

Annex B: Quotes from “Friends of PEP” Members and Profiles of Private Sector Panel Discussion Speakers

Quotes from “Friends of PEP Members:

Mr Nicholas Malcomson said, “The past 20 years have been an important and fruitful journey as we managed to work with the PEP to review rules across multiple sectors. It is important to continue supporting this industry partnership effort, through initiatives like the “Friends of PEP” network.”

Mr Seah Liang Chiang said, “The work with PEP is a continuous one, and the “Friends of PEP Network” is a commitment to strengthen this partnership. As we celebrate this 20th anniversary milestone today, it also represents a renewed commitment to a strong industry-public sector collaboration to review rules and facilitate innovation.”

Mr Allan Lim also expressed support for the network and said, “The PEP has worked with the public sector on various regulatory reviews over the past 20 years. As we celebrate this achievement, I am encouraged that the “Friends of PEP” network has been launched to further drive the industry-public sector partnership in rules review. Through the “Friends of PEP” network, I believe the pro-enterprise cause can be strengthened and more businesses can benefit from regulatory reviews that have both industry and public sector perspectives considered.”

Profiles of Private Sector Panel Discussion Speakers:

Friends of PEP Member - Mr Allan Lim

Allan was a member of the MTI Pro Enterprise Panel who also participated as a member of various sub committees in the Economic Strategies Committee in 2009 and Committee for Future Economy in 2016.

He is the founder of Alpha Biofuels and Comcrop, two local companies that are at the forefront of urban sustainability. Alpha Biofuels produces low carbon biodiesel from waste cooking oil while Comcrop grows fresh pesticide free leafy greens on a rooftop farm in an industrial estate.

Founder of the Gym Pod - Mr Damian Chow

Damian is a serial entrepreneur with a keen interest in combining various technologies with business model innovation to generate a truly unique and sustainable offering to customers.

He was previously the COO and CFO of his commerce platform startup, Paywhere. Since exiting the startup after its acquisition in 2018, Damian founded The Gym Pod, a 24/7 unmanned container gym chain designed to provide users a fully private workout experience. Since the launch of the first pod in June 2018, The Gym Pod has 11 pods across the island and over 25,000 users.

He is also a Director at Massive Infinity Pte Ltd, a venture builder that provides Product Development Consultancy on digital initiatives and data-centric business models.

Brief Background on The Gym Pod

The Gym Pod had proposed to set up 24/7 pay-per-use unmanned container gyms in HDB estates and parks.

This business concept was arguably novel as it was the first 24-hour fully automated smart technology gym in Southeast Asia^[1]. Users would be able to book sessions online and control the facilities (such as the air-conditioning) of the gym via a dedicated mobile application. At the end of each session, the pods would power down automatically. The project complemented the public park facilities, as the containers were sheltered and provided users with the opportunity to stay healthy without being tied down to monthly gym membership fees.

The Gym Pod had asked to be awarded the First Mover (FM) Advantage for the use of the public asset, i.e. parks near HDB estates.

The Gym Pod was officially launched in June 2018. Currently, it has a total of eight workout pods: Seven gym pots at Alexandra TechnoPark, Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park, Changi City Point, Icon IBP, Punggol Park and Techplace1 as well as a spin pod at Changi City Point.

^[1] Extracted from "<https://www.businessinsider.sg/the-gym-pod-singapore-smart/>" dated 24 Sep 2018.