

Publication: TODAYonline

Date: 5 July 2012

Headline: Enterprise news in brief

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A nod to good service

by Francis Kan

An award which recognises Singapore's top performing individuals and organisations in the service industry returns for its second instalment with a new category. The Singapore Service Excellence Medallion for 2012 will feature a Service Champion award for professionals at the management level, on top of the Service Professional honour for customer-facing staff, SPRING Singapore said in a statement on Tuesday.

Changi Airport Group won last year's inaugural Medallion for organisations, while the individual nod went to Mr Edwin Teo, a sales advocate from Atlas Sound and Vision. Nominations for the 2012 awards opened on July 2 and will run to August 10. Nomination forms can be downloaded at www.medallion.sg.

The awards are organised by SPRING Singapore, the Singapore Tourism Board, the Singapore Workforce Development Agency, the Institute of Service Excellence at the Singapore Management University, and the National Trades Union Congress.

A healthy innovation

A new initiative aimed at linking up medical technology firms and healthcare clinicians could see more innovative products that benefit patients reaching the market over the next few years.

Tan Tock Seng Hospital and government agency SPRING Singapore inked an agreement last week to set up the Co-innovation Programme Office (CPO), a body that aims to match clinicians' needs to local SMEs with technical know-how and commercialisation expertise.

The CPO will identify and facilitate 10 to 15 collaborative projects in its first year, the two parties said in a statement.