



PLUGANDPLAY APAC

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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Plug and Play Partners with MPA to Drive Maritime Innovation

Plug and Play, a global innovation platform headquartered in Silicon Valley, has partnered the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) to accelerate innovation, digitalisation, and decarbonisation in the maritime sector. This collaboration aims to strengthen Singapore's maritime innovation ecosystem by supporting maritime startups, fostering stronger corporate engagement, and building a vibrant community of innovators and stakeholders.

2. Through this partnership, MPA will be able to tap on Plug and Play's extensive network and expertise to identify promising startups, introduce emerging technology solutions, and reinforce Singapore's position as a leading innovation hub to drive impactful change across the maritime industry.

3. The partnership will strengthen PIER71™ (Port Innovation Ecosystem Reimagined @ BLOCK71), a maritime innovation ecosystem building initiative led by MPA and the National University of Singapore's (NUS) entrepreneurial arm, NUS Enterprise. Plug and Play's expertise and network will drive stronger corporate participation and complement PIER71™ efforts to attract promising startups, facilitate industry collaborations, and accelerate the deployment of cutting-edge maritime solutions. This will also further integrate Singapore's maritime ecosystem with global innovation networks, creating more opportunities for startups to test and scale their solutions.

4. Mr Jupe Tan, Managing Partner, APAC – Plug and Play Tech Center, said, "Since 2021, Plug and Play's Maritime program has driven innovation in smart shipping, sustainability, supply chain optimization, safety and wellbeing, and smart infrastructure. Having identified and worked with over 500 leading startups, we are now expanding our Maritime program to Singapore in partnership with MPA, further strengthening our global presence in one of the world's leading maritime hubs."

5. Mr Kenneth Lim, Assistant Chief Executive (Industry & Transformation), MPA, said, "The maritime industry is undergoing rapid transformation and innovation is key to ensuring Maritime Singapore remains competitive and sustainable. Our partnership with Plug and Play will strengthen Singapore's maritime innovation ecosystem by broadening access to global networks, testbeds, and funding opportunities. By connecting startups with industry players, and supporting the development of promising solutions, we aim to accelerate digitalisation, decarbonisation, and efficiency across the sector."

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About the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)

MPA was established on 2 February 1996 with the mission to develop Singapore as a premier global hub port and international maritime centre, and to advance and safeguard Singapore's strategic maritime interests. MPA is the driving force behind Singapore's maritime and port development, taking on the roles of maritime and port regulator and planner, international maritime centre champion, national maritime representative, and a champion of digitalisation and decarbonisation efforts at regional and international fora such as at the International Maritime Organization and the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation. MPA partners industry, research community and other agencies to enhance safety, security, and environmental protection, facilitate maritime and port operations and growth, expand multi-domain capabilities, and support the cluster of maritime ancillary services and manpower development. MPA is responsible for the overall development and growth of the maritime multi-domain and the Port of Singapore.

For more information, please visit www.mpa.gov.sg/

About Plug and Play

Plug and Play is the leading innovation platform, connecting startups, corporations, venture capital firms, universities, and government agencies. Headquartered in Silicon Valley, we're present in 60+ locations across five continents. We offer corporate innovation programs and help our corporate partners in every stage of their innovation journey, from education to execution. We also organize startup acceleration programs and have built an in-house VC to drive innovation across multiple industries where we've invested in hundreds of successful companies including Dropbox, Guardant Health, Honey, Lending Club, N26, PayPal, and Rappi.

Our Asia Pacific headquarters was launched in Singapore in 2010 and we are now present in five cities in Southeast Asia with additional locations in China, Japan, Korea and India. We work closely with both the public and private sector with programs, innovation initiatives and startup investments across the region.

For more information, visit <https://www.plugandplayapac.com>

About Singapore Maritime Week 2025

SMW is an annual gathering of the international maritime community to advance key industry issues and exchange ideas to bring the sector forward. Driven by MPA, in collaboration with industry stakeholders and research and educational institutions, SMW brings together key opinion leaders and industry leaders through conferences, dialogues and forums.

The range of activities and events organised by MPA, industry stakeholders and research and educational institutions, as well as the cosmopolitan profile of participants, reflect the vibrancy and diversity of Singapore as a global hub port and leading international maritime centre.

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