

## SPH bags 5 Investors' Choice awards

It won the Most Transparent Company Award in the non-electronics manufacturing category for the 8th time. -AsiaOne

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SINGAPORE Press Holdings (SPH) has won the Most Transparent Company Award in the Non-Electronics Manufacturing Category for the eighth time at the Securities Investors Association (Singapore) or SIAS Investors Choice Awards 2009.

The event was held this evening at the Raffles City Convention Centre, with Finance Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam as the Guest of Honour.

In addition, four SPH journalists were recognised for their editorial excellence:

- Francis Chan (Correspondent, The Straits Times): Financial Journalist of The Year award
- Lee Su Shyan (Assistant Money Editor, The Straits Times): Financial Story of the Year for "Oei Hong Leong loses \$1b, takes Citigroup to court"
- Lynette Khoo (Journalist, The Business Times): Most Promising Journalist of the Year award
- Teh Hooi Ling (Senior Correspondent, The Business Times): Investor Education Journalist of the Year award.

This is the first time the award is given out to recognise the efforts of financial journalists in educating retail investors through investor education articles.

Among them, Lee Su Shyan has been honoured thrice at the Awards, having won the Financial Journalist of the Year award for two consecutive years in 2004 and 2005.

Teh Hooi Ling has also previously clinched a Special Award in 2005.

Mr Alan Chan, SPH's Chief Executive Officer, said: "SPH is proud to have won the trust of our investors and stakeholders once again. This is an endorsement of our consistency in meeting SIAS' key criteria for the award, such as timeliness, substantiality and clarity of news release, degree of media access, frequency of corporate results, availability of segmental information and communication channel.

"I would also like to congratulate our journalists for another year of good performance, a testament to the quality journalism which we consistently deliver."

On Francis Chan's win, Mr Han Fook Kwang, Editor of The Straits Times, said: "I'm told that Francis is nicknamed 'Mr Minibond' in investor circles, and that is a moniker well earned. He stayed on top of the story throughout the year, never letting go of it, and what a story it

has turned out to be affecting so many people in so many different ways."

On Lee Su Shyan winning the Financial Story of the Year award, Mr Han said: "Su Shyan is one of our best corporate scoop artists and has won many awards before. She is able to win over the confidence of her contacts and has deep understanding of the issues she covers."

Commenting on Lynette Khoo's Most Promising Journalist of the Year award, Mr Alvin Tay, Editor of The Business Times said: "Lynette is a driven and committed journalist. She will not rest easy if there is no story to pursue, and her willingness to chase down every lead is highly commendable."

On Teh Hooi Ling's win, Mr Tay said: "Hooi Ling is one journalist who can claim a loyal following week after week. Her 'Show me the money' column must be one of the best followed investment columns in town."

SIAS, a non-profit organisation, is the largest investor lobby group in Asia, with almost 70,000 retail investors as members. It actively promotes Investor Education, Corporate Transparency and Corporate Governance, and is the watchdog for investor rights.

It launched the "Most Transparent Company Award" in 2000 to encourage public-listed companies to be more transparent so as to help investors make informed decisions on their investments.

As retail investors have to rely largely on the media for financial information to guide their investment decisions, SIAS introduced the awards for journalists in 2001 to encourage more accurate and useful financial reporting to help small investors.