

MEDIA RELEASE

SKY'S THE LIMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS THIS YEAR

- *Small progressive Singapore builders, CMC Construction Pte Ltd and Unison Construction Pte Ltd, recognised for strong capabilities in digital technologies and innovative solutions*
- *Unison Construction Pte Ltd also a winner of the Green and Gracious Builder Award Star Champion*

Singapore, 18 May 2018 – Whether big or small, builders in the built environment sector are making their mark in construction excellence in Singapore. The firms winning big under Construction Excellence Award (CEA) this year are Woh Hup (Private) Ltd and China Construction (South Pacific) Development Co. Pte Ltd. More than half of the 11 award winning residential projects are helmed by these two firms and they have achieved relatively high standards of quality (i.e. their CONQUAS scores average around 95), through their strong project management processes and adoption of advanced technologies.

2 Established by the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) in 1986, CEA is awarded to builders for their exemplary performance in project management, technical expertise, innovative solutions and high quality standards for a project. Among the winners this year are also small progressive builders, CMC Construction Pte Ltd and Unison Construction Pte Ltd, who have been accorded the merit certificate for achieving a high degree of construction excellence.

3 The eight-storey St. Andrew's Nursing Home at Queenstown was built by CMC Construction Pte Ltd in a span of 18 months. The project team placed a large emphasis on solving issues at the early planning and design stages before commencing actual construction. By adopting 6D Building Information Modelling (BIM), they were able to facilitate close collaboration between different project stakeholders and identify potential clashes of building components through an interactive visualisation of the building plan and its construction process. For example, the external façade had an alternating rectangular module design that could also hold plants. With BIM, they could demonstrate how the

modules could be easily constructed by repeating a four-step installation process of the precast components. They also made the decision to upturn all cantilever beams at the side of the building after finding out from the BIM visualisation of the original design that the beams would protrude out and affect the final look of the façade.

4 In addition, 6D BIM meant that they also had the capability to use data to track the progress of the building's construction; and when the building is completed, the BIM data handed over to the building owner could be used to identify details of the building assets such as their location and expiry date for facilities management.

5 Ms Jenny Chew Lay Keng, Project Manager at CMC Construction Pte Ltd, said "I find joy in exploring the use of technologies to improve the way we construct our buildings. My team adopted the concept of facilitating collaboration among project stakeholders through digital interactive visualisations of building plans even before it was actively promoted by the government and I'm glad that my team has since developed its BIM capabilities. We are really pleased with how the St. Andrew's Nursing Home turned out with minimal reworks required and we certainly look forward to do likewise for the other projects we embark on in the future."

6 Another small Singapore builder, Unison Construction Pte Ltd, achieved good productivity and quality score for their residential project, Thomson Three. Through value engineering, the builder re-designed the foundation system using a thick concrete foundation slab instead of 200 bored piles done on site and thus shortening the construction time by 45 days. The builder also replaced the conventional reinforced concrete beam and slab system with the flat slab system, thus eliminating the need for beams or girders, for the construction of the basement floors. This helped the team to save time and manpower needed for construction.

7 It took them just slightly over three years to complete the residential flat development comprising three 21-storey blocks and 10 three-storey strata semi-detached units, together with two levels of basement car park. On their construction excellence win this year, project manager Mr Yip Wai Hoong said "We feel proud when we construct a building complying to the architects' design and hand over the house to the unit owners to their highest satisfaction. This is Unison's core philosophy that drives us to strive for the excellence during the construction for all projects we have undertaken."

8 Besides adopting innovative and productive ways of construction, Unison Construction Pte Ltd also promotes and adopts gracious practices that minimise the impact on-site and its surroundings. This includes comprehensive guidelines and manpower management developed and implemented to ensure enhanced accessibility, public safety and better mitigation of noise and vibration. Sharing sessions for staff and subcontractors are also conducted regularly to develop innovative green and gracious practices and technologies. In addition, green and gracious performance is an important criterion during the assessment and evaluation of Unison's suppliers and/or sub-contractors. For their efforts, they won the **Green and Gracious Builder Award Star Champion** (refer to factsheet), the highest tier for the award.

9 Er. Lai Huen Poh, Chairman of the CEA Assessment Committee said "Firms in the built environment sector are continuously challenging themselves to achieve greater heights. In today's increasingly competitive market, we are also seeing smaller players stepping up their game in being progressive. While many firms face resistance to changes during this period of technology disruption, these firms went head on to embrace them. I applaud them for finding strength in adversity and not letting firm size determine their capabilities. All in all, I was really impressed by this year's shortlisted projects. Congratulations to all winners for their outstanding achievements."

10 There are a total of 19 award and 17 merit certificate winners under the CEA. For the GGBA, there are a total of 2 Star Champions, 3 Star and 19 Excellent award winners (more details can be found in the annex). Winners will receive their awards during the BCA Awards Ceremony on 22 May 2018 at the Resorts World Sentosa.

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About Building and Construction Authority (BCA)

The Building and Construction Authority (BCA) of Singapore champions the development of an excellent built environment for Singapore. BCA's mission is to shape a safe, high quality, sustainable and friendly built environment, as these are four key elements where BCA has a significant influence. In doing so, it aims to differentiate Singapore's built environment from those of other cities and contribute to a better quality of life for everyone in Singapore. Hence, its vision is to have "a future-ready built environment for Singapore". Together with its education arm, the BCA Academy, BCA works closely with its industry partners to develop skills and expertise that help shape a future-ready built environment for Singapore. For more information, visit www.bca.gov.sg.

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