



# Press Release

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## ***Resorts World at Sentosa breaks ground on 49-hectare site***

***S\$508 million worth of contracts to be awarded this quarter  
Business and job opportunities across several sectors***

**Singapore, 16 April, 2007** – *Resorts World at Sentosa* (RWS) today marked the beginning of its construction of the world's No. 1 family-holiday destination. Its groundbreaking ceremony was graced by Minister for Trade and Industry, Mr Lim Hng Kiang. About 100 guests attended the event held at a site near the old Sentosa ferry terminal. It was hosted by Genting International Group Chairman Mr Lim Kok Thay and RWS CEO Mr Tan Hee Teck.

Speaking at the event, Minister Lim said that when Resorts World at Sentosa and Marina Bay Sands are operational in 2010, they would attract a surge in the number of visitors to Singapore: "The projection is that there will be an additional 2 million to 3 million visitors, bringing our total annual visitor arrivals to about 13 to 14 million. Going by the current growth rate, this will represent a significant 25 per cent increase over the 11 million visitor arrivals projected for the year 2009. Combined with the expected increase in the length of stay from 3.4 days in 2006 to 3.6 days in 2010, this means that the number of visitors per day will increase significantly by 55 per cent - from about 90,000 in 2006, to nearly 140,000 in 2010."

To prepare for this additional demand for their facilities and services, he said that tourism industry stakeholders should start putting in place plans to ensure that they are ready to leverage on and exploit these new business opportunities, particularly in the key areas of hotel investment and development, air capacity and training up a pool of skilled manpower to fill the 50,000 to 60,000 additional jobs that will be created throughout the economy when the IRs are fully operational.

### **Providing sensory thrills**

In his welcome address, Mr Lim Kok Thay announced that multiple-award winning designer Jeremy Railton, who created the Fremont street experience in Las Vegas and who won an Emmy for the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, will design and create four never-before-seen attractions that will have pride of place in Resorts World at Sentosa. These new attractions will combine sight, music, lighting, projection and the latest technological innovations to deliver multiple sensory high points for visitors to the Resort.

Using projected images and lighting effects, LED screens at the maritime museum will create a wall of illusion, fully immersing visitors into the marine world. Over at the FestiveWalk, a digital theatre will keep guest entertained all day and night under a giant gazebo and band shells, with a night time Railton-created digital show of stunning imagery and sound effects. A multiple-use stage for visiting performers and corporate events will keep the place alive around the clock.

### **Delivering economic benefits**

RWS will be one of the largest construction projects ever undertaken in Singapore with S\$508 million worth of building contracts expected to be awarded in this quarter (April to June) alone. These contracts will be for construction and development services such as road diversion, reclamation works and site formation. This is in addition to contracts worth about S\$20 million that have already been awarded for works in site survey, soil investigation, site hoardings and demolition services.

RWS has started the groundwork to carry through its commitment to support the local Small and Medium Enterprises (SME). RWS is prepared to partner SMEs that have good ideas by investing in joint ventures with these companies. This will help the SMEs take their ideas global. This is in line with the Resort's aim to seed entrepreneurship among SMEs, and foster growth in industries specific to its needs. Examples of these industries are information technology, resort services and gaming.

RWS has held discussions with Spring Singapore and the National Trade Union Congress to better understand the hurdles SMEs face, and is following up on measures to help the companies overcome them. Meanwhile, during the construction phase,

SMEs can look forward to tenders for jobs in areas such as logistics, equipment and materials, fabrication and furniture. There will also be works called for manufacturing, furnishing and fittings, installation and commissioning.

### **Creating job opportunities**

*Resorts World at Sentosa*, in keeping with the Government's call to employers to tap all segments of the labour force, will provide employment opportunities for mature workers, the disabled and 'yellow ribbon' job seekers. The positions will be varied and do not preclude frontline duties such as ticketing and location guiding.

The RWS staff strength will be increased from the current 30 to more than 180 in the next six months, with employees serving mainly in project development, marketing and corporate services. Although the bulk of the hiring for the Resort's over 10,000 employees will take place in 2009, RWS has initiated talks with NTUC and the Workforce Development Agency on issues such as job matching and skills training for the Singapore workforce.

### **Engaging stakeholders**

RWS is committed to be a responsible developer. At the event, Mr Lim reiterated the Resort's commitment to work with its landlord, Sentosa Development Corporation, to actively engage the local eco-interest groups. He said: "We understand their concerns and will bear these in mind. But as the construction project is massive and will be in phases, it will take at least several months before we finalise the landscape plans for the development."

The Development Agreement for this project was signed with the Sentosa Development Corporation on 1 March 2007, less than 90 days after the Genting consortium won the bid for its S\$5.2 billion project. The construction has already advanced well into its planned schedule four months after this award. *Resorts World at Sentosa* will welcome 15 million visitors - tourists and locals - when it opens in 2010. It is estimated that it will generate S\$10 billion in tourism receipts.

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## **About Resorts World at Sentosa**

*Resorts World at Sentosa* will be a premium integrated resort taking pride of place on a 49-ha site at the northern shore of Singapore's Sentosa island. Slated for opening in 2010, the Resort will house the region's first Universal Studios theme park, the world's largest oceanarium Marine Life Park, the exciting Equarius Water Park, a maritime museum and the award-winning wellness sanctuary, Espa.

The Resort will have six hotels, including the world's only Hotel Michael that is designed by one of America's best-known architects, Michael Graves. The hotels will provide more than 1,800 rooms as well as full meeting and conference facilities. Besides the plush casino, visitors to the Resort can look forward to celebrity-chef restaurants and some of the world's best-known shopping brands.

In entertainment, *Resorts World at Sentosa* aims to offer treats unmatched in this part of the world. *Le Vie* – an unprecedented theatrical epic will be featured in a 1,600-seat theatre. Free street shows will take place daily at its FestiveWalk and the Bull Ring, culminating in the nightly highlight, the Crane Ballet. This multi-media performance will be an unusual spectacle of dancing construction cranes sited at the resort's scenic waterfront.

RWS, a S\$5.2 billion development, will be a place that Singaporeans can call their own. It will be a collection of resorts within a resort, a place where fun never stops.

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