

For Immediate Release

Singapore International Robo Expo returns in 2018 against a backdrop of exponential change in industry

Tradeshow will focus on next generation robotics technologies

Singapore, 4 October 2018 – The Singapore International Robo Expo (SIRE) will return on 1 – 2 November 2018, at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre. The 3rd edition of SIRE will focus on next generation robotics in both its conference as well as exhibition showcase, addressing the entire value chain from technology research and development to test bedding to final commercialisation and go to market.

“The strong growth in the Asia Pacific region has reinforced the position of SIRE as a key platform for the robotics and automation sector to respond to rising demand.” said Mr Leck Chet Lam, Managing Director, Experia Events. “Set against the dynamic backdrop of fast-paced innovation and technology changes, our theme this year will spotlight on ‘Riding Opportunities in Exponential Change’. SIRE provides a strategic gateway for industry leaders, government officials, research and academia to come together to exchange insights, participate in solutions-based discourse, forge partnerships and explore business opportunities.”

SIRE 2018 offers a holistic and integrated programme for all the stakeholders in the robotics community – from thought leadership insights for decision makers to investment opportunities for venture capitalists and companies, from the latest innovative solutions for industry buyers to expert huddle sessions open to all trade visitors.

A key showcase at SIRE 2018 will be a series of seven transformative robotic solutions developed by Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) with close support from the National Robotics Research & Development Programme Office (NR2PO). These robotics solutions together with the commercial launches to be announced at SIRE 2018 underpins the full value chain approach of the National Robotics Programme which not only nurtures the

development of advanced robotics technology but to also see it through test-bedding and finally to licensing and commercialization.

These robots work on the principle of intelligent and automated reconfiguration by replicating the human elements of adaptability and reactivity. They are able reconfigure or reshape themselves to adapt to the environment or overcome obstacles in order to effectively carry out their tasks, overcoming limitations that hinder earlier generations of robots. Visitors will have the opportunity to engage with the engineering teams who developed these robots to fully understand the purpose of these new technologies and how they can be applied in practical solutions. *(Photos of robots in Annex A below.)*

“Robotics can be a Singapore success story and we are well on our way to reaching that goal.” said Mr Terence Teo, President, Singapore Industrial Automation Association (SIAA). “We have the talent base to create it, the capital and investor interest to fund it, the infrastructure to support its development, the economic diversity to apply its solutions and the network to grow it regionally. SIRE brings all these together as we work closely with NR2PO, the driving force behind the nationwide industry transformation maps (ITM) for robotics in Singapore. SIRE is the ideal platform for companies keen on commercialising the robotics solutions developed by local R&D institutes as there is a huge market potential for these robots to be deployed locally and across the region.”

Kicking off the conference programme will be the opening keynote from the Executive Advisor for Robotics at Toyota Motors, Mr Masanori Sugiyama, who will present the company’s vision on partner robots – robots that are expected to be utilized as partners to coexist with people for various social needs.

A special session will feature for the first time ever the sharing by multiple government agencies of their pain points and challenges faced in the deployment of robotics in various public sectors. This session will give industry players a first-hand view of the important public sector-led demand for robotics solutions.

The conference will also look at the business model of resource sharing and collaboration and how it would apply to the robotics industry with its own unique characteristics and challenges. For healthcare, one of the most key sectors for robotics, SIRE will explore its integration with

artificial intelligence and internet-of-things to bring robotics in healthcare to a whole new level of sophistication.

The conference will also cover other key areas of robotics such as the exciting arena of start-ups and venture capital, the highly relevant supply chain and logistics sector that drives Singapore's status as a transshipment hub, and the power of women in robotics.

SIRE 2018 is inspired by Industry 4.0 evolutions, deep-diving into "Autonomous Robotics" technologies. SIRE is the only dedicated robotics-centric platform in Singapore and in ASEAN. This year, SIRE will once again host government and private sector leaders as well as research and academia representatives. The objective is to share, address economic & social challenges, co-create solutions and forge partnerships. SIRE's mission is to promote industry growth, spearhead adoption as well as elevate Singapore's status as a leading robotics hub.

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About Singapore International Robo Expo (SIRE)

The Singapore International Robo Expo (SIRE) is the industry's leading regional event for industrial and service robots. As the Asia Pacific region continues to be a key growth driver for the global robotics and automation industry, SIRE is the regional platform where attendees can gain key insights, ignite business opportunities and discover fresh solutions amidst this staggering industry growth. SIRE is organised by Experia Events and co-organised by Singapore Industrial Automation Association (SIAA).

