

## Joint Media Release

# BCA-SGBC GREEN BUILDING INDIVIDUAL AWARDS OF THE YEAR

*- Four outstanding individuals honoured for their commitment and passion for environmental sustainability*

**4 May 2012 (Friday)** – Four outstanding individuals have been singled out to receive the prestigious **BCA-SGBC Green Building Individual Awards** at the BCA Awards 2012 on 24 May. This award<sup>1</sup> recognises professionals and practitioners from the building and construction industry who have shown strong commitment and conviction in propelling environmental sustainability in their work.

2 The four winners are:

### **Green Advocate of the Year 2012**

#### **Mr. Seah Hsiu-Min Eugene**

Deputy Chairman, Davis Langdon & Seah Singapore Pte Ltd

Director, Davis Langdon & Seah Project Management Pte Ltd

#### **Mr. Tan Phay Ping**

Managing Director, Building System and Diagnostics (BSD) Pte Ltd

### **Green Architect of the Year 2012**

#### **Mr. Tang Kok Thye**

Associate Partner, ADDP Architects LLP

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<sup>1</sup> The BCA-SGBC Green Building Individual Award was introduced since 2011.

## **Green Innovator of the Year 2012**

### **Er. Tay Cher Seng**

Managing Director, Natflow Pte Ltd

3 Dr John Keung, CEO of the Building and Construction Authority (BCA), who is also the co-chairperson of the assessment committee said, “All four winners stood out for their strong commitment and passion towards the green cause and I congratulate them for winning the awards. This year, the honour of Green Advocate of the year is given out to both Eugene and Phay Ping who have made commendable contributions in the industry over the years as champions of environmental sustainability and have been sharing their knowledge and experiences with the industry locally and internationally. The panel of judges decided that both were equally deserving of this prestigious recognition.”

4 Indeed, while Mr Eugene Seah practises as a quantity surveyor and project manager, he has made ‘sustainability’ the basis of his work. Sustainable building designs do not necessarily come with an excessive premium and this is what Mr Seah constantly advocates to his clients through his experiences and knowledge in sustainable design and economics. Being a trendsetter, he has even gone on to publish a handbook on Green Building Products and Technologies which consolidated the pros and cons, design considerations, cost and value drivers of green products, technologies and strategies around the world.

5 Sharing the conviction that a building must always be designed to be sustainable, Mr Tan Phay Ping saw the need to optimise building designs through modeling right from the onset of the design stage. He co-founded BSD Pte Ltd, one the pioneers in Singapore to provide green building related consultancy services. Over the years, Mr Tan has been studying the trends and advancement in sustainable designs and technologies within the international arena. He recently formed Climate Asia Pte Ltd to propel his efforts and raise the industry’s awareness on carbon footprinting and carbon management.

6 As a registered architect of more than 18 years, Mr Tang Kok Thye, the Green Architect of the Year, has found his passion in the design of environmentally friendly

buildings, particularly for residential developments. To date, he has designed nine BCA Green Mark building projects, of which four have won the Green Mark Platinum award. Drawing his inspiration from nature and integrating innovative green technologies and passive architecture, he is able to introduce aesthetically pleasing yet practical designs that complements the natural surroundings. In one of his recent developments, 'Tree House', he incorporated a 24-storey green wall, together with three sky terraces, within the building, which not only provide visual relief, but also aid in reducing heat gain within the building.

7 Besides green designs, green building technologies are equally crucial in enhancing the environmental performance of a building. During his career as a mechanical engineer, Er. Tay Cher Seng has been promoting the idea of recovering waste heat to generate hot water. The result was a zero-energy hot water system which gained widespread adoption and is today saving around 27.5 giga-watt-hour per year locally, translating to cost savings of about S\$7.5 million. In 2011, this innovative heat recovery system won him the ASEAN Energy Awards. Another breakthrough project that Mr Tay embarked on, among others, was a Passive Displacement Ventilation (PDV) system which moves cooled-air in a room, without the use of energy. With these notable achievements under his belt, Mr Tay stood out from among the other nominees to win the title of Green Innovator of the Year 2012.

