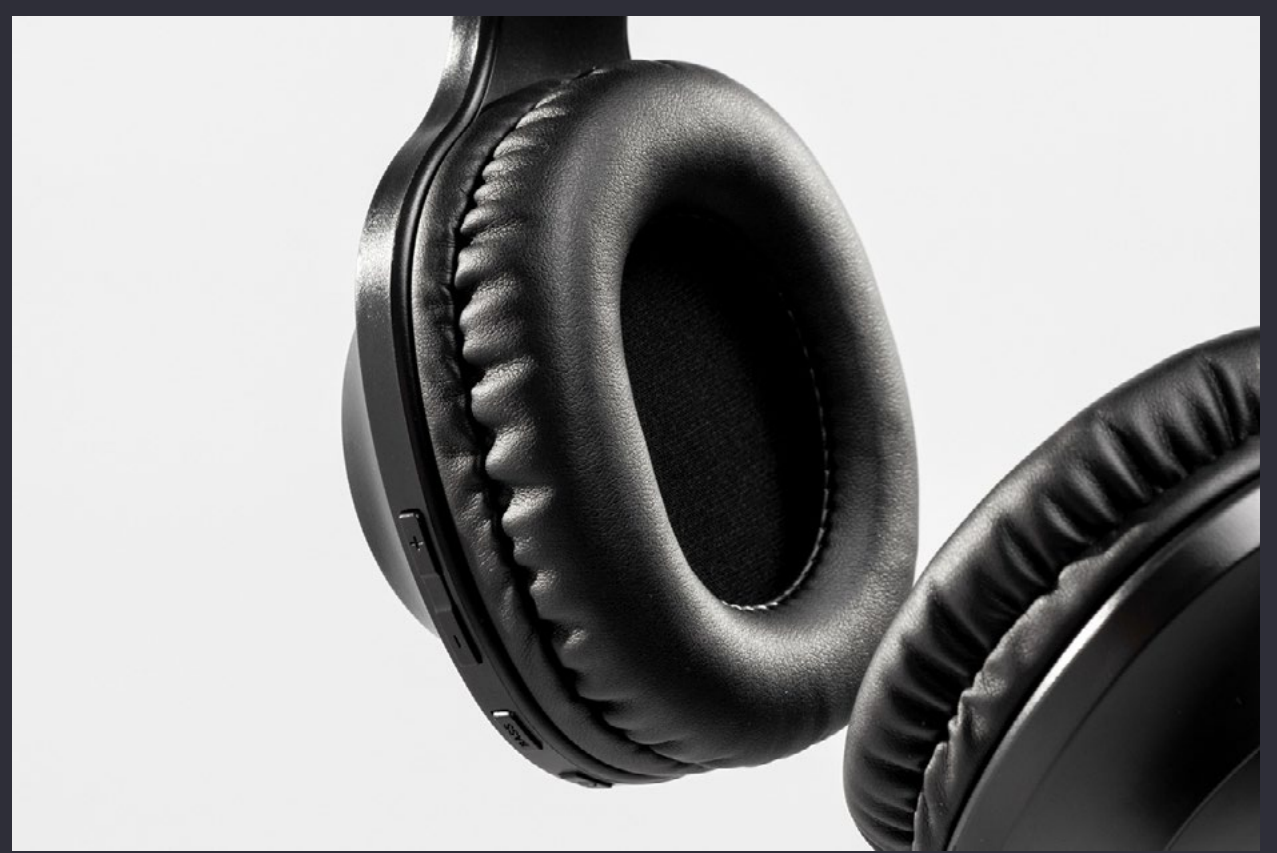
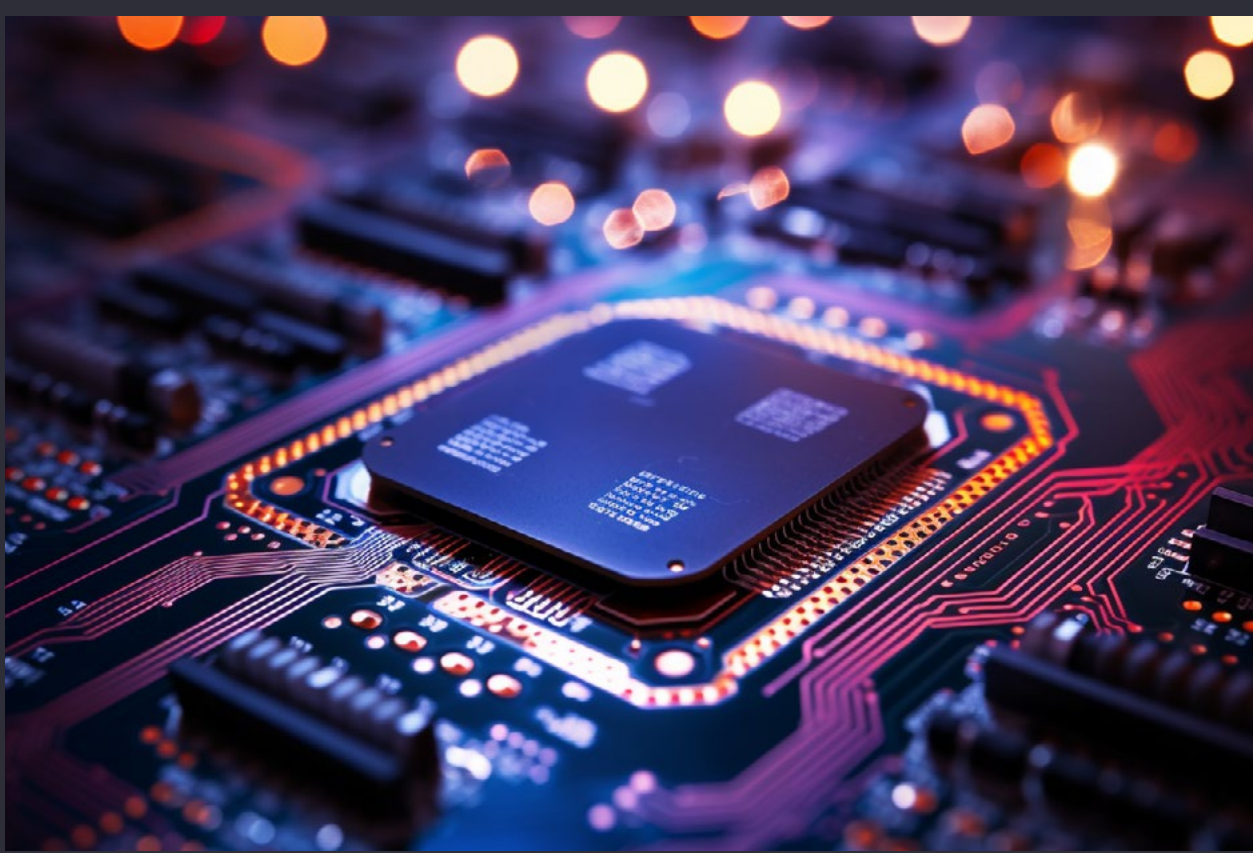
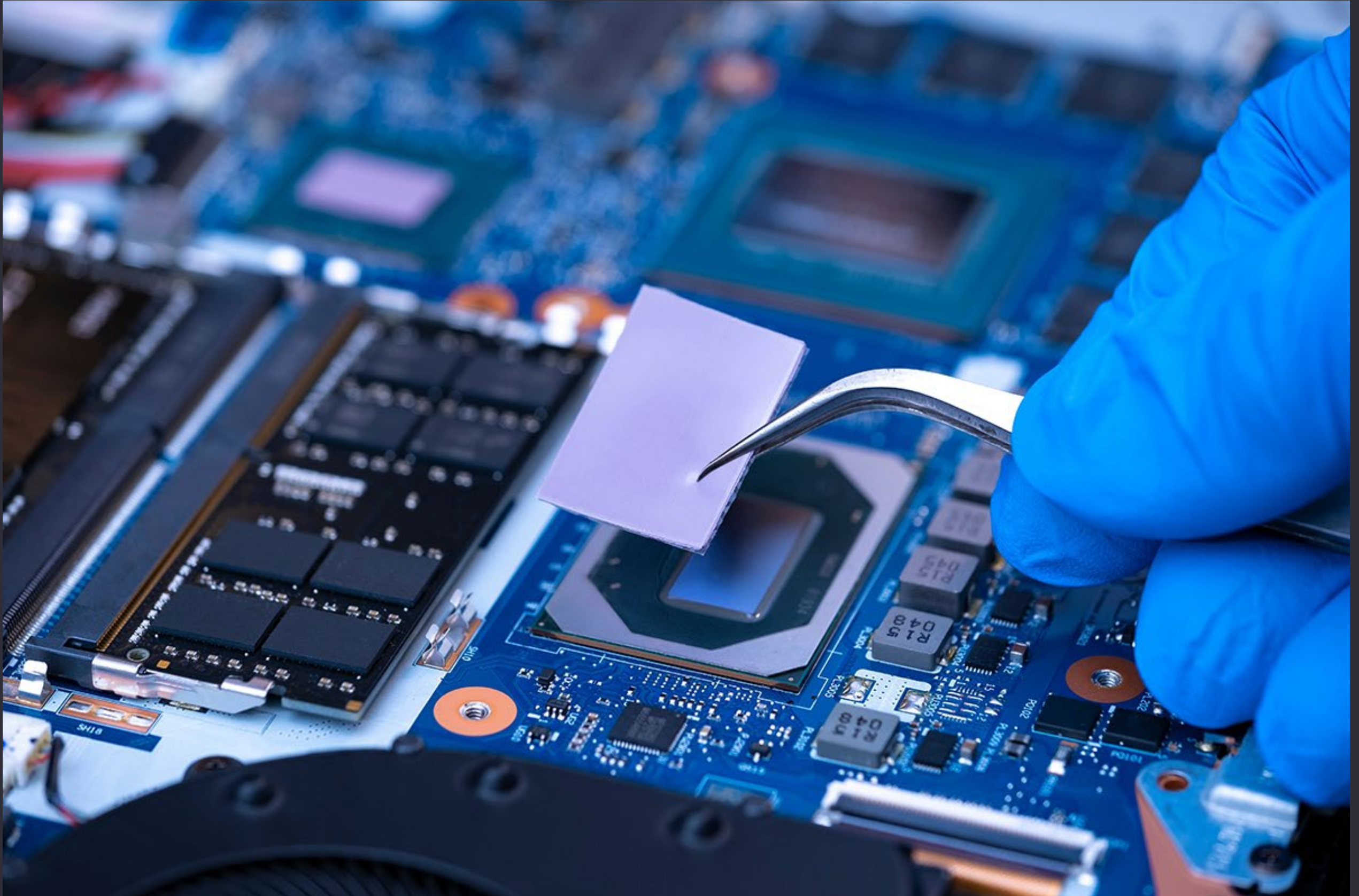
In 2017, she founded CORI Innolab, a biotechnology company that invests in the development of advanced biologically active collagen used in skin healing and anti-ageing for medical and beauty care.