For more information, visit www.sire.com.sg.

About Experia Events Pte Ltd

Experia Events specialises in organising and managing exhibitions and conferences of strategic interest, fostering industry development and thought leadership. It has built a strong portfolio in aerospace and defence with the highly successful Singapore Airshow, Asia's largest aerospace and defence event, as well as key events such as IMDEX Asia, Asia Pacific's flagship maritime defence show; Rotorcraft Asia, the premier dedicated event for the global civil helicopter industry; Unmanned Systems Asia, which presents the future of unmanned systems across a vast spectrum of commercial and defence applications; and the

Singapore International Robo Expo (SIRE), the only dedicated robotics-centric platform in Singapore and in ASEAN.

Experia Events' expertise also extends to the government and lifestyle sectors, through key events such as the World Cities Summit, Singapore International Water Week and CleanEnviro Summit Singapore. With a proven track record underscoring its aspirations to stage events that influence, Experia Events aims to diversify its range of strategic events globally. For more information, visit www.experiaevents.com.

About Singapore Industrial Automation Association (SIAA)

Incorporated since 1982, SIAA is a professional association for companies and professionals in the Automation, Internet-of-Things (IoT) and Robotics sectors. SIAA plays a crucial role in galvanizing the Automation, IoT and Robotics (AIR) business community, through its extensive line-up of highly-valued programs and events, As SIAA spearheads the automation related initiatives, it also aims to foster industry collaboration and advancement through staging of flagship industry platforms.

SIAA's member charter is to serve as the voice of members and provide members with opportunities to increase their market presence as well as to internationalize their businesses. Our task is to open doors to business opportunities in Singapore and around the region. Through our various activities, initiatives and alliances, we promote our members to local and foreign network of alliance.

Forming alliances with various organizations locally, regionally and on the international front is also top priority for SIAA to reach out to like-minded groups who through the strategic alliances are able to come together for greater synergy in collaborations to continue to serve our respective communities more meaningfully. Please visit www.siaa.org.

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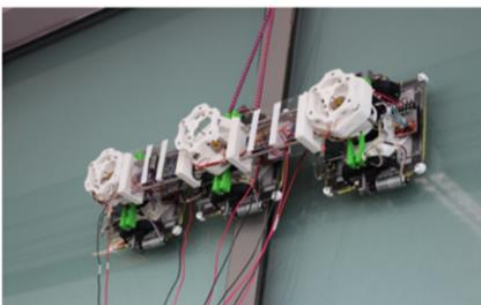
Annex A

Photos of robots developed by Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD)



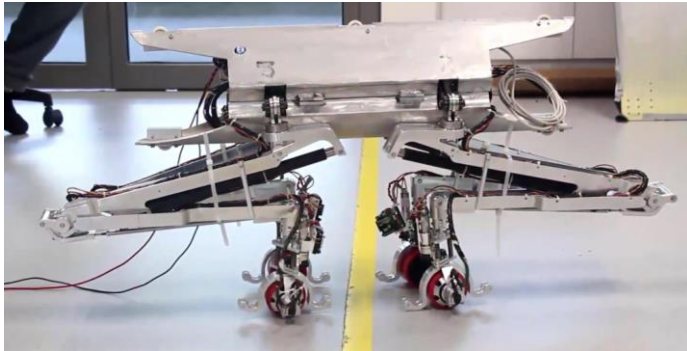
hTetro – A Tetris-inspired Floor Cleaning Robot

[See video animation](#) of how the hTetro transform its shape to fit the environment



Mantis – An Agile Glass Façade Cleaning Robot

[See video animation](#) of how the Mantis crosses over the barrier between glass panels



Tarantula – A Reconfigurable Quadruped Drain Inspection Robot

The bio-inspired foldable leg design of the Tarantula allows the robot to clear level changes in drains of up to a meter.

Drain infrastructure is rapidly expanding due to the establishment of new communities, and there is also an increasing need to closely monitor the status of the drains in the ageing neighbourhoods. The current scope of drain inspection generally targets surveillance and maintenance of damaged and clogged segments. These processes involve labour intensive methods covering highly inaccessible areas, poor lighting and ventilation and safety concerns.