

OPENING REMARKS BY DR JOHN KEUNG, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY AT THE LAUNCH OF BCA GREEN BUILDING EXHIBITION HELD ON 28 JUNE 2013, FRIDAY AT UNITED SQUARE.

Minister Lui Tuck Yew
Minister for Transport, Member of Parliament for
Moulmein-Kallang GRC

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and gentlemen

1. A very good afternoon to all of you. Thank you very much for joining us this afternoon at United Square for the launch of the Building and Construction Authority's third Green Building Roving Exhibition.

Engagement of the Public and People Sector

2. The first two green building exhibitions at Lot 1 Shoppers' Mall and Ion Orchard attracted more than 15,000 visitors. This is an encouraging figure and a further testament to the success of our exhibitions in reaching out to the public and raising awareness on green buildings practices and lifestyles. Besides the general public, BCA also tapped on competitions and outreach programmes to stimulate the interest in green buildings among youths. One such programme is the "Greenovate Challenge", which was launched late last year to encourage youths to green their schools and assist the schools to embark on their Green Mark journeys.

Launch of "Tour of Green Mark Offices"

3. Moving forward, BCA will continue to engage different groups of stakeholders and rally them towards our green vision. Next up in July, we will be launching the "Tour of Green Mark Offices", a pilot outreach programme intended to promote sustainability practices and features of a Green Mark office interior to office occupants. Through this programme, we hope to create greater awareness of the benefits of working in certified Green Mark offices and cultivate a culture of sustainability among office staff. Targeting senior and mid-management executives and CSR personnel who have a decision-making role in adopting Green Mark for Office Interiors, the launch of this first-of-its-kind tour in Singapore is timely due to the growing appeal of green offices worldwide. On top of substantial cost savings in utilities bills, studies have also shown that green design efforts for the workplace help to create an environment that is both functional and comfortable, bolstering workers' productivity and boosting the bottom line. Above all, there is an increasing level of concern within the office community about becoming more sustainable in the workplace as companies worldwide are beginning to explore different ways to change their business practices to be more socially responsible.

4. To kick-start this pilot outreach programme, we are very pleased to have the first tour at Jurong Consultants' Office located at the JTC Summit, in end July 2013. A Green Mark Platinum award winner under the "Office Interior" category, Jurong Consultants is an ideal choice for the first tour as it employs a barrier free open office design with utilisation of natural lighting for workstation layout arrangement and an extensive use of environmentally friendly materials in renovation and office operations. After the July tour, future participants of this programme can also expect to visit a different exemplary Green Mark Office for subsequent tours. Ultimately, this programme aims to create a user-centric demand to encourage more office occupants, as users, to push for their offices to

be certified Green Mark. We are hopeful that upon witnessing the success stories of the various exemplary Green Mark Office interior winners, some of these participants would eventually be inspired to do their part for the sustainability of the built environment.

6. The past few years of our green journey have been nothing short of exciting and fruitful. I'm very delighted to see many of our partners from the public, private and people sectors stepping forward to make significant and meaningful contributions to Singapore's Green Movement. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the kind sponsorship from the companies, 3M and HiiGa, for BCA's Green Building Exhibitions, and all our other partners for their unwavering support.

Conclusion

7. In conclusion, everyone has a part to play for the sustainability of our built environment. I wish everyone a fruitful experience at the exhibition. "Together, We Build Our Green Future."

8. Thank you.