Phyllis has been a board member of Enterprise Singapore since 2022 and a committee member for the E50 Association since 2021. She is also a council member of the Singapore Manufacturing Federation. She is passionate about encouraging more collaborations between international and Singapore enterprises.

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With passion, focus and determination, anything is possible.

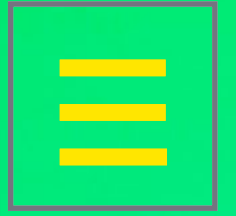
About Armstrong Group



Armstrong Group, headquartered in Singapore, currently operates at 19 sites across seven countries in Southeast Asia and China, with 16 factories and two sales offices. Since 1974, Armstrong Group has been operating as a B2B precision engineering manufacturer where they customize foam, film and elastomeric solutions for noise, vibration, heat and safety management. They are also the only one-stop solution provider in the world, offering more than 10 precision engineering technologies for both 2D and 3D material converting services in the industry segment.

Armstrong Group serves diverse industries including automotive, consumer electronics, industrial as well as medical and health care. Customers and partners value Armstrong Group's strong technical capabilities and unique footprint across Asia. They have more than 2,500 customers including market-leading European, American and Japanese brands such as Mercedes Benz, BMW, Audi, Volkswagen, Toyota, Honda, Nissan, Ford, Dyson, Panasonic, Lexmark, Roland, Yamaha, Shimano, Peters Surgical, Bio-Rad and Molnlycke.

armstrongasia.com



Althea Lim

Cofounder and Group CEO
Gushcloud International



Althea Lim started operating within the creator, influencer and entertainment scene as early as 2010. She later on cofounded Gushcloud International with business partner, Vincent Ha.

As Group CEO since 2017, Althea has redefined Gushcloud International as a content and commerce company powered by the creator economy. The company is now based in 11 countries including Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the US, and Vietnam and has over 300 full-time staff.

With Althea's contribution to the creator, entertainment and commerce industries in Asia-Pacific and the US, she was cited as the overall winner for the SME category at the Women Entrepreneur Awards 2023. She was also included in the 2021 Tatler's "Asia's Most Influential" Singapore list. Gushcloud International has also been recognized as one of "Singapore's Fastest Growing Companies" by The Straits Times in 2021 and 2022.

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It's always a new day.
New day to do new
things. And new things
to make a new impact.

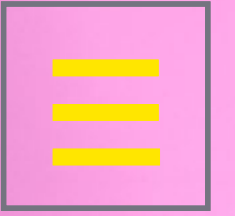
About Gushcloud International



Gushcloud International is a global creator and entertainment company, focused on influencer marketing, entertainment and commerce.

They connect audiences and brands to influencers and content creators through representation and management, brand strategy, marketing and activation services, media production sales and distribution, licensing and co-creating significant intellectual property in the content, media and event spaces.

gushcloud.com



Yvon Bock

Founder and CEO
Hegen Pte Ltd



Yvon Bock is the founder and CEO of Hegen, a successful mother and baby care brand that seeks to empower mothers in their breastfeeding and motherhood journey.

As a working mother who breastfed for a decade, Yvon understands the challenges that come with balancing work and parenthood. Hegen is testament to her dedication to providing innovative solutions that make parenthood more fulfilling.