8 Mr Tai Lee Siang, President of the Singapore Green Building Council (SGBC), commended the winners on their achievements and contributions. He said, "The creation of green buildings is often the result of vision, passion and innovation by outstanding individuals. These individuals include architects, engineers and innovators who help change the way green buildings are designed. There is also a special group of people whose tireless efforts help transform the green building industry. These are the green advocates. My sincere congratulations go out to all the four individuals who are exemplary in their actions and work."

### **About Building and Construction Authority**

The Building and Construction Authority (BCA) of Singapore champions the development of an excellent built environment for Singapore. At BCA, our mission is to shape a safe, high quality, sustainable and friendly built environment, as these are four key elements where BCA has a significant influence. In doing so, we aim to differentiate Singapore's built environment from those of other cities and contribute to a better quality of life for everyone in Singapore. Hence, our vision is to have "the best built environment for Singapore, our distinctive global city". BCA works closely with its education hub, the BCA Academy of the Built Environment, and industry partners to develop skills and expertise that help shape the best built environment for Singapore. For more information, visit [www.bca.gov.sg](http://www.bca.gov.sg).

### **About Singapore Green Building Council**

SGBC's mission is to propel Singapore's building and construction industry towards environmental sustainability by promoting green building design, practices and technologies; integrating green building initiatives into mainstream design, construction and operation of buildings; as well as enhancing capacity and professionalism to support wider adoption of green building development and practices in Singapore.

Its work will complement the government's efforts to accelerate the greening of Singapore's buildings by 2030, while at the same time provide opportunities to share knowledge with other countries in its climatic zone.

The SGBC membership is open to developers, contractors, manufacturers/suppliers, engineers, architects, institutions/associations, agencies and individuals concerned with or interested in transforming Singapore's built environment towards a sustainable future. For more information, visit [www.sgbc.sg](http://www.sgbc.sg).

## **Annex A: About the Award**

The BCA-SGBC Green Building Individual Award (建设局-新加坡绿色建筑委员会绿色建筑卓越个人奖) was introduced in 2011 to accord recognition to individuals across the building and construction value chain for their significant achievements and consistent contributions in the development of a green and sustainable built environment.

### ***Award Categories & Assessment Criteria***

#### *Green Architect of the year*

- Contribution to the local green building development in the field of architecture
- Other green-related contributions in the local and international arena
  - Involvement in outreach programmes on green-related issues/themes through talks, seminar, presentation at conferences etc.
  - Involvement in green-related committees, bodies etc.
  - Endeavours to export/market Singapore green building expertise and Singapore Brand overseas
- Professional achievements covering his / her relevant qualifications, publishing technical papers, winning related accolades and enhancing the standing of built environment-related professions

#### *Green Engineer of the year*

- Contribution to the local green building development in the field of engineering
- Other green-related contributions in the local and international arena
  - Involvement in outreach programmes on green-related issues/themes through talks, seminar, presentation at conferences etc.
  - Involvement in green-related committees, bodies etc.
  - Endeavours to export/market Singapore green building expertise and Singapore Brand overseas
- Professional achievements covering his / her relevant qualifications, publishing technical papers, winning related accolades and enhancing the standing of built environment-related professions

#### *Green Advocate of the year*

- Contribution to the local green building development through his/her leadership in driving positive changes and active involvement in setting the trend / good practice
- Other green-related contributions in the local and international arena (in personal capacity) through outreach programme in the society and towards exporting the Singapore brand name

*Green Innovator of the year*

- The number of completed R&D projects and their impact in green building development
- Involvement in green developments and extent of actual adoption/incorporation of researcher's technology
- Other green-related contributions in the local and international arena through involvement in regional forums / outreach programme in the society and the conferment of related accolades

## Annex B: About the Winners

### Green Advocate of the Year (2012)

(2012 年度绿色倡导者)



*Mr. Seah Hsiu-Min Eugene* (谢秀民)

*Deputy Chairman, Davis Langdon & Seah Singapore Pte Ltd* (副主席, 威寧谢新加坡私人有限公司)

*Director, Davis Langdon & Seah Project Management Pte Ltd* (董事, 威寧谢项目管理私人有限公司)

**His work:** Eugene strongly believes that the most iconic building in the world would not be built if the Triple Bottom Line – Social Equity, Economic Consideration and Environmental Consideration – had not been taken into consideration. Therefore, through his course of work as a chartered Quantity Surveyor and Project Manager, Eugene advocates the Triple Bottom Line as the basis of sustainable buildings. More importantly, through Value & Risk Management, coupled with sustainable strategies, he is able to prove that sustainable buildings do not usually come with an excessive premium.

