

## **ANNEX B**

**April 2014**

### **FACTSHEET IDA Labs**

As Singapore moves towards becoming a Smart Nation, IDA is placing greater emphasis on encouraging a culture of creating and building. The culture will encourage Singaporeans and Singapore-based info-technology companies to experiment, collaborate and build new and innovative products and solutions that would address real world challenges globally as well as for Singapore.

#### **About the IDA Labs**

IDA will be allocating up to S\$10 million for the development and execution of the IDA Labs and its suite of programmes and activities. The IDA Labs provide physical lab spaces for individuals, companies and government agencies to collaborate. It enables them to work on areas such as generating new ideas, developing new technologies and testing out proof of concepts. There will be three focus areas for the IDA Labs, namely:

#### *Focus 1: Building Singapore-based Tech Companies and Singapore Tech Talent*

Objective: The goal is to support talented individuals and companies to generate innovative IP from ideation to productisation, building robust products and solutions through the lab resources, and mentor and user networks provided by IDA Labs. Working in conjunction with complementary programmes such as Accreditation and Accelerator, technology companies would also gain viable business opportunities locally and beyond.

Users: Promising and innovative Singapore-based technology companies and start-ups with high growth potential

#### Activities:

- Partnership with companies and startups through the provision of lab resources such as equipment, test environment, mentor and user networks to support them in product development from ideation to early stage product-market fit.
- Hub for entrepreneurs, tech companies, user organisations and research institutions to come together and develop viable products.

- Meeting point for technology and design experts to collaborate and build new products which meet both functional and consumer needs.
- A series of complementary programmes that utilise IDA Labs facilities and networks are also being developed to support the building of technology companies.

These include:

- Accreditation@IDA – Accreditation targets Singapore-based companies that develop and own innovative high-growth infocomm products in the enterprise market. Through the programme, IDA will accredit promising and innovative small Singapore-based technology product companies to establish credentials and facilitate access to government and large enterprise buyers; provide potential buyers assurance on the accredited companies' product core functionalities and ability to deliver; and build an innovative technopreneur ecosystem to drive economic growth, inspire the younger generation, and build more innovative products and technology companies that can scale overseas.
- IDA Accelerator –To provide Singapore-based technology start-ups with mentoring and advice, IDA's subsidiary, Infocomm Investment Pte Ltd (IIPL) is launching the accelerator programme which takes in cohorts of promising start-ups through a competitive selection process. Start-ups will also be mentored by a network of successful entrepreneurs, domain specialists and investors brought together by the accelerator. The programme will culminate in a “Demo Day” where founders will get the opportunity to pitch to potential investors and CxOs. IDA Labs will provide a platform for start-ups to tinker, experiment and have opportunities to work with different parts of the tech ecosystem.
- IDA Labs-RedHat Joint Programme – IDA Labs users will have access to advice from RedHat experts, and also from the open source community at large. IDA Labs and RedHat will also be organising an international challenge that seeks to discover innovative technology projects that fuse form and function. They will continue to work with grassroots organisations to reach out to the technology community as well as to continue entice and grow this technology pool.
- IDA Labs-Intel Partnership – Intel will be providing resources such as future Quark based platforms and technical expertise such as product development training to IDA Labs users. Intel will also be rendering its

global platform as a means for local ICT companies to bring their ready products to overseas markets.

## *Focus 2 – Fostering a Culture of Creating and Building*

Objective: The aim is to ignite the young's passion for technology, particularly in experimenting with and building technology.

Users: Students, young IT professionals

### Activities:

- Partnership with schools and institutes of higher learning to form a network of shared resources and jointly developed programmes that will encourage tinkering and experimentation with technology.
- Support for projects based on a wide range of tools and materials that connect to students' interests in and out of school.
- Curate the best of prototype projects and provide access for students and companies to inspire and fine tune ideas.
- A series of complementary programmes that leverage IDA Labs facilities and networks are also being developed to foster a culture of creating and building.

These include:

- Learn@Labs Day – IDA Labs supported by MOE, will be holding the Learn@Labs Day from 27 to 29 May. Students from various secondary schools offering the enrichment programme and 'O' level computer studies, as well as infocomm clubs members, will have the opportunity to learn about and tinker with various technologies such as Arduino, Robotics and 3D Printing.
- IDA Labs-SMU collaboration – Through a partnership with the Institute of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the Singapore Management University (SMU), IDA Labs will provide the platform for the SMU community consisting of students, faculty, alumni and startups to build and test their ideas and to eventually translate them into actual products and solutions. The collaboration also seeks to facilitate the commercialisation of innovations either through co-development, or by adopting solutions to be used in government projects.

### *Focus 3 – Strengthening Internal Capabilities*

Objective: The aim is to strengthen technology capabilities of IDA as well as support innovative technology deployment within government agencies.

Users: Government agencies and Singapore-based technology companies and startups.

Activities:

- Provision of technical workshops and seminars for officers from IDA and other partner government agencies. It will provide public officers with hands-on access to technology and allow them to experiment with new technologies in a collaborative work environment.
- Provision of a secure testing environment for products from Singapore-based technology companies and startups. The environment will test these products for feasibility of use within a government environment, as well as showcase them to potential government users. Different parties within the ecosystem can also test the technology solutions for inter-operability.

### **IDA Labs Locations**

IDA Labs will have facilities established at IDA HQ and the National Design Centre (NDC).

IDA Labs@HQ – The 300 sqm space is situated within IDA HQ office, Mapletree Business City, located at the ninth floor. This facility is primarily where products from Singapore-based infocomm companies will collaborate with IDA and government agencies on projects, and where their products can be “plugged in” to be experimented and tested for feasibility of use within a government context, and for demonstration to potential users. It will also provide public officers with hands-on access to technology and experiment with new technologies in collaboration with the industry.

IDA Labs@NDC – The 400 sqm space is situated within the NDC at Middle Road. This two-storey facility is set up in collaboration with DesignSingapore Council. It will target technology and media professionals as well as designers, and serve as a meeting point for these experts to collaborate on new products and services such as sensors, games, and data visualisation. The lab will also be primarily used for programmes targeted at companies and students.

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**For media clarification, please contact:**

**Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore**

Grace Chiang (Ms)

Manager, Corporate and Marketing Communications

Tel: +65 6211 3863

E-mail: [grace\\_chiang@ida.gov.sg](mailto:grace_chiang@ida.gov.sg)

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