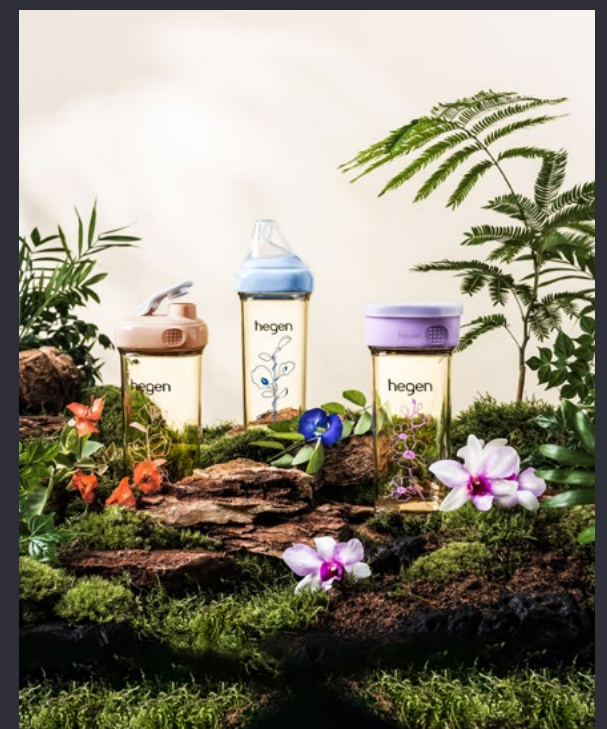
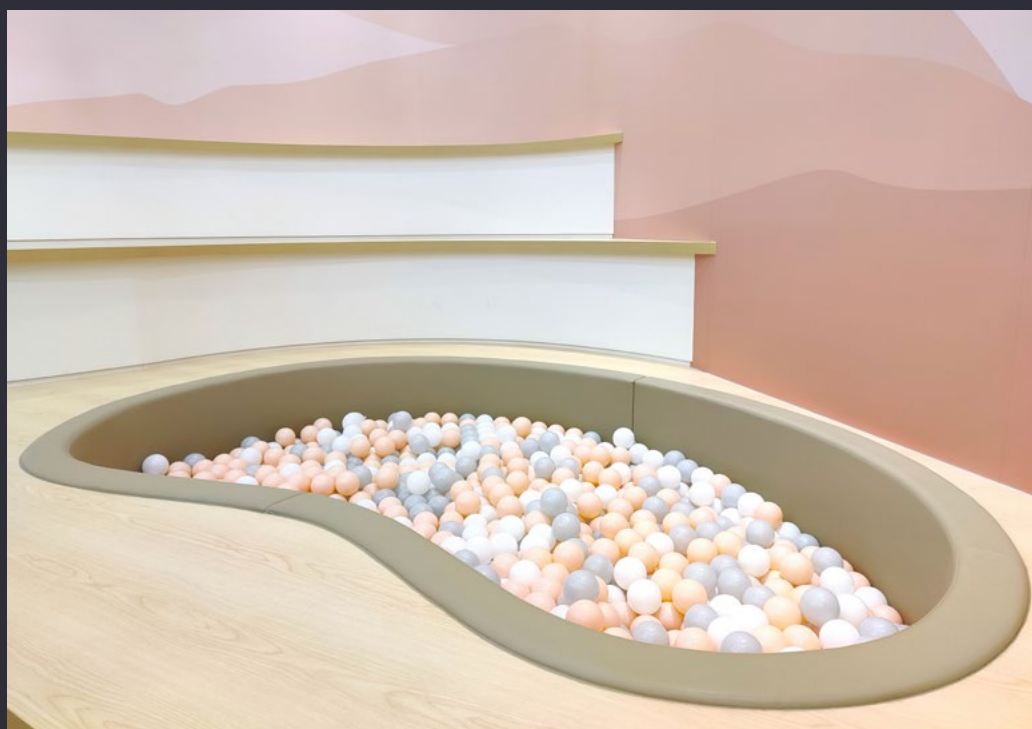
Yvon strives to provide the gold standard perinatal lactation support to parents and babies through education and consultation services via the Hegen Lactation Centre. Ultimately, Yvon's goal is to serve 100 million mothers globally and to continually pay it forward.

Her steadfast dedication to the empowerment of working mothers eventually led her to become an International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant and also a member of the Alliance for Family and Marriage, an organization under the Ministry of Social and Family Development that empowers and supports families at different stages of life.

“

To empower 100 million mothers globally and cherish the gift of nature.

About Hegen Pte Ltd



To enhance and create a positive breastfeeding journey for parents, Hegen was established in Singapore in 2015 by its founder and CEO, Yvon Bock, whose vision was to modernize a feeding system that advocates breastfeeding, protects the integrity of breastmilk, and simplifies the way mothers express, store and feed.

As a global brand thoughtfully designed by a mother for mothers, Hegen champions sustainability through innovative, practical and high-quality breastfeeding products that can be easily converted and repurposed to meet the evolving needs of a child, hence extending the product lifespan to beyond a bottle.

The iconic ergonomically shaped Hegen Sground™ (square-round) bottles are modular, multifunctional and designed with patented Press-to-Close, Twist-to-Open™ (PCTO™) no screw thread closure for easy handling and assembling across the Hegen express-store-feed ecosystem.

Hegen is currently available in 24 international markets.

hegen.com

A full-body portrait of Olive Tai, a woman with shoulder-length brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a black short-sleeved top with a sheer mesh collar and a blue skirt with a black side panel. She is also wearing a silver watch on her left wrist, a silver bracelet on her right wrist, and a ring on her right hand.

