

## MEDIA FACTSHEET

# **MOU signed between Enterprise Singapore and German standards bodies DIN and DKE to deepen collaboration in Industry 4.0 standardisation efforts**

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Singapore, Thursday, 15 October 2020

1. Enterprise Singapore signed an MOU with the German Institute for Standardization (DIN) and the German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE (DKE) to strengthen collaboration between Singapore and Germany in a number of key emerging areas. The MOU builds on an existing MOU<sup>1</sup> signed in 2014 that has been expanded to include future mobility, Industry 4.0, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and the circular economy. It also seeks to deepen people-to-people ties through staff exchanges, and programmes to groom young talent in the field of standards development.
2. The latest MOU was signed by Ms Choy Sauw Kook, Director-General (Quality & Excellence), Enterprise Singapore, Mr Christoph Winterhalter, Chairman of the Executive Board, DIN, and Mr Florian Spittler, Head of External Relations & Support, Member of the DKE Executive Board, DKE.
3. **Ms Choy Sauw Kook, Director-General (Quality & Excellence), Enterprise Singapore**, said, "Building partnerships is a fundamental that underpins Singapore's strong and robust quality and standards infrastructure. The ESG-DIN-DKE partnership connects us with like-minded stakeholders to ensure that our standards remain relevant and on par with international ones, and will help Singapore companies build up their technical capabilities. Enterprise Singapore and Singapore Standards Council look

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<sup>1</sup> The existing MOU was signed between SPRING Singapore, the predecessor of Enterprise Singapore, and DIN in 2014, covering standards collaboration in the areas of services, the future of manufacturing, robotics, and healthcare & biomedical.

forward to developing and promoting standards that help companies in key emerging areas, such as in the adoption of Industry 4.0 solutions.”

4. **Mr Christoph Winterhalter, Chairman of the Executive Board, DIN**, said, “In these challenging times, it is important, probably more than ever, that we work together and that we establish close partnerships. We need to bring people together, virtually or physically, and share our expertise to advance developments and to find innovative solutions to urgent issues. Together, we can achieve more. Our two countries have become closely interconnected over the years in many ways. We at DIN look forward to a fruitful and constructive exchange, in particular on topics that we have identified in our memorandum of understanding, such as industry 4.0, future of mobility, artificial intelligence and circular economy. I am sure that the closer collaboration between our organisations will be a benefit for all of us.”
  
5. **Mr Florian Spittler, Head of External Relations & Support, Member of the DKE Executive Board, DKE**, said, “I very well remember our bilateral meeting at the IEC General Meeting 2019, where we agreed on important steps leading to the signature of our MOU today. At that time, it was unthinkable that we would be dealing with locked-down economies and combating an unprecedented pandemic. We see that standardisation has proven essential for our industries and societies to build resilience and to restore confidence. I am looking forward to facing the future challenges together with all of you, to bring our long lasting partnership to the next level, and also to bring standardisation to the next level. With industry 4.0, we have chosen a very important and a very good topic to start with.”
  
6. Interested SMEs can register for the Standards Forum, held in conjunction with Industrial Transformation ASIA-PACIFIC 2020, via the following link: [www.industrial-transformation.com/conference/standards-forum](http://www.industrial-transformation.com/conference/standards-forum). Enterprise Singapore has also updated the online standards toolkit to support SMEs’ implementation of Industry 4.0 solutions, made available freely at [www.standardsi40.sg](http://www.standardsi40.sg).

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### **About Enterprise Singapore**

Enterprise Singapore is the government agency championing enterprise development. We work with committed companies to build capabilities, innovate and internationalise.

We also support the growth of Singapore as a hub for global trading and startups, and build trust in Singapore's products and services through quality and standards.

Visit [www.enterprisesg.gov.sg](http://www.enterprisesg.gov.sg) for more information.

### **About the German Institute for Standardization (DIN)**

DIN, the German Institute for Standardization, is the independent platform for standardization in Germany and worldwide. As a partner for industry, research and society as a whole, DIN plays a major role to supporting the marketability of innovative solutions through standardization - be it in topics around the digitization of business and society or in the context of research projects.

### **About the German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE (DKE)**

The DKE German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE as a joint organization of VDE and DIN is the national organization responsible for the compilation and maintenance of standards and safety specifications covering the areas of electrical engineering, electronics and information technology in Germany. It actively represents German interests in the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) and in the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). The DKE maintains close links to ETSI and implements ETSI European Standards in the German standards collection. About 5 500 technical experts from industry, science and administration are organized in the DKE. Electrotechnical safety standards elaborated in the DKE as VDE Specifications are part of the VDE Specifications Code of safety standards.