

MEDIA RELEASE

ESSEC and Singapore's Supply Chain and Logistics Academy announce MoU to improve logistics capabilities of local SMEs

Singapore, 28 June 2018 – ESSEC Business School and the Supply Chain and Logistics Academy (SCALA®) today announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and the launch of a joint Logistics Innovation Programme (LIP) for Singapore.

The MoU was signed by **Professor Kevyn Yong**, Dean, ESSEC Asia-Pacific, and **Ian Dyason**, CEO, SCALA®, in a ceremony at SCALA®'s campus also attended by **His Excellency Mr. Marc Abensour**, France's Ambassador to Singapore, and **Dr. Robert Yap**, Chairman, SCALA® Board of Advisers.

The MoU formalizes the relationship between the two organizations and falls under the France-Singapore Year of Innovation 2018. It creates a platform that promotes thought leadership and idea exchange between French and Singaporean organizations in ways that address the challenges and opportunities our world faces today, starting with the needs of Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

The new Logistics Innovation Programme is specifically designed to broaden the supply chain knowledge and expertise of Professionals, Managers, Executives or Technicians (PMETs) within local SMEs. Supported by SkillsFuture Singapore, the programme's inception highlights the importance of logistics and supply chain productivity for the continued success of SMEs. They remain an important driver of Singapore's economy, combining to make up 99% of all registered enterprises, employ two-thirds of the workforce and account for half of Singapore's GDP.

Participants will undertake a workshop with ESSEC Business School professors where they gain proficiency in design thinking and business model innovation. Through project consultation with industry experts at SCALA®, they will also receive hands-on experience in creative problem-solving and develop innovative thinking on how best to transform and modernize their businesses in the face of global trends like digitalization and big data.

Ian Dyason, CEO, SCALA®, said, "It is an exciting time to be involved in Singapore's logistics and supply chain industry. As the world turns to technology and innovation to make complex processes and operations simpler, more and more businesses will look to us to devise and develop creative ways to help them manage their logistics and shift their business models towards digitalization. There is a growing demand for new skills and thinking in our industry, and we believe this new programme will help groom the right talent to scale new challenges."

About the new partnership, Professor Kevyn Yong, Dean, ESSEC Asia-Pacific said, "The partnership between ESSEC and SCALA® is a perfect fit, as we both champion the embrace of innovation and disruptive technologies for the betterment of society. We hope to provide a solid foundation and avenue for imparting professionals and SMEs with the new ideas and tools necessary for improving how logistics operates – and how people and businesses receive the goods they need."



For more information, please visit www.scala.com.sg.

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About ESSEC Business School

ESSEC, founded in 1907, is one of the world's top management schools and holds the "triple crown" accreditation from EQUIS, AACSB and AMBA. With 5,867 students; a faculty comprised of 162 full-time professors, 20 of which are emeritus professors, in France and Singapore, recognized for both the quality and influence of their research; a wide range of management training programs; partnerships with the world's best universities; and a network of 50,000 alumni, ESSEC continues to foster a tradition of academic excellence and a spirit of openness in the fields of economics, social sciences and innovation. In 2005, ESSEC opened a campus in Asia. ESSEC's operations in Asia Pacific, strategically located in Singapore, present the perfect foothold for ESSEC to be part of the vibrant growth of Asia and to bring its expertise to the expanding region. Additionally, in 2017 ESSEC opened a new campus in Rabat, Morocco. ESSEC's international expansion allows students and professors to study and understand the economic forces at work in the different regions of the world.

About SCALA®

SCALA® is the training academy for the supply chain and logistics industry. It helps organisations unleash the hidden value in their supply chain, thereby creating avenues of growth to meet changing customer needs. By providing courses like the Logistics Professional Conversion Programme, the Logistics Innovation and Productivity Programme and the Logistics Executive Workshop, SCALA® helps talent from outside the industry gain a foothold in it, and those inside the industry to embrace innovation and change to further enhance it. And by banding likeminded companies together through our Corporate Network, we help shape emerging capabilities. Together we create a virtuous cycle of learning and growth.

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