



SINGAPORE
POLYTECHNIC



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NEWS RELEASE

SINGAPORE POLY TO BE KEY CENTRE TO TRAIN AUTOMATION STANDARD PROFESSIONALS

International Society of Automation inks 1st agreement outside USA with Singapore Polytechnic

Singapore 2 December 2008: The International Society of Automation (ISA), a world leader for setting standards and training professionals in the field of automation, has chosen Singapore Polytechnic (SP) to be its partner to conduct certification and training programmes in automation in Singapore and the region. This is the first time that ISA is inking such an agreement with an educational institution outside the United States.

The collaboration between ISA, formerly known as the Instrumentation, Systems, and Automation Society, and SP will provide a significant boost in the skills development and capabilities in automation and its related areas like instrumentation and control.

The ISA's standards are widely adopted by automation professionals globally to streamline processes and enhance industry safety, efficiency and profitability. Over 150 standards for instrumentation, control & safety systems, MES, robotics and industrial wireless support the aerospace, petrochemical, construction, manufacturing, mining, paper, pharmaceutical, power and water industries, reflect the expertise from over 4,000 industry experts, end users and academia around the world.

SP will be conducting short courses in collaboration with ISA. The first course will be on "Introduction to Industrial Automation and Control" which is a very popular course among industry practitioners. More automation-related courses sanctioned by ISA will be rolled out later.

SP supports the government's Skills Programme for Upgrading and Resilience (SPUR). To train workers in the automation industry, SP will be offering the Workplace Skills Qualification (WSQ) Advanced Certificate in Engineering Services (Instrumentation & Control) in January 2009.

"ISA is world renowned in the field of instrumentation and Singapore Polytechnic is very privileged to have established this collaboration. The good teaching and training resources in SP coupled with the excellent courses which ISA offer will greatly boost the quality of our instrumentation training." said Dr Dave Chong, SP Director of School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.

Ms Kim Miller Dunn, ISA President added, "I am delighted that ISA is collaborating with Singapore Poly in this important workforce development initiative. ISA leaders around the world have been impressed by the work and commitment to automation of the Singapore Workforce Development Agency, Singapore Economic Development Board and Singapore Polytechnic. The degree and detail of the skills development program and education can be a model that other countries and regions of the world that are serious about automation should emulate."

Mr. Jonathan Kua, Director for New Businesses of the Singapore Economic Development Board, opined, "The initiative between ISA and SP will augment capabilities in the automation industry. Automation enhances our industries and is an important enabler in an advanced economy. Hence, we hope to promote more of such partnerships between Industry Associations (IAs) and Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs). In addition, we welcome more IAs to establish a strong presence in Singapore in order to serve their members in the region."

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About Singapore Polytechnic (www.sp.edu.sg)

Established in 1954 to meet the manpower needs identified by the government, Singapore Polytechnic (SP) is Singapore's first educational institution of its kind. Its nine academic schools offer 45 full-time diploma courses for its 14,900 students and courses are kept relevant through close links with industry and government bodies, as well as with various overseas institutions.

SP offers broad-based, multi-disciplinary and flexible curriculum dedicated to hands-on experience and is committed to the development of its applied research and development capability to enhance the quality of teaching and commercialisation efforts. Beyond the classroom, close to 90 student clubs

covering areas like arts, culture, sports and community service make student life vibrant and fulfilling. The presence of foreign students from countries such as China, India and Indonesia also provides a variety of cultures and perspectives, nurturing a global mindset in Singapore Polytechnic students.

Among SP's 144,400 graduates are successful entrepreneurs, top executives in multinational and public-listed corporations, and well-known professionals, many of whom are captains of industries, university professors and researchers, and leaders in government.

About International Society of Automation (<http://www.isa.org>)

Founded in 1945, ISA is a leading, global, non-profit organization that is setting the standard for automation by helping over 30,000 worldwide members and other professionals solve difficult technical problems, while enhancing their leadership and personal career capabilities. Based in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, ISA develops standards; certifies industry professionals; provides education and training; publishes books and technical articles; and hosts the largest conference and exhibition for automation professionals in the Western Hemisphere. ISA is the founding sponsor of The Automation Federation (www.automationfederation.org).
