

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Singapore, (12 March 2009)

THE FIRST NATION-WIDE AWARDS FOR CHEMICAL SCIENTISTS

The Singapore National Institute of Chemistry (SNIC) collaborates with four major corporations - BASF, GIST, GSK and HYFLUX – to launch a new partnership award program to recognise outstanding individuals who have achieved research excellence in selected areas of chemistry and chemical sciences.

These awards are first-of-its-kind in Singapore. They are launched to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of SNIC and 80th Anniversary of Chemistry in Singapore.

Singapore's knowledge-based economy is driven by talent development, and our ability to translate research findings to strengthen our key industries. Accordingly, SNIC has partnered four major organisations to inaugurate the following awards:

- **BASF-SNIC Award in Materials Chemistry**
- **GSK-SNIC Award in Organic Chemistry**
- **HYFLUX-SNIC Award in Environmental Chemistry**
- **GIST-SNIC Award in Chemistry Education**

This is a testimony of our confidence in the research, education and industry and our commitment to people development amidst the current economic slowdown.

The nature of the awards reflects the significance of the pharmaceutical, chemical and environmental industry to Singapore and our emphasis on chemical education. These are represented by GSK, BASF, HYFLUX and GIST

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respectively. They also mark the significance of the research-industry-academic trilateral relationship.

President of SNIC, Professor Andy Hor (NUS), said, “The awards program is inaugurated to mark the 80 years of growth in chemistry in Singapore”

“Today, the chemical industry has surged to become Singapore’s number one manufacturing industry in terms of output. It is timely that the national chemistry body, SNIC, works with our major industries and fellow professions to launch an award to recognise our high achievers.”

A Steering Committee has been formed to provide the framework of these Industry-SNIC joint awards, which will run annually for at least 5 years. Each award winner will receive a \$3,000 cash prize, certificate and trophy and present a public lecture.

All the four awards will be launched at the AGM of SNIC at the InterContinental Hotel at 6:30 pm on Fri 13 Mar 2009. The Press is invited to attend the launch. All enquires can be directed to Maslina at snic@cma.sg or Tel 6 336-2328.

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The BASF-SNIC Award in Materials Chemistry recognises R&D of outstanding scientists with a vision to provide unique innovations that would benefit mankind.

“BASF is committed to the advancement of research in scientific disciplines particularly related to chemistry which is our core strength.

“We believe this is one of the best ways to contribute to society and nurture future generations.” said Dr Andreas Fechtenkoetter, Department Head of BASF Global Research Center, Singapore.

GSK, corporate partner for the GSK-SNIC Award in Organic Chemistry acknowledges the commitment to support excellence in Chemistry by playing a broader role in society. The company strives to support the roles individuals play to improve healthcare activities, education, environmental projects and scientific medical research.

“As a leading membrane technology company, Hyflux strives to improve lives by addressing the increasing demands for clean water in the markets we actively operate in. We also reach out to the social and business communities by supporting initiatives that promote Environment and Water; Education and Community; and Entrepreneurship.

The SNIC-Hyflux Award provides Hyflux with a platform in supporting such initiatives and underscores our commitment in promoting technological advances in environmental sciences,” said Sam Ong, Group Deputy CEO & CFO, Hyflux Ltd.

Dr Markus Wächter, Managing Director of German Institute of Science and Technology Pte. Ltd (GIST), believes in the importance of continuous education. Participating as a partner in this award will further strengthen the working relationship between SNIC and GIST.

GIST combines the business, scientific and technical expertise from the East to the West to offer its students a unique education experience that carries them successfully across geographical and cultural barriers. The award in Chemistry Education is a significant collaboration between GIST and SNIC.

Our Partners:



Hyflux[™]



Press Release

Page 4/4

THE FIRST NATION-WIDE AWARDS FOR CHEMICAL SCIENTISTS

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