

Media Release
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Entering the Future of Employment in a Digital Revolution

Singapore, 27 March 2018 Following the rousing success of the first Startup Career Fair last year, organiser, Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE) launched the second edition of the fair today. Held at JTC LaunchPad@one-north, the **Startup Career Fair 2018** presented over 65 startups and more than 250 full-time, part-time, and internship positions.

The one-day event attracted a crowd consisting of students, fresh graduates, and professionals, managers, executives and technicians (PMETs) exploring a mid-career switch within the local startup ecosystem of disruptions and cutting-edge technological innovations in e-commerce, information and communications technology (ICT), and many more. Visitors at the event were immersed in a dynamic community of recognisable names from the local entrepreneurial scene, and enjoyed exclusive tours of modern and creative startup offices within the LaunchPad.

Located within a vibrant economic hub, Singapore's startup landscape has reaped the benefits of strong governmental support, excellent infrastructure, and ready availability of funding opportunities. The exchange of ideas within this robust network of entrepreneurs, investors, incubators, and corporate executives has enabled ideas and innovation to flourish, boosting the rise of Singapore's startup ecosystem.

The 2017 Hays Global Skills Index noted that with ongoing digitisation of the economy, businesses worldwide are struggling to find workers with the necessary skill sets to fill job openings, and predicted that Singapore's 'talent mismatch' could rise due to factors such as the ageing population and labour market pressure. These trends suggest that companies will have to focus on aligning the skillsets of local talent with available vacancies in order to keep up with the fast-changing needs of employment.

To address job-skills mismatch, Startup Career Fair 2018 has assembled a series of panel discussion and talks that were tailored to offer a local perspective on this global challenge. Startup founders and experts discussed the leadership qualities prerequisites needed for the workforce to tackle industry transformation. Industry professionals shared their insights on how attendees could respond to the emerging employment trends.

Mr Edmas Neo, Executive Director at ACE, said, "The Startup Career Fair provides an excellent platform to matchmake startups and job-seekers. It is also through such initiatives that ACE hopes to introduce employment with startups as a good career pathway for our diverse pool of talents and career changers. From its conception, ACE has been providing strong support to the startups. We are now at a stage where we are helping our startups to grow and scale, and one key way is through providing support in talent acquisition. This will help them build stronger and more diverse teams that are ready for regional growth."

The career fair is among ACE's initiatives to engage and support promising entrepreneurs in all aspects of their organisational needs. By providing the right resources, networks, partnerships, and opportunities, ACE continues to forge strong ties with members of the startup community.

Startup Career Fair 2018 is supported by the Employment and Employability Institute (e2i) and JTC. The community partner for the event is Startup Jobs Asia.

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About Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE)

The Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE) is a national private sector-led organisation to drive entrepreneurship and innovation in Singapore.

Launched in 2003 by the Ministry of Trade & Industry and restructured as a private entity in 2014, ACE is supported by the government, under the patronage of Senior Minister of State for Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Trade & Industry, Dr Koh Poh Koon. ACE's Board of Directors also comprises of experienced entrepreneurs and professionals immersed in the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Today, ACE plays a key role in building a dynamic and sustainable startup ecosystem in Singapore. ACE supports startups across all stages and focuses on three strategic areas:

- (i) driving co-innovation between startups and enterprises;
- (ii) helping startups to scale and internationalise;
- (iii) building an access hub of connected ecosystems across countries.

For more information on ACE, please visit www.ace.org.sg.

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