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MEDIA RELEASE

KEPPEL SPURS SPORTING EXCELLENCE WITH KEPPEL-STTA AWARDS

The Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA) and Keppel Corporation today announced Keppel's sponsorship extension of the Keppel-STTA Awards for another two years. Keppel has been supporting the Awards since 2013.

The annual cash awards to be presented at a ceremony this evening at the Orchid Country Club amount to a total of \$33,000, where the Keppel-STTA Player of the Year will get the largest prize money of \$10,000.

Over and above the awards, Keppel has been the main sponsor of the the Keppel-Clementi Zone Training Centre since 2011.

Mr Loh Chin Hua, CEO of Keppel Corporation, said, "Our national paddlers' discipline, dedication and tenacity resonate strongly with our Keppel core values of passion and excellence. We hope that the Keppel-STTA Awards will continue to spur our sporting young talent to reach for greater heights and thereby contribute to ignite national pride. "

"We are grateful to Keppel for their kind sponsorship and strong support, with which we can reward and recognize Singapore's best paddlers on their stellar performances on the table in 2014 and their immense contribution to Singapore table tennis." said Ms Ellen Lee Geck Hoon, PBM, Member of Parliament for Sembawang GRC & President, STTA

Ms Lee added, "In six months' time, we hope that our team will succeed at the 2015 SEA Games. Like many Singaporeans, I am looking forward to be part of Team Singapore to support our paddlers all the way. And I would like to encourage all Singaporeans to come forward to support and cheer for Team Singapore"

The Keppel-STTA Awards comprise:

- Player of the Year 2014
- Coach of the Year 2014
- Team of the Year 2014
- Young Player of the Year 2014
- Young Achiever Award 2014
- Sports Excellence Award 2014
- Special Award of the Year 2014 5 awards

(Refer to Appendix A for details on the Keppel-STTA Awards and award recipients)

About STTA

Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA) is a National Sports Association affiliated to the Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC) and Singapore Sports Council (SSC). Our mission is to develop world class table tennis players by identifying, nurturing and motivating aspiring table-tennis talents to become the best that they could be. STTA is also committed to promoting table tennis vigorously by building a significant number of table tennis players to help make a vibrant sporting Singapore. Our vision is to make table tennis the most popular game in Singapore.

For more information, visit <u>www.stta.org.sg</u>.

About Keppel Corporation

With a global footprint in over 30 countries, Keppel Corporation leverages its international network, resources and talents to grow tis key businesses. It aims to be a global company at the forefront of its chosen industries, shaping the future for the benefit of all its stakeholders – Sustaining Growth, Empowering Lives and Nurturing Communities.

The Keppel Group of Companies includes Keppel Offshore & Marine, Keppel Infrastructure, Keppel Telecommunications & Transportation (Keppel T&T) and Keppel Land, among others.

Keppel Offshore & Marine is the leader in offshore rig design, construction and repair, ship repair and conversion and specialised shipbuilding. Its Near Market, Near Customer strategy is bolstered by a global network of 20 yards and offices in the Asia Pacific, Gulf of Mexico, Brazil, the Caspian Sea, Middle East and the North Sea regions.

Keppel Infrastructure will drive the Group's strategy to invest in, own and operate competitive energy and related infrastructure. Keppel Infrastructure, while tapping the expertise and technology of its engineering business, will grow its power and gas, environmental and energy efficiency businesses. Keppel T&T is a leading service provider in the Asia-Pacific and Europe with businesses in logistics and data centres.

Keppel Land contributes to changing cityscapes across Asia as a choice developer with a sterling portfolio of awardwinning residential developments, integrated townships and investment-grade commercial properties. Reputed for its quality and innovation hallmark, Keppel Land is committed to develop properties that harmonise with the urban and natural landscape for desirable live-work-play environments and with enduring value for the community.

For more information, visit <u>www.kepcorp.com</u>.

Keppel – STTA Player of the Year 2014

Feng Tianwei wins the Prestigious Player of the Year award for the fifth time

World No. 5, Feng Tianwei scored three ITTF world tour women's singles title - Japan Open, Australia Open, and Philippines Open in year 2014.

The win at the ITTF World Tour Japan Open was particularly noteworthy. At the final hurdle of the women's singles event, Feng Tianwei, the top seed, overcame Japan's golden girl Kasumi Ishikawa, the second seed, to clinch the title.

