

## News Release

Singapore, 20 July, 2015

### **German University Partners e2i To Launch First Biologics Master Class For Professionals**

*First Master Class for the Biologics Manufacturing Industry*

The National Trades Union Congress' (NTUC) e2i (Employment and Employability Institute) has partnered the Technische Universität München Asia (TUM Asia, Technical University of Munich Asia) to launch the “Biologics and Process Technology” Master Class for professionals. This is the first Master Class collaboration between e2i and a university institution, targeted to professionals in the Biologics Manufacturing industry.

The “Biologics and Process Technology” Master Class comes after a strong push for more skilled labour in the BMS industry. The Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA), Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) and Biopharmaceutical Manufacturers' Advisory Council spearheaded the launch of the Sectoral Manpower Development Plan (SMDP) manpower roadmap in December last year, aiming to build a pipeline of skilled local manufacturing talent to support the rising demand in the BMS industry.

According to Enterprise One, the biologics manufacturing industry has attracted S\$2.7B in investments over 9 manufacturing facilities and will employ close to 2,000 people. Dr Ong Siew Hwa, the lead trainer in the “Biologics and Process Technology” Master Class said, “A growing share of all medicines are biologics, we expect to see continued strong interest from pharmaceutical companies to invest in manufacturing facilities for biologics drug products. To support this growth, we will need to continue to develop a skilled talent pool. We also expect the biologics manufacturing sector to offer exciting, high-value career opportunities.”

Dr Markus Wächter, Managing Director of TUM Asia, has lent the full support of TUM Asia in the Government's push for upgrading of professionals. He is quoted as saying, “Germany is known for her engineering and scientific strength. Having a branch campus in Singapore for the last twelve years has allowed the Technical University of Munich to partner with various

agencies to transfer our expertise to the young and rapidly growing Singaporean workforce. We are happy to share our knowledge base in support of the growth of executive education here in Singapore.”

Mr Gilbert Tan, Chief Executive Officer of e2i said, “e2i works closely with our industry partners to identify and close employment and employability gaps. This collaboration with TUM Asia to start the first Biologics Master Class series enables professionals in the Biologics Manufacturing industry to be kept up-to-date on the new developments in the industry, and gain greater knowledge from industry experts. We hope to grow a strong core of Singaporean who can continuously deepen their skills and competencies to stay relevant and be future ready.”

The Master Class is set to take place at TUM Asia on 20 and 21 July 2015, with a total of 16 professionals signing up for the course. The course includes both theoretical and practical modules, which will grant attendees a comprehensive overview of the biologics industry and manufacturing processes as well as expose them to different classes of biologics applications, preparation and operations. The course will conclude with a field trip and dialogue session at a biopharmaceutical manufacturing facility.

The successful response of the Master Class will be important to both e2i and TUM Asia as they look to explore other sectors of growth that require the support of executive education in order to develop a wider pool of high-value skilled labour locally.

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### **About Technische Universität München (TUM) and TUM Asia**

Technische Universität München (TUM) was founded in 1868 and is considered as one of Europe's leading technical universities. TUM has produced 13 Nobel Laureates to date and has consistently played an important role in technological advancements across Europe. TUM strives to create lasting value for society through excellence in education and research, the active promotion of next-generation talent with a strong entrepreneurial spirit.

Following the same vision, TUM Asia was set up in 2002 to bring German academic excellence to Asia. Offering degrees in partnership with top Asian universities, students at TUM Asia have the opportunity to combine German engineering with Asian relevance in the thriving economic landscape of Singapore.

For more information, visit [www.tum-asia.edu.sg](http://www.tum-asia.edu.sg) or contact us at [marketing@tum-asia.edu.sg](mailto:marketing@tum-asia.edu.sg).

### **About the e2i (Employment and Employability Institute)**

As THE leading organisation to create solutions for better employment and employability, e2i exists to create better jobs and better lives for workers. Since 2008, we have helped more than 300,000 workers through providing better jobs, developing better skills through professional development, and improving productivity for companies. An initiative of the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC), supported by the Workforce Development Agency (WDA), the Singapore Labour Foundation (SLF), and the Singapore National Employers' Federation (SNEF), e2i serves all segments of workers, from rank-and-file to professionals, managers and executives.

Visit [www.e2i.com.sg](http://www.e2i.com.sg) for more information.

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