



News release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Johnson Controls & Institute of Technical Education partner to develop technical workforce for the future with the new Building Technologies and Solutions Centre

*ITE students to operate a fully-functioning chiller plant system in new
Building Technologies and Solutions Centre - a first in local institutions here*



The signed Memorandum of Understanding between Ms Low Khah Gek, Chief Executive Officer, ITE (centre left) and Mr Ken Lim, General Manager, Building Technologies & Solutions Singapore, Johnson Controls (centre right), marks ITE and Johnson Controls' commitment to develop a technical workforce for the future with the new Building Technologies and Solutions Centre, the first fully functioning chiller plant system designed for a classroom setting in Singapore.

(Singapore, March 1, 2018) —Students at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) can now look forward to an authentic learning experience in a building management facility right on campus after a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed today between ITE and [Johnson Controls](#), a leader in creating intelligent buildings and energy-efficient solutions to deliver on the promise of smart cities and communities.



A move to nurture the next generation of skilled technicians and hands-on engineers in the building technology and services industry, the agreement was inked by Ms Low Khah Gek, Chief Executive Officer, ITE; and Ken Lim, General Manager, Building Technologies & Solutions Singapore, Johnson Controls, at ITE College East.

As Singapore pushes ahead with the goal to transform 80 percent of all buildings to be energy-efficient by 2030, engineers and technicians will need to master cutting-edge technologies that will make buildings smart and green. Collectively, the Integrated Facilities Management market in the Southeast Asia region will experience a double-digit growth of more than 10 percent to reach market revenues exceeding US\$2 billion from 2015 to 2021¹, and with that comes the need for trained experts who are able to operate and manage these systems.

The **ITE-Johnson Controls Building Technologies and Solutions Centre** is the first fully-functioning chiller plant system designed for a classroom setting in Singapore. It will serve as a training centre for students enrolled in *Higher Nitec* in Facility Management; *Nitec* in Facility Technology; and the new Work-Learn Technical Diploma in Mechanical & Electrical (M&E) Services Supervision, allowing them to apply their knowledge to real-life smart building management systems. Previously, students could only attend observation lessons outside of the classroom and did not have access to live systems to experiment and operate in real-time.

“We’re entering into a new era of facilities management with the Internet of Things, advanced analytics as well as increasing need for sustainability and security”, said Ken Lim, General Manager, Building Technologies & Solutions Singapore, Johnson Controls. “As more technology-enabled applications impact our daily lives, a smart city is no longer just an abstract concept. In fact, we’re gradually transitioning into what can be described as a responsive city, where we are no longer just passive beneficiaries but also active players and contributors. To ensure citizens are ready and able to ride the waves of change, technology companies will have to assume a bigger role in empowering the workforce. Johnson Controls takes pride in undertaking this responsibility and is delighted today to partner with a world-class, internationally-recognised leader in skill-based learning to nurture the next generation of technicians and engineers.”

¹ [SEA Integrated Facilities Management Market, Forecast to 2021](#)



Ms Low Khah Gek, Chief Executive Officer of ITE added, “The partnership between industry and education institutions makes a big difference in the teaching and learning of work-relevant skills. With this MOU with Johnson Controls, theory lessons come alive for students when they can use and work on a real chiller plant system. It makes learning authentic and helps our students to assimilate quickly into the actual work environment.”

A comprehensive, first-of-its-kind training centre

The Centre will feature top-grade technical equipment programmed and installed by Johnson Controls to simulate a real-world chiller plant room, including:

1. Water-cooled YORK® chiller
2. Smart building management system powered by *Metasys*®
3. Smart connected chiller application
4. Physical security and video management solution

Creating a smart, safe, and sustainable environment

Following the MoU signing ceremony today, ITE and Johnson Controls hosted a thought leadership forum, “*A Smart Workforce for a Smart Nation*”, gathering academia and stakeholders in the built environment industry. Active steps to take in securing Singapore’s future, shifts needed for Singapore to thrive as a Smart Nation, and strategies to prepare the nation’s workforce were key themes explored during the session.

The forum featured a panel discussion led by Adrian Tan, managing director of Asia Insights Pte Ltd, with the following keynote speakers and panellists:

1. Swarup Biswas, vice president of service in Asia Pacific, Johnson Controls
2. Poon King Wang, director of Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities, Singapore University of Design and Technology
3. Dr. Yek Tiew Ming, Principal, ITE College East
4. Eddy Lau, director of certification & technology, Singapore Green Building Council
5. James Ng, deputy director, business strategy & development, Surbana Jurong



A gateway to future opportunities

The MoU also signifies Johnson Controls' continued support to ITE and their students via sponsored book prizes and internship opportunities – a collaboration between both parties since 2014. Johnson Controls and ITE will award book prizes to students who have achieved academic excellence and demonstrated exemplary conduct, as well as internship opportunities at Johnson Controls offices and facilities around the country.

About Johnson Controls

Johnson Controls is a global diversified technology and multi industrial leader serving a wide range of customers in more than 150 countries. Our 120,000 employees create intelligent buildings, efficient energy solutions, integrated infrastructure and next generation transportation systems that work seamlessly together to deliver on the promise of smart cities and communities. Our commitment to sustainability dates back to our roots in 1885, with the invention of the first electric room thermostat. We are committed to helping our customers win and creating greater value for all of our stakeholders through strategic focus on our buildings and energy growth platforms. For additional information, please visit <http://www.johnsoncontrols.com> or follow us @johnsoncontrols on Twitter.

About Johnson Controls Building Technologies & Solutions

Johnson Controls Building Technologies & Solutions is making the world safer, smarter and more sustainable – one building at a time. Our technology portfolio integrates every aspect of a building – whether security systems, energy management, fire protection or HVACR – to ensure that we exceed customer expectations at all times. We operate in more than 150 countries through our unmatched network of branches and distribution channels, helping building owners, operators, engineers and contractors enhance the full lifecycle of any facility. Our arsenal of brands includes some of the most trusted names in the industry, such as Tyco®, YORK®, Metasys®, Ruskin®, Titus®, Frick®, PENN®, Sabroe®, Simplex® and Grinnell®. For more information, visit www.johnsoncontrols.com or follow @JCI_Buildings on Twitter.

About Institute of Technical Education, Singapore

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) is a post-secondary education institution established in **1992** under the Ministry of Education. As a principal provider of career and technical education, and a key developer of national occupational skills certification and standards, ITE's **Mission** is to create **opportunities** for students and adult learners to acquire skills, knowledge and values for employability and lifelong learning. ITE's **Vision** is to be A **Trailblazer** in Career and Technical Education. Our **Values** are **Integrity, Teamwork, Excellence** and **Care**. ITE comprises the ITE Headquarters and three ITE Colleges - College Central, College East and College West.



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