

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Embargoed till 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

### **Institute of Systems Science and The Logistics Institute – Asia Pacific Announce Joint Initiative to Launch THINK IT Programme**

**Singapore, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010-** According to the 2009 Third Party Logistics Study, the logistics and supply chain industry is faced with substantial IT capability gaps and weaknesses such as insufficient alignment between businesses and IT, lack of sufficient project management processes and personnel and inadequate data quality. These gaps have led to the need for companies in the logistics and supply chain industry to embrace a more strategic view of IT.

The Institute of Systems Science (ISS) and the Logistics Institute – Asia Pacific (TLI-AP), both of the National University of Singapore have embarked on a joint initiative to develop a THINK IT programme. Launched today, the programme, which is an extension of the THINK Executive programme, serves as a platform to discuss IT related optimisations and innovations for the future of supply chain, to analyse and discover the relevant variables, IT-based structure, interdependencies and logic of complex supply chain systems. Both institutes will contribute their expertise and the necessary resources for related research and other activities.

The THINK IT programme targets high level business and IT executives in logistics and supply chain industry as well as related businesses like IT companies, consultants and government agencies. This programme is advised and guided by a Steering Committee chaired by BG (NS) Pang Hee Hon, Chief Executive Officer of Keppel T & T. Other committee members include Dr Robert De Souza, Executive Director of TLI-AP and Mr Lim Swee Cheang, Director/CEO of ISS and representatives from the manufacturing, logistics, IT industries, as well as consultancy and government agencies.

“Through dialogue between government agencies, industry leaders and NUS, THINK IT aims to drive innovation and knowledge exchange that will allow the logistics and supply chain management community to adapt proactively to market developments. I am confident that THINK IT will provide a valuable platform to inject industry insight into research topics that will address critical IT-related issues faced by the logistics and supply chain management industries.” said BG (NS) Pang Hee Hon, Chairman of the THINK IT steering committee.

Two THINK IT meetings are expected to be held annually, which will take place in conjunction with the regular THINK Executive summits in March and September. For every summit, both ISS and TLI- AP will jointly perform dedicated research. The current three important research topics identified are IT Outsourcing, Sustainable IT and IT Governance and Architecture.

Professor Tan Eng Chye, Deputy President (Academic Affairs) and Provost at the National University of Singapore said, “This collaboration clearly shows the collective spirit of two institutes within the National University of Singapore (NUS), making a remarkable effort to bridge the IT capability gaps faced by the logistics and supply chain industries. Tapping on the strengths of both institutes, NUS hopes to bring research in this area to a higher level.”

At the launch today, John Rehm, organisational designer and strategist of IDEO, a design and innovation consulting firm, would be sharing his insights on how to fuse service and design innovation into logistics and supply chain management.

####

#### **About Institute of Systems Science**

The Institute of Systems Science (ISS) of the National University of Singapore, is a premier institute providing IT education and training programmes in Singapore. It offers graduate programmes and professional diplomas as well as professional development courses delivered in the classroom and/or through e-learning. It has trained over 64,500 people, who now constitute a major proportion of the IT professional workforce in Singapore. For more than 28 years, the institute prides itself on maintaining world-class quality standards in the curriculum and course offerings. It also conducts research and provides consulting services to industry. For more information, visit [www.iss.nus.edu.sg](http://www.iss.nus.edu.sg)

**About The Logistics Institute – Asia Pacific (TLI- AP)**

The Logistics Institute - Asia Pacific is collaboration between the National University of Singapore (NUS) and the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) for research and education programs in global logistics. This collaboration provides joint logistics expertise which caters to the logistics needs of the industries across the world today focusing on global logistics, information technology, industrial engineering and supply chain management. For more information, visit [www.tliap.nus.edu.sg](http://www.tliap.nus.edu.sg)

**About THINK Executive Programme**

THINK Executive is a prestigious and unique biannual event that brings together a strategic line up of key senior executives, supply chain thought leaders, academics and government agencies in a collegial environment to address critical emerging issues. Established by The Logistics Institute – Asia Pacific, THINK Executive is also a common platform for consortium studies and for companies to engage with our dedicated research team. Participation in THINK Executive is open to senior executives from the industry and to supply chain and logistics thought leaders by invitation only. For more information, visit <http://www.tliap.nus.edu.sg/thinkexecutive/default.html>

####

For more information, press only:

Eileen Long  
Manager, Marketing Communications  
Institute of Systems Science  
National University of Singapore  
DID: +65 6516 2379  
Email: [eileenlong@nus.edu.sg](mailto:eileenlong@nus.edu.sg)

Goh Mee Leng  
Manager, Industry Outreach  
The Logistics Institute – Asia Pacific  
National University of Singapore  
DID: +65 6516 1361  
Email: [meeleng@nus.edu.sg](mailto:meeleng@nus.edu.sg)