Olive Tai

Cofounder and Managing Director
Synagie Group Asia and Europe



Olive Tai is Co-founder and Managing Director of Synagie Group Asia and Europe, responsible for the group's operations, growth and profitability across eight markets.

Prior to Synagie, Olive spent 20 years in the FMCG and retail industry, in leadership positions at Johnson & Johnson, Bausch & Lomb and Watsons.

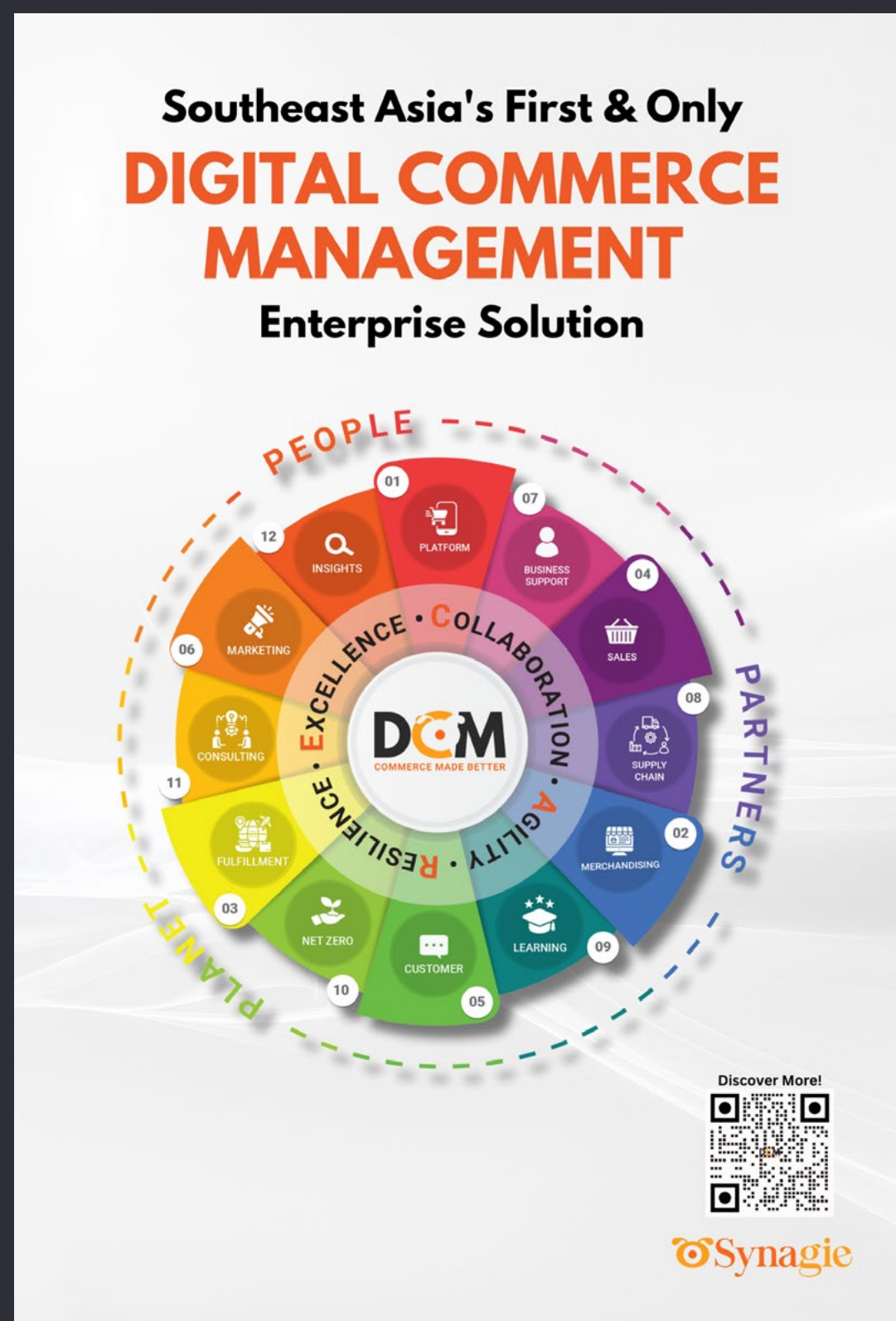
Since 2022, Olive has successfully transformed Synagie to become a regional digital commerce institution, launching the group's digital commerce management system and new retail models, as well as championing environmental sustainability, upskilling and learning, and support for women business owners in the sector.

Olive is the founding and executive committee member of the Singapore Women Entrepreneurs Network established by the Singapore Business Federation (SBF) in 2021. She is also an active member of the SBF's SME committee and mentor to its Young Business Leaders Network.

“

Don't give up, try!
If not, you will never
know, never learn.

About Synagie Group Asia and Europe



Synagie Group Asia and Europe is the leading, multiple award-winning Southeast Asia ecommerce enabler, powering digital commerce across all major channels and platforms across the region and Spain.