Feng Tianwei won in six games (12-10, 9-11, 3-11, 11-3, 11-5, 13-11) to collect her third ITTF World Tour title of the year and the seventh of her career in what is now 13 finals.

Keppel –STTA Coach of the Year 2014

Jin Junhong truly deserves recognition for her hard work and commitment. Junhong has done a good job in nurturing and raising the standards of our younger athletes.

Under her charge, our younger players displayed a high level performance at the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games. Singapore women's team won 6 golds and 3 bronzes at Commonwealth Games and Asian Games respectively.

At the World Table Tennis Championships 2014 - Our women's team achieved a bronze medal. It was no easy feat competing against some of the world's best teams and the women's team showed great form by finishing joint third despite entering the competition with a world ranking of 5.

Keppel –STTA Team of the Year 2014

The judging panel feels that the women's team deserves to win based on their performance at the World Championships 2014 and Asian Games, Incheon.

Feng Tianwei, Yu Mengyu, Isabelle Li and Yee Herng Hwee played an important role in finishing joint third in the World Championships.

At the Asian Games, our women's team which comprises of Feng Tianwei, Yu Mengyu, Isabelle Li, Lin Ye and Zhou Yihan displayed great fighting spirt and achieved a bronze for Singapore.

Keppel –STTA Young Player of the Year 2014

Lin Ye has made tremendous improvement in the year 2014. Her world ranking has improved signicantly from 65 in January 2014 to 48 in December 2014

Lin Ye is a prominent young player and she was a vital member of the women's team that struck gold in the Commonwealth Games, Glasgow and South East Asian Championships 2014.

Lin Ye's first outing to the Commonwealth Games was impressive. She won her first Commonwealth Games bronze medal in the women's singles event. At the South East Asian Championships 2014, she won the gold in the women's singles event and doubles event.

Keppel –STTA Young Achiever of the Year

Clarence Chew was the youngest and most inexperienced among the Singapore men's team at the World Team Table Tennis Championships 2014.

Despite his lowly world No. 259 ranking, the 18-year-old debutant has proven himself at the World Team Table Tennis Championships, in earning the men's team a joint fifth position. So far, this is the best finish for our men's team at the World Team Table Tennis Championships.

At the World Team Table Tennis Championships, the local-born paddler beat Hong Kong's No.37 Wong Chun Ting. In the Top 12 match to enter quarter-finals, Clarence enjoyed an unexpected victory against world ranking No.35 Par Gerell to bring one decisive point to the team to meet Germany in the quarter-finals.

Keppel – STTA Sports Excellence Award 2014

This award is to reward **Gao Ning** and **Li Hu** for winning the men's doubles event at the ITTF World Tour Grand Finals. They beat the Chinese Taipei partnership of Chiang Hung-Chieh and Huang Sheng-Sheng in a dramatic seven games final (6-11, 12-10, 12-10, 8-11, 11-8, 7-11, 11-9) to become only the second pair since the Grand Finals were inaugurated in 1996 to achieve the feat of succeeding in consecutive years.

Credit also must go to Coach Yang Chuanning for leading the doubles team to success.

Keppel – STTA Special Award of the Year 2014

The Special Award of the year acknowledges the athletes' win against the tough Chinese opponents and their exceptional performances.

STTA presents the 5 special awards, as follow:

Gao Ning

Gao Ning defeated Yan An (CHN) in round of 16 in the men's singles event at Qatar Open.

Feng Tianwei

Feng Tianwei beat China's Chen Xingtong in the women's singles event at Japan Open.

Feng continued her success against the Chinese player, Wang Manyu at the ITTF 2014 World Tour Korea Open.

In the women's doubles event, Feng and Yu Mengyu beat Chen Meng/ Zhu Yuling (CHN) in the quarter-finals at the China Open.

Yu Mengyu

Yu Mengyu scored victory against Mu Jingyu (CHN) in the women's singles event at Korea Open and Chen Ke (CHN) in the women's singles event at China Open.

In the women's doubles event, Yu and Feng Tianwei beat Chen Meng/ Zhu Yuling (CHN) in the quarter-finals at the China Open.

Li Hu

At the Asian Games, Singapore shone in a narrow 3-2 win against China in the preliminary Group A match of the men's team event. Li Hu and China scored the two points in the match by beating the world no: Fan Zhendong

Chen Feng

Chen Feng beat world No. 2 Fan Zhendong in the preliminary Group A match at the Asian Games.