

SPEECH BY MR BOB TAN, CHAIRMAN, ITE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AT THE LAUNCH OF KEPPEL OFFSHORE & MARINE GROUP TRAINING CENTRE, ON WEDNESDAY 29 OCTOBER 2008 AT 0930 HOURS

Chairman and CEO of Keppel Offshore & Marine,
Mr Choo Chiau Beng

Managing Director and COO, Mr Tong Chong Heong

ITE Director and CEO, Mr Bruce Poh

Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to congratulate Keppel Offshore & Marine on the launch of its Training Centre

Human resource development is key to the success of any great company and Keppel Offshore & Marine is no exception. Your company has grown phenomenally over the past 10 years to become a global player and a world market leader in your field of business.

Early this year, I was here with some of my fellow ITE board members on an industry visit and to launch ITE's *Higher Nitec* in Marine Offshore Engineering course. I am pleased to say that the first intake of 64 students were fully subscribed with 56 on scholarships of which 10 were from Keppel O & M. This is a strong indication of the support from employers in the industry.

Over the past few weeks, the world has been turned upside down by the global financial crisis and I know we are all concerned with the uncertainties ahead. It is at times like this, that it is even more important that we continue to invest in training. A committed and competent workforce will separate those companies who will continue to do well in difficult times from those that perform well only when the market is good. I have no doubt where Keppel O & M sits. Your commitment to training and development of your people is among the best in the industry.

On this occasion, I am delighted that your company will be signing an MOU with ITE to provide enhanced training opportunities for ITE students and staff. This will certainly assist ITE to become more relevant to the needs of the industry and to produce future generations of competent workers.

On behalf of ITE, I would like to compliment the Management of Keppel O&M for your enlightened and progressive Human Resource policies and to thank you for all your support to ITE and our students.

May I wish you continued success.

Thank you.