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**SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE AWARDS 2006 REGISTERS
RECORD HIGH VOTES FROM THE PUBLIC**

*Four more days left to vote for your favourite entrepreneurs before the voting closes
September 15, 2006*

Singapore. September 12, 2006 – Spirit of Enterprise (SOE), the non-profit body that promotes and advances entrepreneurial spirit in Singapore, is pleased to announce that it has received a total of 26,124 votes to date from the general public for its Spirit of Enterprise Awards 2006 – setting a new record for the number of public votes received for its annual awards since its inception in 2003.

An online voting system has been made available to the public since August this year for them to cast their votes from a list of 200 nominees. Voters can vote at www.soe.org.sg for a minimum of five nominees and a maximum of 41 nominees. To date, 26,124 votes have been received, and these votes will help the SOE Board of Governors decide on the 41 finalists who will be honoured at the awards ceremony on October 23. The 41 finalists will be announced on September 30.

Details of the 200 nominees and their success stories, which were developed by a team of over 100 local university, polytechnic, Institute of Technical Education (ITE) and junior college students, have been posted online via the SOE Web site (www.soe.org.sg) to enable voters decide who they should be voting for. Through these success stories, the Spirit of Enterprise hopes to inspire and instill a sense of entrepreneurial spirit in the voters.

Commenting on the overwhelming response to this year's awards, SOE Chairman Richard Eu said, "We are thrilled to know that the number of votes received for this year's awards so far have skyrocketed to a new record high, significantly surpassing previous years. For those who



have yet to cast their votes, we urge them to hurry and do so before the closing date, as well as go through the success stories of these budding entrepreneurs and in turn get inspired by their perseverance and enterprising spirit.”

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NOTE TO EDITORS: For the complete list of nominees and their success stories, please refer to <http://www1.soe.org.sg/soevote/public/nomineenamelist.php?year=2006>. For interviews with this year’s nominees and/or comments from Spirit of Enterprise, please contact Tony Tan on +65 9048 6981 or via email at tony@thepacificwest.com.

About Spirit of Enterprise

Spirit of Enterprise (SOE), an Institute of Public Charter, promotes and advances entrepreneurial spirit in Singapore by honouring local self-reliant entrepreneurs operating small and medium-sized businesses, and serves to inspire Singaporeans, especially the young, to become entrepreneurs by facilitating interaction, communication and knowledge dissemination between students, the entrepreneurs and the general public. Its key programmes include Spirit of Enterprise Awards, Student-Entrepreneur Programme, and SOE Books on Entrepreneurship distributed free to local university and polytechnic business school courses.

SOE is funded by the private sector and its board of governors which consists of established entrepreneurs, corporate senior management, students, public service and political leaders. For more information, please visit www.soe.org.sg.