NEWS RELEASE

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NTU HOSTS INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS IN URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY AND SECURITY
- First time Singapore is hosting the International Symposium on New Technologies for Urban Safety of Mega-Cities in Asia

Natural events such as earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, cyclones and torrential floods have caused widespread damage to urban cities. Recent events in Asia include the Sumatra-Andaman Islands earthquake resulting in the devastating tsunami on 26 December 2004, Typhoon Longwang hitting China last month, and most recently, the South Asia earthquake about two weeks ago.

With higher concentration of population and commercial activities, mega cities suffer great loss of lives and devastating damage to economies. This makes more vital, the sharing of knowledge and expertise among decision makers, practitioners and researchers in tackling issues of urban safety. The Symposium on New Technologies for Urban Safety of Mega-Cities in Asia aims to be a platform for such meaningful exchange to take place as it explores, among other things, how new technologies can be harnessed to better enhance urban safety of mega cities in Asia.

Organised by Nanyang Technological University’s (NTU) Protective Technology Research Centre and the University of Tokyo’s International Centre of Urban Safety Engineering, the symposium will see the gathering of some 97
international participants from countries like China, Japan, Thailand and India. The speakers will share their expertise on topics such as:

- Safety assessment of existing infrastructure
- Threat reduction and consequence management
- Planning and development of urban infrastructure
- Environmental impact assessment of urbanization
- Rehabilitation and retrofitting of structures against earthquakes and terrorisms

Says Professor Pan Tso-Chien (潘则建教授), Centre Director (防护技术研究中心主任) and Dean of NTU's School of Civil & Environmental Engineering (土木环境工程学院院长), “It is very exciting that NTU is co-organising this symposium as it makes its debut in Singapore. The symposium serves as a platform for international experts and researchers to share their research findings and technology. NTU's solid foundation in protective technology research has already attracted much interest in the international community and we look forward to more collaboration opportunities from this symposium.”

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About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is an established tertiary institution with 12 Schools, including three new schools - the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Art, Design and Media, and School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences.

NTU has a distinguished lineage with roots that go back to 1955. Today, we are a research-intensive university ranked among the top 50 in the world. Our strength in science and engineering is acknowledged globally. We have a business school with an MBA programme that is ranked among the top 100 in the world, an internationally-acclaimed National Institute of Education, one of the best communication and information schools in Asia, and a biological sciences school at the forefront of Singapore’s life sciences initiative. The Institute of Defence & Strategic Studies is a world authority on terrorism.

Our New Undergraduate Experience featuring a holistic education including residential living and international experience has received external endorsement for its comprehensive curriculum featuring a rich selection of minors.

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