



MEDIA RELEASE

FIDOR INVESTS CLOSE TO S\$800,000 (€500,000) TO DEVELOP FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND STUDENT ACADEMY PROGRAMME FOR POLYTECHNICS IN SINGAPORE

More than 500 polytechnic students and lecturers to be trained on developing FinTech applications using Fidor's API sandbox and fidorOS digital banking platform

Ngee Ann Polytechnic's pilot run trains students to develop digital banking services such as banking through messaging apps and e-wallets

Singapore, 3 August 2017 – The five local polytechnics have partnered with Fidor, the leading digital banking group, to launch a FinTech education curriculum that costs close to S\$800,000 (about €500,000) to develop and an additional yearly sum of about S\$160,000 (€100,000) to run. This is the first time Fidor has introduced such a programme in the APAC region, with the aim to help boost Singapore's growth as a FinTech Hub in this region.

Supported by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), the Fidor Student Academy Singapore programme will be incorporated into the curricula of banking or IT-related diploma courses offered by the five polytechnics, starting with Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP).

At NP, a pilot run of this programme has commenced with 38 final-year students from the Diploma in Financial Informatics. They are learning to develop innovative applications for the financial industry using Fidor API (application programming interface). For example, students will acquire the knowledge that may help them develop digital banking services such as banking through messaging apps and e-wallets. With access to the Fidor sandbox, students will also be able to test out their own applications using the state-of-the-art fidorOS digital banking platform. In its full rollout, the programme stands to benefit some 500 students across the five polytechnics.

The partnership with Fidor will boost polytechnic students' capabilities to enter and contribute to the fast-evolving FinTech scene. To further supplement the students' real-life experience, Fidor will also offer selected students the opportunity to take part in an internship at one of their global locations, such as Munich. For example, Fidor is collaborating with Republic Polytechnic to provide internship opportunities to students from its School of Infocomm.

"We are excited about what our students can learn and experience through the inclusion of Fidor's API banking programme into our curriculum. The Fidor partnership will provide real-life

practice for them and hone their skills and knowledge in digital banking to prepare them for the future marketplace,” said Mr Clarence Ti, Principal, Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

Mr Sopnendu Mohanty, Chief FinTech Officer of MAS, added: “We are happy to welcome Fidor to Singapore and have their support towards our Smart Financial Centre initiative. FinTech celebrates the spirit of collaboration, and the polytechnics’ partnership with Fidor will no doubt further develop the FinTech ecosystem in Singapore through knowledge sharing. MAS looks forward to a high level of interest for this programme, and the benefits it will provide to the tertiary institutions.”

Mr Matthias Kröner, Founder of Fidor Bank and CEO of Fidor Group, said: “We share the same vision as the government of Singapore, to bring innovation, create an exceptional customer journey, and collaborate with more FinTech companies, in addition to sharing our knowledge with students that will be the talents of tomorrow’s financial sector. We are excited to be able to take part in Singapore’s Smart Nation initiative through API technology education.”

The initial outlay of S\$800,000 (€500,000) for the Fidor’s Student Academy Singapore programme shows the commitment of young Fidor to the students and the academy, and essentially covers the on- going design and development of the Amazon Cloud hosted Sandbox, associated training materials and project controls.

Besides this education initiative, Fidor has also chosen Singapore to be the destination for its new APAC office, with the intent to be closer to its partners and to accelerate its growth in the region. The Fidor partnership will also lend support to Singapore’s Smart Nation initiative by strengthening local technology skills where education and knowledge sharing are essential in driving and boosting innovation, talents and FinTech developments. Fidor is currently discussing partnerships with universities in other parts of the world to extend its initiative of sharing its digital banking experience and technology.

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About Fidor

Fidor has emerged as a leader in creating digital financial solutions and is actively driving innovation as a co-entrepreneur with banks and non-financial organisations to design and build their digital banks as well as their digital payment solutions, by helping create value added services, products and solutions that consumers want and can be easily adopted at scale. The success of its digital bank ‘Fidor Bank’ showcases Fidor’s expertise in building and launching digital banks to market by being at the forefront of fintech innovation, building on APIs, open banking, middleware solutions, community based-banking, front end mobile app and internet banking solutions delivered in a hosted or cloud environment. Fidor designed an innovative digital platform ‘fidorOS’, that uses open APIs that gives access to digital brands, developers and fintech firms to innovate on a digital banking ecosystem by plugging into the platform to offer their own financial products. Its banking solutions have been further recognised by the industry

with 'Fidor Bank' receiving the Celent's 'Model Bank 2015' award as well as brands for which Fidor has contributed towards their digital banking transformation such as O2 Banking recognised as "2016 Digital Bank of the year" by Handelsblatt and Telefonica receiving the equivalent reward for "2016 Digital Bank of the year" by EUROFORUM.

About Ngee Ann Polytechnic

Inaugurated in 1963 as Ngee Ann College with only 116 students, Ngee Ann Polytechnic is today one of Singapore's leading institutions of higher learning with about 15,000 full-time students, 2,000 part-time students and an alumni community of over 130,000. The polytechnic offers 48 full-time courses through its nine academic schools - School of Business & Accountancy, School of Design & Environment, School of Engineering, School of Film & Media Studies, School of Health Sciences, School of Humanities & Social Sciences, School of InfoComm Technology, School of Interdisciplinary Studies, and School of Life Sciences & Chemical Technology. Ngee Ann supports Continuing Education and Training (CET) through its CET Academy which offers a wide range of part-time programmes. The Polytechnic has also established two Centres of Innovation - in Environmental & Water Technology and Marine & Offshore Technology - to work on collaborative research and technology projects.

Learning takes place amid a caring and conducive environment with top-notch facilities ranging from broadcast, multimedia and animation studios to research laboratories as well as simulation and technology centres. With our emphasis on a broad-based education, coupled with our Signature Pedagogies in the Profession and Service-Learning approach, Ngee Ann Polytechnic's vision is to prepare graduates with a passion for learning, values for life and competencies to thrive in a global workplace.

For more information, please visit www.np.edu.sg.