Managing over 1,000 digital stores in the region for 600 brand partners, Synagie is the winner of Lazada Regional Partner of Year 2021-2022. It is Lazada 3-star certified and a Shopee-accredited enabler regionally. In 2022, Synagie took top honors for "Best eCommerce Fulfilment and Customer Service" in Marketing Interactive's Asia eCommerce Awards.

Synagie's digital commerce platform and technology solutions are ISO/IEC 27001:2013 certified for information security. Synagie is certified carbon neutral (TUV 2023-CNT-P002) and offers eco-friendly packaging and fulfillment options to its working partners across the region.

Employing 450 digital commerce professionals across Southeast Asia, Synagie advocates for fair, safe, inclusive and progressive workspaces. Synagie Commerce Academy was established in 2021 to promote continuous digital commerce learning and upskilling for Synagie and the public.

synagie.com

EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Singapore Academy



In 2005, the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Singapore Academy was launched to form a community among honorees of the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Singapore. This network, comprising a select group of outstanding entrepreneurs, has been pivotal in shaping Singapore's entrepreneurial ecosystem. The Academy has also played an important role in inspiring the next generation of promising entrepreneurs to share ideas, forge valuable friendships, and foster new business ties and philanthropy.



EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™

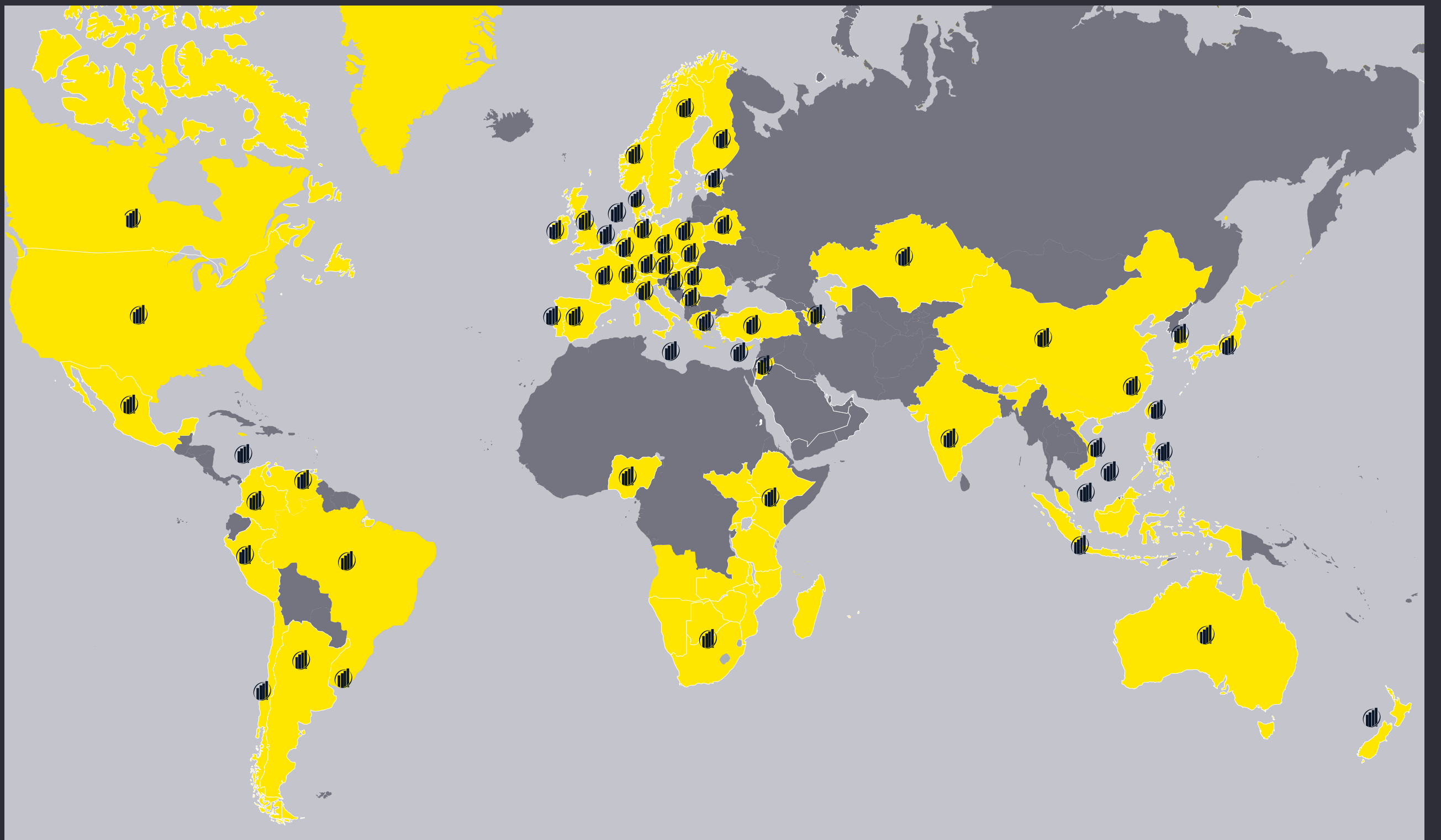


The EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates the vision, insight and determination of entrepreneurs from around the globe. Each year, country winners from around the world come together to vie for the coveted EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year title. Transcending national boundaries, the world award recognizes the global impact of entrepreneurs and honors their outstanding achievements, providing them an exclusive platform to network and plan their next growth strategy.



