

## **ANNEX A**

### **MPA-NUS ENTERPRISE MOU ON MARITIME TECHNOLOGY ACCELERATION PROGRAMME**

MPA and NUS Enterprise has signed an MOU for a period of three years to jointly execute the Maritime Technology Acceleration Programme (MTAP). It aims to encourage our maritime industry to accelerate innovation, experimentation and venture into adjacent/new growth areas through working with tech start-ups.

The collaboration will include a residency partnership at Block 71 within the JTC Launchpad @ one-north, and both parties will jointly organise three core activities under the MTAP namely:

1. The Smart Port Challenge (SPC) to attract start-ups to tackle challenges in the maritime industry. The SPC is an annual competition that discovers and attracts global start-ups to tackle challenges in the port, shipping and maritime logistics domain put forward by maritime corporates. Start-ups will be connected to participating industry partners through a series of ideation workshops. The next SPC is expected to be launched in April 2018 during Singapore Maritime Week.
2. 10-week acceleration phase augmented with mentorship. Shortlisted start-ups from the SPC will develop their prototypes through a 10-week curriculum. They will spend this time contextualising, developing and enhancing their prototypes, augmented with mentorship and training. At the end of the 10 weeks, start-ups will pitch their solutions at a demo day to a judging panel and successful start-ups will be provided grants to carry out proof-of-concept or product development projects with industry partners.
3. Ecosystem building activities to increase awareness amongst the start-up communities on the opportunities in maritime and port industry, as well as increase interactions and collaborations between maritime corporates and start-ups. There will be a series of 'Kopi-chat' sessions and workshops, co-organised by MPA and NUS Enterprise throughout the year, to encourage corporate innovation adoption amongst maritime corporates.

The strategic partnership will enable both MPA and NUS Enterprise to leverage each other's strength in maritime domain and entrepreneurship respectively, working together to build a vibrant maritime innovation ecosystem.

"The Maritime industry has historically been of strategic importance to Singapore's growth. We are excited to help bridge start-ups with this flagship industry to generate entrepreneurial interest and accelerate start-up development; as well as provide a

platform for corporates in the industry to engage with start-ups,” said Dr Lily Chan, Chief Executive Officer, NUS Enterprise.