

Reckitt Unveils New R&D Centre in Singapore to Drive Global Health and Hygiene Innovation

- *New centre expands Reckitt's global R&D footprint, driving new innovations in sustainable product formulation and packaging, starting with Dettol*
- *Supported by the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB), the R&D Centre aligns with Singapore's ambition to serve as an innovation hub*
- *It signifies Reckitt's commitment to building a cleaner and healthier world by advancing health and hygiene innovation to meet changing consumer needs*

SINGAPORE, 18 July 2023 – Reckitt, a global leader in consumer health, hygiene, and nutrition, has announced the launch of its new Research and Development (R&D) Centre in Singapore. The event was inaugurated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a panel discussion. The R&D Centre will serve markets worldwide with a key focus on the ASEAN region, spearheading advancements in health and hygiene innovation on a regional and global scale.

“The opening of this new R&D Centre in Singapore is an exciting milestone for Reckitt as we push the boundaries of innovation to provide consumers with effective self-care products to promote their health and hygiene, thus supporting the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals for health and wellness,” said **Mr. Vijayanand Sinha**, President of ASEAN, Japan and Korea at Reckitt. “We are happy to be able to leverage Singapore's community of experts and its thriving innovation ecosystem to accelerate our efforts to develop groundbreaking solutions that protect and enhance the well-being of people worldwide.”

Focusing on innovative and sustainable product formulation, testing, and packaging starting with Dettol, the R&D Centre in Singapore which spans an area of approximately 5,000 square feet, builds upon Reckitt's network of regional hubs across the United States, United Kingdom, India, and China. One of the innovations to arise from this centre is the use of compaction technology to minimise water consumption during product preparation, particularly for the instant powder to liquid hand wash. This allows for reduced packaging and water usage while maintaining consumers' personal hygiene.

Supported by EDB, Reckitt has made strategic investments in the development of this R&D Centre to bolster their commitment to innovation and to advance health and hygiene standards through collaboration, innovation, and strategic partnerships. It opens up job opportunities for both local and regional talent including in areas of research, product development, consumer science and quality.

Attended by esteemed guests, including researchers, academics, and industry leaders, the inauguration commenced with a momentous ribbon-cutting and opening speeches by Mr. Vijayanand Sinha, **Ms. Laura Clark**, Vice President of R&D at Reckitt, **Mr. Alex Bamford**, Chargé D'Affaires, British High Commission, and **Ms. Cindy Koh**, Executive Vice President, Accounts, Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB). Distinguished guests were then treated to an exclusive tour of the lab, where live demonstrations of Reckitt's products were showcased.

“Reckitt's decision to set-up its R&D Lab for Personal Care in Singapore is a testament to our strong position as an innovation hub for businesses. Reckitt will be able to tap on the established network of scientific institutions and research talent base in Singapore, to drive advancements in its Personal Care portfolio. The new lab will help Reckitt be closer to the growing consumer market

in Southeast Asia and enable the company to create new products for the region,” said Ms. Cindy Koh, Executive Vice President, Accounts, EDB.

“Reckitt’s new R&D Centre in Singapore allows us to bring the spirit of innovation closer to the ASEAN region, addressing and serving the unique needs of consumers here,” said **Kapim Bagga**, R&D Director, Dettol Personal Care & SPOC ASEAN Health & Hygiene. “With the launch of this state-of-the-art facility, we are committed to pioneering sustainable and innovative solutions that will elevate consumers’ experience and confidence in this ever-changing landscape. It cements our commitment as an organization to deliver exceptional products and drive meaningful advancements that cater to the evolving needs of this diverse region.”

Moderated by **Dr. Pauline Erica Tay**, Director at National Health Innovation Centre (NHIC), the panel discussion, “Driving Innovation to Build a Cleaner and Healthier World”, included speakers **Mr. Chris Humphrey**, Executive Director, EU-ASEAN Business Council, **Professor Tan Sze Wee**, Assistant Chief Executive (Innovation & Enterprise), A*STAR Agency for Science, Technology and Research; and Ms. Laura Clark, Vice President R&D, Reckitt. Together, panellists discussed the critical role of innovation in strategy, research, and development to create scientifically backed, regulation-compliant, and environmentally safe solutions. Recognising the role innovation plays in strengthening the well-being of people and the environment, the discussion underscored Singapore’s position as a hub in strengthening the health and hygiene ecosystems in the region, and globally.

“The power of innovation is transformative, and contributes to building a more sustainable future,” emphasised Ms. Laura Clark. “Our newly launched lab exemplifies our commitment to developing science-backed solutions that will benefit both our society and our planetary health for a cleaner and healthier world.

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About Reckitt ASEAN

Reckitt* exists to protect, heal and nurture in the relentless pursuit of a cleaner, healthier world. Reckitt is the company behind some of the world’s most recognisable and trusted consumer brands in hygiene, health and nutrition, including Air Wick, Dettol, Durex, Enfamil, Finish, Gaviscon, Lysol, Nurofen, Nutramigen, Strepsils, Vanish, Veet and more. Reckitt has three key operations as part of Reckitt’s regional headquarters for ASEAN, South Korea and Japan which includes Infant Formula and Child Nutrition (IFCN) manufacturing facility (“Mead Johnson Nutrition facility at Tuas”) and R&D Centre (“Paediatric Nutrition Institute”). Reckitt’s regional R&D Centres are situated in the United States, United Kingdom, India, China, and Singapore. The R&D Centre in Singapore will serve a global market with an emphasis on the ASEAN region. Find out more at [Reckitt.com](https://www.Reckitt.com).

**Reckitt is the trading name of the Reckitt Benckiser group of companies*

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