



NTU And HP Inc. Launch Digital Manufacturing Corporate Lab To Drive Industry 4.0

SINGAPORE: Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore), HP Inc. and the National Research Foundation Singapore (NRF) have announced the launch of the HP-NTU Digital Manufacturing Corporate Lab today.

As Singapore's newest corporate research laboratory and HP's first university laboratory collaboration in Asia and largest university research collaboration worldwide, the HP-NTU Corporate Lab will drive innovation, technology, skills and economic development critical for the advancement of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

The \$84 million lab will support Singapore's push toward industry transformation in the areas of digital manufacturing and 3D printing technologies. This is taken with the view that advanced manufacturing and engineering constitute one of the four technology domains under the Research, Innovation and Enterprise (RIE) 2020 Plan, which is Singapore's national strategy to develop a knowledge-based innovation-driven economy and society.

Located at NTU, the HP-NTU Digital Manufacturing Corporate Lab was launched by Mr Heng Swee Keat, Minister for Finance and Chairman of the NRF. The NRF facilitates the setting up of corporate labs via public-private partnerships. The Corporate Lab is the 13th supported by NRF and the seventh such lab at NTU.

The lab's 100 researchers and staff will focus on digital manufacturing technologies, specifically in areas of advancing 3D printing, artificial intelligence, machine learning, new materials and applications, cybersecurity and customisation.

The partnership was inked today by NTU Vice President (Research) Professor Lam Khin Yong and HP Chief Technology Officer and Head of HP Labs Mr Shane Wall. It was witnessed by Guest-of-Honour Minister for Finance and NRF Chairman Mr Heng Swee Keat, NTU President Professor Subra Suresh, and HP Inc. Chief Executive Officer and President Mr Dion Weisler.

NRF CEO Professor Low Teck Seng has said, "Corporate laboratories are an integral part of our strategy to anchor joint R&D partnerships between our universities and companies in areas that have direct relevance to the growth of industries in Singapore."

The HP-NTU Digital Manufacturing Corporate Laboratory is significant to our long-term competitiveness in the advanced manufacturing sector, and ensures that we stay relevant in the Fourth Industrial Revolution that is evolving and growing rapidly world-wide. It will also strengthen our capabilities to support multinational companies for expansion from Singapore into the region."

NTU President Professor Subra Suresh has said that the partnership with HP is a significant milestone for NTU, as 3D printing – along with adjacent technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and cybersecurity – are integral parts of the Fourth

Industrial Revolution.

“NTU has established deep capabilities and is a recognised leader in the areas of machine learning, data science and additive manufacturing. These cutting-edge technologies are now an integral part of NTU’s education and research ecosystem, and the NTU Smart Campus serves as a test bed for them. This is aligned with

Singapore’s vision of transforming into a Smart Nation,” Professor Suresh said.

“Together with HP Inc., a renowned innovator and leader in the tech industry, NTU seeks to address today’s fundamental challenges with solutions that will benefit both industry and society in Singapore and the world, such as developing automation that is capable of boosting manufacturing productivity,” he continued.

“The World Economic Forum estimates more than \$100 trillion in value will be created by digital transformation across all industries in the next 10 years,” said Dion Weisler, CEO and President, HP Inc. HP is helping to lead the development of the underlying technologies, like 3D printing, that will enable the benefits of this transformation. Singapore is one of our key worldwide technology development and manufacturing centres in Print technology. The HP-NTU Digital Manufacturing Corporate Lab will significantly deepen our involvement here and serve as a nucleus for this ecosystem. We are proud to collaborate with NTU and we are looking forward to this becoming a blueprint for innovation, collaboration and economic progress.”

The new Corporate Lab will be a key pillar of NTU’s Smart Campus initiative and will build on HP’s strong research and manufacturing capabilities.

Once launched, the lab will prioritise 15 projects to better understand:

- New materials and applications: such as advanced polymers for manufacturing applications, the development of bioprinting models toward printing viable tissues, and 4D printed smart systems that adapt shape with temperature change
- Artificial intelligence and machine learning: helping printers autonomously predict and resolve issues
- Cybersecurity: research to improve end-to-end point security infrastructure and malware mitigation

The collaboration will also include developing educational curriculums on designing for Additive Manufacturing – covering areas such as data management, security, user experience and business models.

“One out of every three jobs worldwide, more than 30% of global GDP, and nearly one-third of carbon emissions are related to manufacturing,” said Mr Weisler. “We are committed to innovating with purpose, not only driving the technology breakthroughs that improve HP’s business but also contribute to creating economic opportunity and improving people’s lives.”

HP began its presence in Singapore in 1970. Today, Singapore is home to its Asia Pacific & Japan Regional Headquarters, global supply chain control towers, and print manufacturing.