



News Release

For Immediate Release

FIFTY-SIX OUTSTANDING AND PROMISING ASEAN ENTERPRISES RECOGNISED AT ASEAN BUSINESS AWARDS (ABA) 2018

- ***ABA 2018 saw an overwhelming response of 288 submissions.***
- ***New Family Business Award recognises outstanding multi-generational family businesses in ASEAN.***

SINGAPORE, Monday, 12 November, 2018 - A total of 76 awards were given out to 60 outstanding businesses in ASEAN and beyond at the ASEAN Business Awards 2018 hosted by Singapore held today.

Over 700 private and public sector leaders from around the world attended the Awards Gala Dinner which was graced by Mdm Halimah Yacob, President of the Republic of Singapore as Guest-of-Honour. Distinguished guest Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamed, Prime Minister of Malaysia presented the Priority Integration Sectors Awards.

Launched in 2007 by ASEAN BAC, the awards acknowledge and recognise outstanding ASEAN businesses that have shown significant progress in establishing and reinforcing their positions, in a myriad of industry sectors.

Since its launch, ABA has recognised more than 100 companies throughout the region that excel in the categories of Growth, Employment, Innovation and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Over the years, ASEAN-BAC has further expanded the categories of ABA to include the Priority Integration Sectors (PIS) of ASEAN, as well as recognise outstanding young entrepreneurs, women entrepreneurs and sustainable Social enterprises.

Into its 12th edition, the awards provide an opportunity for businesses to garner greater exposure and expand their network within the ASEAN business community and the global stage.

Inaugural ASEAN Family Business Award

This year, a new award category, the ASEAN Family Business Award was included to promote the indispensable role family businesses play in the global economy and to recognise outstanding multi-generational family businesses that have made significant impact in the ASEAN region.

Winners of the inaugural ASEAN Family Award include **Sinouk Coffee Co. Ltd** from LAO PDR, **Century Pacific Food, INC** from the Philippines, **Kim Ann Engineering Pte Ltd** from Singapore and **Nghia Nippers Corporation** from Vietnam.

This year saw an overwhelming response of 288 submissions, with a total of 56 country winners, of which 8 were crowned overall winners. Please refer to the attached Annex for full details.

Four Enterprises honoured with prestigious “Friends of ASEAN” award

Apart from the 56 outstanding ASEAN businesses, ABA also recognised four non-ASEAN owned enterprises that have demonstrated a continuous and increased commitment in growing its presence within ASEAN.

For their positive social and economic contributions to Southeast Asia, **Robert Bosch (Sea) Pte Ltd**, **Omron Asia Pacific**, **Sap Asia Pte Ltd** And **Panaust Limited** were awarded the prestigious “Friend of ASEAN” accolade today.

Dr Robert Yap, Chairman of the ASEAN BAC, said, “We each have a role to play in growing our region, creating opportunities for all and improving the livelihood of our people. The winners embody, each in their specific way, what we need in ASEAN today to foster sustainable and inclusive growth: true grit, determination, commitment, innovation and all-encompassing vision.

He added, “We hope that these awards and the examples set by the winners inspire other businesses to emulate these movers and shakers so that together we can co-create a vibrant economy, a region of opportunities, and ultimately, a brighter future for our people.”

Professor Annie Koh, Organising Chair of the ABA 2018, said, “I am exceptionally heartened and thankful for the overwhelming support towards ABA this year, which saw a participation of 288 submissions. I am privileged to be sharing the stage with the 61 winning companies tonight as we celebrate the outstanding achievements of ASEAN enterprises.

She added, “Thank you for being an inspiration to the business community in ASEAN. I would like also to thank Ernst & Young and Singapore Management University for their contribution and support as Knowledge Partners for setting up a robust judging framework, not forgetting the Sponsors, Business Council and Institutional Partners for their support.”

For more information about ABIS 2018 and ABA 2018, please proceed to www.aseanbac2018.org .

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About Singapore Business Federation (新加坡工商联合总会)

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 businesses and government 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. For more information, please visit our website: www.sbf.org.sg

About ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC)

The ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) was established by the ASEAN Heads of State and Government (HOSGs) at the 7th ASEAN Summit in November 2001 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. Inaugurated at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia in April 2003, ASEAN-BAC’s primary mission is to promote public-private sector partnership to achieve the integration of an ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). ASEAN-BAC provides private sector feedback on the implementation of ASEAN economic cooperation and identifies priority areas for the consideration of the ASEAN Leaders.

The Chairman of ASEAN-BAC for 2018 is Dr Robert Yap from Singapore. Dr Robert Yap is the Executive Chairman of YCH Group and the president of the Singapore National Employers Federation. Singapore’s other two representatives are Dr Douglas Foo, Chairman of Sakae Group; and Mr Robert Yap Min Choy, Chairman Fullerton Systems & Services, Sunseap Group and Skylab Holding.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Award Categories	Description
Priority Integration Sector Excellence Awards	<p>Outstanding performance and presence in the ASEAN Economic Community Priority Integration Sectors. Includes the recognition of integration and connectivity between ASEAN businesses owned and operated by the applicant.</p> <p>Subcategories: Agri-based, Aviation, Automotive, Electronics, Fisheries, Healthcare, Rubber-based, Textiles, Tourism, Wood-based, Logistics, Retail, ICT, Infrastructure, Energy, Finance and Food & Beverage.</p>
SME Excellence Awards	
Growth	Outstanding business that have demonstrated initiative and willingness to undertake bold new ventures and include evidence of sustainable growth and commercial success to levels that are outstanding for the size of the applicant's operations.
Employment	Outstanding business that have demonstrated the provision of a stimulating and supportive workplace.
Innovation	Outstanding business that have demonstrated a proven ability to create, nurture and develop new products or services.
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	Outstanding business that have demonstrated a high standard of commitment in the way they organise and integrate their responsible business practices.
Young Entrepreneur	Outstanding business owner below the age of 45 who has demonstrated significant success through leadership, market positioning and company performance.
Woman Entrepreneur	Outstanding female business owner who have demonstrated significant success through leadership, market positioning and company performance.
Friends of ASEAN	Recognises non-ASEAN owned enterprises that demonstrates a continuous and increased commitment in growing its presence within ASEAN.
Sustainable Social Enterprise	Outstanding social enterprises which are innovative and have made significant sustained contributions to the disadvantaged in our community.
Family Business Award	Outstanding family enterprise whom have achieved outstanding success and sustainable growth.