

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **The Singapore Chemical Industry Council celebrates 10 years of independence, propelling the energy and chemical sector forward**

*The Singapore Chemical Industry Council Limited (SCIC) has reached its significant 10-year milestone, contributing to the growth of the Singapore economy. It continues to emphasize on the Responsible Care program as it looks forward to the next 10 years.*

Singapore, March 24, 2017 – The energy and chemical industry in Singapore has seen a huge transformation since its introduction in the 1980s and the SCIC has played a significant role in this evolution. It started when the SCIC registered as an independent entity in 2007 with the aim to better represent its members in the growing industry. Ten years later, the council has not only defined Singapore’s energy and chemical industry in areas such as advanced manufacturing, sustainable productivity, and talent development, it has also put Singapore on the world map as a leading energy and chemical hub, and home to both multinational companies and local establishments. In commemorating this journey, the SCIC launched a book “*A Decade of Progress*” which captured key memories and achievements in the last decade including earlier significant events leading up to its success. The launch event took place at the council’s Annual Dinner and Responsible Care Awards on March 27, evening at Swissôtel the Stamford.

The event was graced by Mr Desmond Lee, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of National Development, and attended by more than 350 industry representatives and government agencies such as the Ministry of Manpower (MOM), Economic Development Board (EDB), SPRING Singapore, National Environment Agency (NEA), Singapore Police Force (SPF) and Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF). Joining the celebration were SCIC’s past chairmen, who played vital roles in the council’s journey in the last 10 years.

It was also a night to recognize chemical companies who have excelled in the Responsible Care program. The Responsible Care program is a global chemical industry’s voluntary initiative to address issues concerning Health, Safety, Environment (HSE) & Security and to promote continuous improvement in these areas. Singapore has come a long way since 2001 and has adopted six Responsible Care Codes of Management Practices, namely – Community Awareness & Emergency Response, Distribution, Employee Health & Safety, Pollution Prevention, Process Safety and Product Stewardship. The incorporation of the 7<sup>th</sup> code on Security was announced that night. With an ever-changing security landscape, it is necessary to officially institute security practices as part of the Responsible Care programme to ensure

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that the chemical industry's assets and people are protected and prepared for unforeseen circumstances.

“While the Government is committed to keep Singapore safe and secure, we cannot do it alone. We need the support of the community, including the business community such as yourselves, to help to prevent and deal with the threat of terrorism. This is what the SGSecure national movement aims to do,” said Mr Lee. “The chemical industry is one of the key partners we are engaging under the workplace domain. The Home Team has been partnering SCIC to bolster the chemical industry's safety and security measures.”

“Singapore has been an efficient and safe country and we should not take this for granted. The Security Management Practices aim to promote greater awareness, provide implementation guidance and drive continuous improvement on security for the energy and chemical industry,” said Ms Suiniaty Basirun, Chairperson, SCIC. “To move towards the next 10 years, we need to continuously improve ourselves and benchmark with chemical industries in other leading countries.”

At this annual Responsible Care event, more than 100 Responsible Care Awards were presented which reaffirmed the continued commitment of chemical companies in Singapore to practice safe and sustainable operations despite economic changes. The Petrochemical Corporation of Singapore (Private) Limited received their second Responsible Care Leadership Award for maintaining the Excellence Awards for three consecutive years for all relevant codes applicable to their nature of business operations. Under the manufacturer's category, ExxonMobil Chemical Asia Pacific Pte Ltd and Shell Jurong Island also won the Excellence Awards. These recognition aims to motivate companies to demonstrate a continued outstanding contribution to the Responsible Care Programme.

The future of the chemical industry lies in the hands of many stakeholders – industry players, government agencies, and the SCIC. Collaboration among them to meet key challenges in areas of competitiveness, sustainable innovation, operation efficiency and human talent while keeping safety on high priority would determine how the industry looks like 10 years from now.

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### **About Singapore Chemical Industry Council Limited (SCIC)**

The Singapore Chemical Industry Council Limited (SCIC) is the official industry association representing the Singapore Energy and Chemicals cluster in the private sector. It plays a proactive role in representing the interests of the manufacturing sector and continues to promote it as a major economic pillar of Singapore.

The SCIC has a extensive membership network of more than 180 companies, including key multi-national corporations (MNCs) and small & medium enterprises (SMEs) that support the entire chemical industry supply chain. These members provide vast resources and opportunities to help SCIC develop a conducive business environment for the chemical industry. The SCIC also provides a platform for the industry members to come together as a single body to strengthen our position in addressing advocacy issues.

The SCIC is the National Administrator of Responsible Care Programme for Singapore, a global chemical industry's initiative that drives continuous improvement in health, safety & environmental (HSE) and security performance

SCIC participated as a member of International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA), a worldwide voice of the global chemical industry to ensure industry is widely valued and supported for its economic, social and environmental contributions to society.

In 2011, SPRING Singapore appointed SCIC as the Standards Development Organisation (SDO@SCIC) for the Chemical Standards Committee (CSC) - one of the 12 Standards Committees under the National Standardisation Programme led by the Singapore Standards Council administered by SPRING Singapore. The SDO@SCIC manages the national standards development projects under the CSC covering key areas of bunkering, surface coatings, chemistry, nanotechnology, petroleum processes and products as well as water.

The SCIC also participated and contributed to the 3-year implementation project from 2015 to 2018 on management practices and productivity improvement in Singapore. SCIC took the lead in overseeing the implementation of the project which is jointly funded by EDB Singapore, SCIC, members of the chemical industry, ASPRI and members of the process industry.

### **About Responsible Care Programme**

Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> is the chemical industry's initiative globally to address issues concerning Health, Safety, Environment (HSE) & Security and to promote continuous improvement in these areas.

Responsible Care was first conceived in Canada in 1985 to address public concerns about the manufacture, distribution and use of chemicals. In 1989, the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) took the lead in promoting and implementing Responsible Care initiatives worldwide through the Responsible Care Leadership Group (RCLG). In

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September 2002, the ICCA-RCLG meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, re-affirmed that through Responsible Care, we can make a valuable contribution to Sustainable Development. There are 65 countries adopting Responsible Care.