Doris Hsu

Chairperson and CEO of GlobalWafers
EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™ 2023



More than

60

countries

145

cities

930

companies represented at WEYO since its inception through to 2023



EY Family Enterprise Award of Excellence 2023



The EY Family Enterprise Award of Excellence was launched in 2013 to recognize family enterprises that have made significant socioeconomic contributions and demonstrated the ability to harmonize business and family matters.



Ho Bee Land



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Our enduring family values and principles have guided us on this journey. We focus not only on doing well in our business, but also on the well-being of our stakeholders, employees and the communities we serve, building a culture of care, inclusivity and sustainable growth.

Dr. Chua Thian Poh

Executive Chairman, Ho Bee Land

About Ho Bee Land



Ho Bee Land Limited (HBL) is a Singapore-based property developer and investor founded in 1987. Listed on the mainboard of the Singapore Exchange in 1999, HBL has a global footprint spanning Singapore, Australia, China, the UK and Europe.

In Singapore, HBL is widely recognized as the pioneer developer of luxury homes in the exclusive residential enclave of Sentosa Cove. Other notable developments include The Metropolis at one-north, the largest Grade A office development outside the Central Business District to date, and Elementum, a cutting-edge biomedical sciences development slated to be completed by end 2023.

In London, the company has a portfolio of eight investment properties, including The Scalpel, Ropemaker Place and 1 St Martin's Le Grand.

HBL is committed toward delivering quality homes and workspaces for its stakeholders and contributing to a sustainable built environment.

hobee.com



EY Asean Entrepreneurial Excellence Award 2023



Tan Sri Sir Jeffrey Cheah
KBE AO

Founder and Chairman
Sunway Group



Tan Sri Sir Jeffrey Cheah KBE AO

is a stalwart entrepreneur and philanthropist recognized for his selfless contribution to nation-building and bold commitment to the sustainability agenda.

He established his entrepreneurship credentials by founding Sunway Group, one of Southeast Asia's leading conglomerates.

In the realm of philanthropy, Tan Sri is the founder and trustee of the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation, which has disbursed RM670m in scholarships and grants as of 2023. Adopting a social enterprise model, the foundation is the largest of its kind in advancing education in Malaysia. It is Tan Sri's goal to give out several billion Ringgit in scholarships in his lifetime.

Tan Sri has been conferred 12 honorary doctorates by world-renowned institutions and is an Honorary Fellow of Cambridge and Oxford universities as well as a member of Harvard University's Global Advisory Council. He is the first Malaysian recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Luminary Award by Singapore-based Channel NewsAsia and was named four times as "Forbes Asia's Hero of Philanthropy". His honors include Order of Australia (AO) conferred by the Australian Prime Minister, and the Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (KBE) conferred by His Majesty King Charles III of the United Kingdom.

“

I aspire to inspire
before I expire.

About Sunway Group



Established in 1974, Sunway Group is one of Southeast Asia's leading conglomerates with 13 business divisions across more than 50 locations primarily in Asia. The 16,000-strong team is committed to sustainable development and socioeconomic progress through diverse businesses including core interests in real estate, construction, education, health care, retail and hospitality.

Sunway is committed to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and continues to align them with the group's Environmental, Social and Governance targets as part of its corporate strategy and social responsibility toward driving long-term success and deepening commitment to nation-building.

Sunway's three public-listed companies – Sunway Berhad, Sunway Construction Group, and Sunway REIT, with a combined market capitalization of RM17.3b, form a real-estate value chain that exemplifies socially responsible business practices.

sunway.com.my

EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Partners and supporters



Partner:



Singapore Exchange (SGX Group) is Asia's leading and trusted securities and derivatives market infrastructure, operating equity, fixed income, currency and commodity markets to the highest regulatory standards. It also operates a multi-asset sustainability platform, SGX FIRST or Future in Reshaping Sustainability Together (sgx.com/first).

SGX Group is committed to facilitating economic growth in a sustainable manner leveraging its roles as a key player in the ecosystem, a business, regulator and listed company. With climate action as a key priority, SGX Group aims to be a leading sustainable and transition financing and trading hub offering trusted, quality, end-to-end products and solutions.

As Asia's most international, multi-asset exchange, SGX Group provides listing, trading, clearing, settlement, depository and data services, with about 40% of listed companies and over 80% of listed bonds originating outside of Singapore. SGX Group is the world's most liquid international market for the benchmark equity indices of China, India, Japan and ASEAN. Headquartered in AAA-rated Singapore, SGX Group is globally recognized for its risk management and clearing capabilities.

sgx.com

Official media partners:

PORTFOLIO

Portfolio Magazine is a business and luxury lifestyle publication that engages a broad audience, which includes a younger generation of top professionals and business owners who are tech-savvy and conversant with new technologies. It also aims to engage today's thought leaders and game-changers.

