

MEDIA RELEASE

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- **Official launch of the world's first Productivity Certification Framework which will serve as the industry's yardstick for productivity and to provide a measured approach to track and benchmark productivity efforts and improvements for the Process, Construction and Maintenance Sector of the Energy and Chemicals Industry.**
- **Annual Productivity Improvement Forum drew more than 100 local professionals from the Process Construction & Maintenance (PCM) partners, Plant Owners & Plant Contractors and representatives from government agencies.**

SINGAPORE, 13 November 2019 – Organised by the Productivity Council, the Productivity Improvement Forum (PIF) 2019 was held on 13th November 2019 with more than 100 local professionals from PCM partners, Plant Owners & Plant Contractors, and representatives from government agencies in attendance.

A platform to drive productivity initiatives for the PCM sector and further improve the competitiveness of the Energy & Chemicals industries, the Productivity Council is a collaborative effort by the Economic Development Board (EDB), Singapore Chemical Industry Council (SCIC) and Association of Process Industry (ASPRI).

Reflecting the close partnership between the public and private sectors, the Productivity Council oversees various workgroups formed to operationalise the productivity initiatives, which can be categorised under two types – Worker Productivity and Project Productivity – to collectively address gaps in the PCM sector.

An annual event, the PIF showcases the key results and findings of the various workgroups with insights on opportunities and strategies for productivity improvements:

- As part of the Worker Productivity initiatives, the Mechanisation Workgroup, together with Enterprise Singapore, launched a mechanization database in May 2018, which have seen a majority of the leading PCM companies embark on a pilot-testing of tools as aided by the database.
- The joint development of the two productivity tools, the Activity Analysis and the Best Productivity Practices Implementation Index by the Construction Industry Institute and National University of Singapore, which focuses on enhancing Project Productivity through improved planning and execution.

Dr Koh Poh Koon, Senior Minister of State (SMS) for Ministry of Trade and Industry (Trade), delivered the keynote speech as the Guest-of-Honour. In his speech, he made the following announcement:

- **Official launch of the Productivity Certification Framework**, which will serve as the industry's yardstick for productivity and to provide a measured approach to track and benchmark productivity efforts and improvements. Through the linking of the certification

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standards to the successful implementation of productivity initiatives, this would incentivise E&C plant owners to engage the top performers in productivity, in turn, encouraging PCM companies to continuously improve their productivity.

These efforts by the PCM and E&C sectors to leverage technology to raise productivity, increase competitiveness and transform their business must be done in tandem with workers' training to ensure that workers are equipped to also operate and use these new technologies. This is in line with the Company Training Committee (CTC), a new initiative to help workers upskill and become Worker 4.0, and to partner companies in their transformative journey toward Industry 4.0 via an Operations-Technology Roadmapping Process.

Speaking at the occasion of the forum, Mr Koh Yak Boo, Productivity Council Chairman, said, "I am truly excited with the inaugural launch of this highly anticipated productivity framework that enables our local process industry players to understand their productivity performance. This diagnostic tool will allow us to drive tangible productivity gains in various work activities. In so doing, we aim to catalyse industry-wide productivity into a competitive advantage for Singapore to attract foreign investments and create job opportunities, whilst enhancing profitability for our energy, chemicals and process businesses."

Spokesperson for EDB said "The productivity of the Process Construction and Maintenance (PCM) sector is key in supporting the development of the energy and chemicals industry, ensuring that projects in Singapore are safely delivered on budget and on time." Said Mr Damian Chan, Assistant Managing Director, EDB. "The launch of the world's first Productivity Certification Framework today marks a significant milestone, as it allows PCM players to measure and track productivity efforts and improvements for the sector consistently. This will enable the industry to benchmark their efforts and boost their overall productivity to improve the competitiveness of the sector in the long run."

"This certification framework is the first in the world and we believe it will set new standards in our productivity practices that could bring about real and sustainable values to the Process Construction and Maintenance (PCM) sector", said James Goh, Immediate Past President, ASPRI.

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About the Singapore Chemical Industry Council (SCIC)

The Singapore Chemical Industry Council Limited (SCIC) is the official industry association representing the Singapore Energy and Chemicals cluster in the private sector. It plays a proactive role in representing the interests of this manufacturing sector and continues to promote it as a major economic pillar of Singapore.

SCIC has a membership network of more than 170 companies including key multi-national corporations (MNCs) and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that support the entire chemical industry supply chain. These members provide vast resources and opportunities to help SCIC develop a conducive business environment for the chemical industry. SCIC also provides a platform for the industry members to come together as a single body to strengthen our position in addressing advocacy issues.

SCIC is the National Administrator of Responsible Care Programme for Singapore, a global chemical industry's initiative that drives continuous improvement in health, safety, environment and security (HSES) performance.

SCIC participated as a member of International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA), a worldwide voice of the global chemical industry to ensure industry is widely valued and supported for its economic, social and environmental contributions to society.

In 2011, SCIC was appointed as the Standards Development Organisation (SDO@SCIC) for the Chemical Standards Committee (CSC) - one of the 10 Standards Committees under the National Standardisation Programme led by the Singapore Standards Council administered by Enterprise Singapore. The SDO@SCIC manages the national standards development projects under the CSC covering key areas of LNG bunkering and fuel oil bunkering, surface coatings, chemical and processes, nanotechnology as well as petroleum processes and products.

SCIC also participated and contributed to the 6-year implementation project from 2015 to 2021 on management practices and productivity improvement in Singapore. SCIC took the lead in overseeing the implementation of the project which is jointly funded by EDB Singapore, SCIC, members of the chemical industry, ASPRI and members of the process industry.

About the Productivity Council (PC)

The Process Construction & Maintenance (PCM) industry supports multiple sectors including power generation and the biomedical sciences. However, the majority of work undertaken by the sector is in support of the energy & chemicals (E&C) industry.

In order to improve productivity in the PCM Sector, government agencies, together with plant owners and Association of Process Industry, came together to form the PCM Management Committee (PCMMC) in 2013. The high level of commitment and broad-based support from the industry led to the formation of Productivity Council in February 2015 with the objective of improving project productivity.

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The Productivity Council is fully industry-led and consists of key stakeholders from the major plant owners, as well as senior managers from the contractors. It is chaired by Mr Koh Yak Boo, Singapore Site Turnaround Manager at ExxonMobil Asia Pacific, and co-chaired by Mr Roger Chia, Chairman/Managing Director of Rotary Engineering Ltd. The Productivity Council has worked closely with the Construction Industry Institute (CII) for productivity measurement and the improvement of management practices.

Ultimately, companies under the Productivity Council may expect productivity improvements on their site, a leaner workforce, and more efficient project management.

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