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Media Release

INAUGURAL STARTUP CAREER FAIR OFFERS MORE THAN 300 JOBS TO BUILD PIPELINE OF TALENT TO DRIVE FUTURE INNOVATIONS

30 March 2017, Singapore – Facilitating talent flow into the thriving startup scene is the key objective of the inaugural Startup Career Fair 2017, with more than 100 startups looking for talent. Organised by the Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE), the Startup Career Fair presents a diverse range of over 300 full-time, part-time, and internship positions brought together by startups at the forefront of Singapore's disruptions and technological innovations in areas such as e-commerce, fintech and medtech. The one-day event is expected to attract an audience of students and fresh graduates looking for internships and full-time employment and PMETs looking for a mid-career switch.

Singapore's startup landscape has enjoyed strong growth underpinned by generous governmental support, excellent infrastructure and funding availability. Statistics from ACE reveal that startup acquisitions and exits have swelled from two in 2012 to 41 in 2015 and 2016. Total funding has also surged from US\$157 million in 2012 to US\$1.19 billion in 2016. With the technology sector growing twice as fast as the global economy, it has never been more important to drive talent into the startup scene.

According to the 2017 edition of the Startup Genome Ecosystem Ranking report, Singapore places twelfth in overall ranking, but tops the global ranking for talent. However, with competing manpower demands from multinational companies and the public sector, an equally strong talent supply to startups is necessary to ensure they reach full growth potential. The Startup Career Fair is thus focused on addressing the pressing talent problem faced by many startups, aiming to attract experienced talent with the right skill sets and to inject fresh blood into the scene.

In addition to job hunting and establishing networks in the startup community, jobseekers can look forward to a wealth of knowledge sharing. Experienced technopreneurs will headline a selection of talks designed to offer insights on the startup life and the importance of securing enduring skill sets that will withstand industrial upheavals. Visitors will also have the opportunity to embark on exclusive tours into the offices of Singapore's most prominent startups.

Mr Imran Bustamam, Head of HR at Ninja Van, welcomes ACE's latest endeavour to support the booming startup scene in Singapore. He said, "The inaugural Startup Career Fair is a great addition to ACE's line-up of activities and an excellent platform for startups like ours to connect directly with students, fresh graduates and skilled talents. We look forward to participating in the fair and meeting potential candidates who are keen to join our vibrant and dynamic team."

The Startup Career Fair 2017 is co-organised by JTC, and supported by the Employment and Employability Institute (e2i) and the NTUC U Associate.

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About Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE)

The Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE) was launched in 2003 by the Ministry of Trade & Industry as a national effort to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in Singapore. It was re-structured in 2014 as a private-led initiative supported by the government to continue its national mandate to drive entrepreneurship initiatives in Singapore. The Senior Minister of State for Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Trade & Industry, Dr Koh Poh Koon is Patron. Working closely with SPRING Singapore, ACE is guided by a board of directors that comprises of experienced entrepreneurs and professionals who are immersed in the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

ACE takes on three main thrusts to focus on strengthening the entrepreneurial scene by, (i) working with the community to engage and support promising entrepreneurs through resources, networks and mentorship, (ii) being the voice to speak for entrepreneurs and lobby for relevant policy changes and (iii) reaching out to schools and youths to support their entrepreneurial efforts.

For more information on ACE, please visit www.ace.org.sg.

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