In addition to the stories in Portfolio Magazine's monthly print version, the website, portfoliomagsg.com, brings stories to life through a rich digital landscape, which includes engaging videos, immersive podcasts, and exclusive stories on interesting personalities in Singapore and beyond, as well as global trends in technology, business, art, lifestyle, dining, and more.

portfoliomagsg.com

THE BUSINESS TIMES

Singapore's only financial daily, The Business Times (BT), is the authoritative guide on local, regional and international business markets. In addition to corporate news and commentary, BT covers the startup, wealth, property, lifestyle and SME scenes, and tells its readers what they need to know about Asean and the world with a wide range of insights from in-house experts. BT is part of SPH Media.

businesstimes.com.sg



As Singapore's only weekly business and investment newspaper, The Edge Singapore has evolved into a highly regarded medium by both readers and advertisers. It is today a much sought-after economic resource that provides an independent, in-depth and indispensable coverage of corporate news and thought leadership content from Singapore and the region.

It actively pursues and delivers timely stories, information, and opinions with an inquisitive and analytical spirit. The Edge Singapore strives to engage leaders in intellectually demanding conversations and ideas with the goal of impacting positive socioeconomic progress.

theedgesingapore.com

Supporters:



Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE) is the national voice for the Singapore startup ecosystem, and a key trade association representing the interests of startups in Singapore, with more than 1,500 members.

ACE constantly seeks to build a vibrant and sustainable startup ecosystem, and focuses on five crucial ecosystem pillars: startups, corporations, institutes of higher learning, risk capital, and the public sector.

ACE was established in 2003 by the Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry, and re-launched as a private sector-led, non-profit organization in 2014. ACE's Patron is Dr. Tan See Leng, Minister for Manpower and Second Minister for Trade and Industry.

Working closely with the government and startups, ACE aims to promote entrepreneurship, catalyze new growth opportunities, scale startups and build champion enterprises.

ace.org.sg



Enterprise Singapore is the government agency championing enterprise development. The agency works with committed companies to build capabilities, innovate and internationalize.

It also supports the growth of Singapore as a hub for global trading and startups, and builds trust in Singapore's products and services through quality and standards.

enterprisesg.gov.sg



SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG) drives and coordinates the implementation of the national SkillsFuture movement, promotes a culture of lifelong learning and strengthens the ecosystem of training and adult education in Singapore. Through a holistic suite of national SkillsFuture initiatives, SSG enables Singaporeans to take charge of their learning journey in their pursuit of skills mastery. SSG also works with key stakeholders to ensure that students and adults have access to high quality and industry-relevant training that meet the demands of different sectors of the economy for an innovative and productive workforce.

ssg.gov.sg



As the apex business chamber, the Singapore Business Federation (SBF) champions the interests of the business community in Singapore in trade, investment and industrial relations. Nationally, SBF acts as the bridge between the government and businesses in Singapore to create a conducive business environment. Internationally, SBF represents the business community in bilateral, regional and multilateral fora for the purpose of trade expansion and business networking.

sbf.org.sg

EY Family Enterprise Award of Excellence knowledge partners



**Business Families
Institute**

In response to the growing needs for Asian-centric family business research and education, the Singapore Management University (SMU) established the Business Families Institute (BFI) in August 2012 to help business families build sustainable, impactful enterprises across generations. Through SMU's core competence as a thought leader, BFI aims to strengthen the ecosystem of entrepreneurial business families and stakeholders in their creation of sustainable impact by addressing business family-specific issues such as succession, family governance, entrepreneurship and wealth management. The Institute also encourages business families to Think Generations, Think Growth, Think Giving and Think Global.

bfi.smu.edu.sg



The Wendel
International Centre
for Family Enterprise

Since its establishment in 2004, the INSEAD Wendel International Centre for Family Enterprise has been leading studies and research in the field of family-owned companies. Through running of outreach conferences and development of world-class educational programs designed for leaders in family, the center helps to raise awareness of the importance of family enterprise as a sustainable business model. Family firms are not only the most prevalent type of company worldwide, but they are also proven to contribute to the world prosperity. INSEAD activities in the field of family business were initiated thanks to the Wendel family, and further developed with support from other family businesses and leaders, the Berghmans Lhoist Chair in entrepreneurial leadership, and the André and Rosalie Hoffmann Chair and Research Fund in family enterprise.

insead.edu/centres/family-enterprise

EY | Building a better working world

EY exists to build a better working world, helping to create long-term value for clients, people and society and build trust in the capital markets.

Enabled by data and technology, diverse EY teams in over 150 countries provide trust through assurance and help clients grow, transform and operate.

Working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions, EY teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.

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EY

**Building a better
working world**