NEWS RELEASE

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“Environmental Technologies” are the focus of Discover Europe at NTU

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) will be hosting the 3rd annual Discover Europe event on 10 October 2007.

“Discover Europe, which is now in its third year, is an important event for the European Commission in Singapore. It gives students a better understanding of the European Union and the many resources and opportunities it offers in terms of education and research as well as for their future careers in the strong and innovative economies of the EU”, said Ambassador Holger Standertskjold, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Singapore.

The EU is the largest source of Foreign Direct Investment in Singapore accounting for over a third of all FDI stock and is Singapore’s second largest trading partner after ASEAN. Over 2,000 EU companies are based in Singapore with many using Singapore as a hub for their Asia operations.

“We are very proud to host this year’s Discover Europe. This collaboration with the European Commission’s office in Singapore complements NTU’s drive to become a great global university. Today’s event focuses on the environment. Europe is already a leader in the field of environmental technologies while NTU is the established national leader in this field with a complete ecosystem of research, innovation and enterprise. This is a great opportunity for our students and faculty to engage in a dialogue with European diplomats, business leaders and academics on this topic and to learn from each other,” says Dr Su Guanining, President, NTU.

One of the key highlights will be the high profile, multi-disciplinary panel discussion on “The Economics of Environmental Technologies”. The panel will comprise H.E. Paul Madden, UK High Commissioner, Dr Tay Joo Hwa, CEO of Institute of Environmental Science and Engineering at NTU Innovation Centre and Mr Enaut Anderson, Senior Process & Applications Engineering of Waste Water from Velia Water Solutions & Technologies, Mr Alan Du, PhD student at NTU. Associate Professor Christian Koenig, Director of ESSEC will be the moderator.
Climate change is an environmental challenge that every country must tackle with political will, legislation, technological innovation and personal responsibility. The aim of the panel discussion is thus to understand and analyse the role of government policy and the contribution of technologies and innovation in tackling climate change. The panel will also discuss the potential for “Green” technologies that offer promising possibilities for economic growth for those businesses and countries that will be the fastest to respond to these developments.

Complementing the panel discussion, an exhibition entitled “Research Frontiers in Europe” is being held concurrently to highlight some of the state-of-the-art technology and cutting-edge research projects that NTU has been working on in collaboration with leading European institutions and organisations, especially in the area of scientific research and environmental engineering. Some of the interesting researches include the SensorScope, a new generation of measurement system based on a wireless sensor network with built-in capacity to produce high temporal and spatial density measures, and state-of-the-art hollow-fibre carbon dioxide absorbers that are 30 times more efficient and 25 percent more cost effective than the conventional equipment.

The event also features a European career fair and seminars where European companies showcase their internships and recruitment programmes in their companies in Singapore and internationally. There will also be career seminars to provide more information to participants interested to find out more about attachments and working in Europe.

Another showcase, the European Cultural Pavilion will feature 19 European embassies and cultural centres. Participants will have the chance to interact with European embassy personnel and find out about travel, study, culture, language courses and education opportunities in Europe.

Discover Europe is organised by the Delegation of the European Commission to Singapore, and the European Chamber of Commerce (EuroCham), in cooperation with the EU Member States and NTU.

For more information, please visit www.europe.org.sg.

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About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a research-intensive university ranked among the top 20 technological universities. The university has two campuses in Singapore. The Yunnan Garden campus, NTU’s main campus, is located in the southwestern part of Singapore. The NTU@one-north campus, home to educational and alumni clubhouse facilities, is located near Singapore’s biomedical research hub, Biopolis; and the new infocomm and media hub, Fusionopolis.

NTU has four colleges comprising 12 schools. The College of Engineering comprises six schools focused on technology and innovation. Its research output ranks among the top four in the world. The College of Science pushes the boundaries of Singapore’s life sciences initiatives. The Nanyang Business School (the College of Business) offers one of the world’s top 100 MBA programmes. The College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences boasts Singapore's first professional art school offering degree courses in art, design and interactive digital media, the Humanities and Social Science School, and the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, a top journalism and media school in Asia.

The 13th school, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, was inaugurated on 1 January 2007. An important component of this autonomous school is the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, long recognised as a world authority on strategic studies and terrorism. NTU is also home to the internationally-acclaimed National Institute of Education, Singapore's only teacher-training institute.

NTU has in place multi-country programmes and initiatives with established institutions worldwide. Key partners include MIT, Stanford University, Cornell University, Caltech, University of Washington, Georgia Institute of Technology, Carnegie Mellon University in USA, Peking University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Waseda University, Indian Institute of Technology in Asia, Cambridge University, Imperial College and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Europe.

For more information, visit www.ntu.edu.sg

About the Delegation of the European Commission to Singapore

The European Commission (EC) is the executive arm of the European Union (EU). It represents the interests of all 27 Member States of the EU in several important areas, including trade policy. The EC is therefore responsible for the EU's international trade policies and negotiates international trade agreements on behalf of all the EU Member States and is the single contact point for the EU's trading partners.

The Delegation of the European Commission to Singapore (the Delegation) was established in 2003. As a diplomatic mission of the European Commission, the Delegation works to enhance the visibility of the European Union and promotes closer ties with Singapore by providing an efficient and reliable communications channel between the EC and the Singapore government.

For the Singapore business community, the Delegation is a useful contact point in accessing information on the single market of 27 Member States and around 500 million consumers. Trade promotion activities and direct assistance of enterprises remains the responsibility of individual EU Member States.

For more information, visit www.europe.org.sg