**His projects:** Eugene has been extensively involved in various sustainable projects, including the Jurong Lake District and City Square Mall and has made continuous contribution to the industry through economics research on sustainability as well as

in the promotion of sustainable best practices. Committed to heighten the 'green' consciousness in the society and guided by the ethos of social equity, Eugene drives his green agenda in the various social service committees that he sits in. He has also produced a handbook on Green Products and Technologies (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.), which he gives out as complimentary copies to academic institutions and the industry, locally and internationally. Eugene currently holds an adjunct professorship appointment at NUS where sustainability forms the cornerstone of his lectures.



## Green Advocate of the Year (2012)

(2012 年度绿色倡导者 )



*Mr. Tan Phay Ping* (陈培彬)

*Managing Director* (行政董事)

*Building System and Diagnostics (BSD) Pte Ltd* (百思特建筑节能咨询有限公司)

**His work:** As co-founder of BSD Pte Ltd, Phay Ping helms a competent team that provides energy and environmentally sustainable design consultancy services both locally and regionally. Recognising the value of modeling tools at design stage, Phay Ping has been instrumental in promoting the use of computer simulations to optimise green building designs. His tireless endeavour for a sustainable future is further reinforced through his active involvement in green-related research and development works, some of which have contributed towards the formulation of the BCA Green Mark criteria.

**His projects:** 313@Somerset, Mapletree Business City, 7 & 9Tampines Grande and Asia Square Towers 1 and 2 are among Phay Ping's most notable projects in the local arena, with the latter two awarded both LEED and BCA Green Mark Platinum certifications. Currently focused on increasing the industry's awareness on the need to reduce carbon footprint, he has set up a company, Climate Asia Pte Ltd, specifically dedicated to this cause. Phay Ping believes in empowering the future generation and takes great pride in being active in the academia as a lecturer on green-related topics at the local tertiary institutions.

## Green Architect of the Year (2012)

(2012 年度绿色建筑师)



*Mr. Tang Kok Thye* (邓国泰)

*Associate Partner* (合伙人)

*ADDP Architects LLP* (甲艺建筑设计院)

**His work:** As a Registered Architect and a Certified Green Mark Manager, Kok Thye possesses a wealth of experience in green design, especially for residential projects. Drawing his inspiration from nature, he designs for sustainable and energy-efficient developments that complement the natural surroundings.

**His projects:** The concept of biomimicry takes centrestage in Kok Thye's works where he draws inspiration from nature's models and integrates them in projects such as the "Tree House". In other projects such as "Cube 8", he adopted environmentally-sensitive strategies with explicit emphasis on the use of passive architectural design and innovative green technologies to reduce the cooling load within the development. Both developments are BCA Green Mark Platinum projects.

**Green Innovator of the Year (2012)**  
**(2012 年度绿色创新者)**



*Er. Tay Cher Seng* (郑书盛)

*Managing Director* (董事经理)

*Natflow Pte Ltd* (新能流有限公司)

**His work:** Foremost on Cher Seng's agenda is reducing the industry's dependency on non-renewable energy. Driven by this vision, he has spent the last 20 years in the study and development of zero-energy systems. He strongly believes that there is a need to innovate and turn energy into a competitive advantage for Singapore and the local firms.

**His projects:** Concerned that solutions bought off-the-shelf do not always lead to efficient use of energy, Cher Seng was determined to recover waste heat for use in a zero-energy hot water system. His innovative solution was recently awarded the ASEAN Energy Award and has gained widespread adoption throughout the industry, proving to be a cost-saving boon for developers and building owners. Another breakthrough solution was an innovative Passive Displacement Ventilation (PDV) system which does not require energy to move cooled-air within a room. The system was successfully implemented at the BCA Academy and adopted in several other projects. Cher Seng is currently the principal investigator for various R&D projects, including the development of a Combined Heating, Cooling and Desalination Plant, funded by the National Research Foundation (NRF).