

News release

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Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year (EOY) programme celebrates its 10th year in Malaysia

Tan Sri Francis Yeoh announced as Chairman of the Ernst & Young World Entrepreneur Of The Year judging panel

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 April, 2011 - Ernst & Young launched the 10th anniversary celebrations of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year (EOY) awards programme in Malaysia today at an event officiated by Yang Berhormat Dato' Mukhriz Mahathir, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry. Themed "A decade of honouring Malaysia's best entrepreneurs", the event was attended by illustrious Malaysian entrepreneurs and other members of the Malaysian business community.

The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year is a global business awards programme that is celebrated in more than 140 cities in 50 countries around the world. In Malaysia, the programme was launched in 2002.

In his speech, Dato' Mukhriz commended Ernst & Young for producing the annual Entrepreneur Of The Year awards programme which identifies and recognises the achievements of outstanding entrepreneurs who have established and built successful companies.



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“The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year programme honours local business leaders and creates national role models in support of entrepreneurial excellence. In Malaysia, such an award is important. The economic progress achieved to date by Malaysia is, in a large part, due to entrepreneurs and their entrepreneurial spirit, and their contributions should be recognised. As Malaysia strives towards becoming a high-income nation by 2020, the role of entrepreneurs in this journey grows in significance. As acknowledged in the New Economic Policy, entrepreneurs and the private sector have an enormous impact on innovation, progress and the economy of the country. They are the engines of growth, bringing direct benefits to the economy in terms of job and wealth creation and enhancing competitiveness,” said Dato’ Mukhriz Mahathir.

At the event, Abdul Rauf Rashid, the Country Managing Partner of Ernst & Young also announced that Tan Sri Francis Yeoh, Group Managing Director, YTL Corporation Berhad has been appointed as the Chairman of the judging panel for the World Entrepreneur Of The Year awards to be held in Monte Carlo in June 2011.

Rauf said, “Each year, country winners of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year from around the world gather at the World Entrepreneur Of The Year awards in Monte Carlo. In Monte Carlo, these country winners will be interviewed by a judging panel comprising captains of industry and past Entrepreneur Of The Year winners. This judging panel will then determine the World Entrepreneur Of The Year. This year, we are very proud and pleased to have a very prominent and successful Malaysian entrepreneur as the Chairman of the judging panel.”

Tan Sri Francis Yeoh, who was present at the event, also shared with the guests his experience as the first Malaysian Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year 2002 and his feelings on being invited to be the Chairman of the Ernst & Young World Entrepreneur Of The Year judging panel.

“I was most honoured and humbled by the invitation, and accepted it with pride as a Malaysian. I would also like to congratulate Ernst & Young for establishing this Entrepreneur Of The Year award that has run for the last 25 years globally and the last 9 years in Malaysia. This is a prestigious global business award like no other, and I urge Malaysian entrepreneurs to participate in this awards programme,” concluded Tan Sri Francis Yeoh.



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Nominations for the Malaysian Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year 2011 are now open.

The nomination form may be downloaded from the Ernst & Young website at www.ey.com/my.

Anyone can nominate an entrepreneur including the entrepreneur himself/ herself. Self-nominations are encouraged. Nominations will close on **31 May 2011**.

For more information about the programme, please contact Ernst & Young at 603-7495 8131 / 32 or log on to <http://www.ey.com/MY/en/About-us/Entrepreneur-Of-The-Year> or write to: eoy.mail@my.ey.com

The Malaysian Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year 2011 is supported by ASTRO, Credit Suisse, The Edge, The Peak, Nanyang Siang Pau, YTL Corporation, Woo Hing, BFM 89.9, Bursa Malaysia and the Multimedia Development Corporation.

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Ernst & Young Malaysia is an international public accounting firm with roots that go back to the 19th century. Ernst & Young is now one of the largest professional services firms in Malaysia with more than 2,300 employees in 16 offices, offering assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. We serve a broad range of clients across all principal industry sectors and market segments in Malaysia.

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About Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year®

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The unique award makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential, and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global award of its kind, Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 140 cities in more than 50 countries.

ASTRO

Astro Malaysia Holdings Sdn Bhd is Malaysia's leading integrated cross-media group with operations in 4 key businesses: Pay TV, Radio, Content and Digital. Launched in 1996, Astro today has a 50% penetration of TV homes in Malaysia or 3 million customers, making it a key pay TV operator in Southeast Asia. Astro broadcasts over 130 channels, of which 12 are in HD, is a leading edge innovator with its introduction of HD, 3D and PVR – a first in Malaysia, and also Video On Demand and IPTV service. It is the leading aggregator, creator and distributor of original multi-language content of various genres across multi-channels. Its radio network both terrestrial and digital covers all key languages cumulatively reaching 11.5 million listeners a week and ranked among the top 10 stations in the country. Its digital arm involved in digital publishing, applications and platforms as well as publication of entertainment and lifestyle magazines locally.

Credit Suisse AG

Credit Suisse AG is one of the world's leading financial services providers and is part of the Credit Suisse group of companies (referred to here as 'Credit Suisse'). As an integrated bank, Credit Suisse offers clients its combined expertise in the areas of private banking, investment banking and asset management. Credit Suisse provides advisory services, comprehensive solutions and innovative products to companies, institutional clients and high-net-worth private clients globally, as well as to retail clients in Switzerland. Credit Suisse is headquartered in Zurich and operates in over 50 countries worldwide. The group employs approximately 50,100 people. The registered shares (CSGN) of Credit Suisse's parent company, Credit Suisse Group AG, are listed in Switzerland and, in the form of American Depositary Shares (CS), in New York. Further information about Credit Suisse can be found at www.credit-suisse.com.

This news release was issued by Ernst & Young Malaysia.

About the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Malaysia 2011

The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year awards programme is open to all Malaysian residents who own and manage entrepreneurial businesses in Malaysia. To be eligible, the nominee must be:

- An owner-manager primarily responsible for the recent performance of the company that is at least two years old and an active member of top management; or
- A founder of a listed company who is still active in senior management and who still retains a significant stake in the company

For the 10th year, the programme will once again recognise four categories of entrepreneurs:

- Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year
- Technology Entrepreneur of the Year
- Woman Entrepreneur of the Year
- Master Entrepreneur of the Year

Award recipients will be selected by a panel of independent judges comprising leaders from the business community, the government sector and media organizations. Judges will look for entrepreneurs who have demonstrated excellence and success in such areas as entrepreneurial spirit, innovation, strategic direction, national or global impact, and personal integrity or influence.

Winners of the award categories will be honoured during an awards gala event at the end of the year. Out of the four category recipients, one will be named Malaysia's Entrepreneur of the Year 2011. He or she will then represent Malaysia at the world awards programme, where the best entrepreneurs in the world will compete for the Ernst & Young World Entrepreneur of the Year Award in Monte Carlo in May/June 2012.



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Past country winners of the Malaysian Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year

Previous award recipients of the Malaysia Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year include:

- Tan Sri Dato' Dr Francis Yeoh, YTL Corporation Bhd (2002)
- Dato' Seri Mohd Nadzmi, Nadicorp Holdings Sdn Bhd (2003)
- Tan Sri Dato' Dr Lim Wee-Chai, Top Glove Corporation Bhd (2004)
- Tan Sri Dato' Professor Dr Lim Kok Wing, Limkokwing University College of Creative Technology (2005)
- Dato' Sri Tony Fernandes, AirAsia Berhad (2006)
- Dato' Sri Edmund Santhara, Masterskill Sdn Bhd (2007),
- Dato' A. K. Nathan, Eversendai Corporation Sdn Bhd (2008)
- Datuk Shahril Shamsuddin, Sapura Group of Companies (2009)
- Dato' Seri Stanley Thai, Supermax Corporation Bhd (2010)

Dato' Seri Stanley Thai will represent Malaysia at the Ernst & Young World Entrepreneur Of The Year award in Monte Carlo in June this year.

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Malaysia 2011 sponsors

Ernst & Young is proud to have these organisations join us in celebrating entrepreneurship:

- ASTRO
- BFM 89.9
- Bits & Pixels
- Bursa Malaysia Bhd
- Credit Suisse
- Himawari (M) Sdn Bhd
- Multimedia Development Corporation Sdn Bhd
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