

**SPEECH BY MRS. GRACE CHONG-TAN,
PRESIDENT, SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE
& CHAIRWOMAN, SOE-CS ENTREPRENEURS FORUM
AT THE INAUGURAL SOE-CS ENTREPRENEURS FORUM
WEDNESDAY, 21 JANUARY 2015, 06:00 PM
CREDIT SUISSE WELLNESS CENTRE**

Our Immediate Past President, Mr. Thomas Fernandez

SOE's Strategic Partner, Credit Suisse AG

My Fellow Board of Governors

Esteemed Speakers

Distinguished Guests

Ladies & Gentlemen

A very good evening to one and all.

First, I would personally would like to thank all of you for taking time off your busy schedule to witness this momentous event. After months of planning and preparation, it is my great pleasure to welcome you all at the inaugural SOE-CS Entrepreneurs Forum.

As we continue our vision and leadership in the field of promoting and advancing entrepreneurship in Singapore, SOE in collaboration with Credit Suisse AG, in the next three years will be organising series of Entrepreneur Forums on topics close to the hearts of SME owners. This is yet another milestone in our efforts to honour and inspire Singapore's entrepreneurs.

In line with this, we are also proud to announce the launch of the SOE Alumni Programme, of which the SOE-CS Entrepreneurs Forum is one of the programmes established dedicated specially for our past Honourees.

Through this programme, we aim to design series of activities exclusively for our SOE Honourees that will enhance their entrepreneurial growth, both locally and on a global platform, update on innovations, concepts and trends for business development, and to provide our alumni with well timed, networking opportunities.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to SOE's Strategic Partner, Credit Suisse for believing SOE's advocacy from day one. May this be a start of a more fruitful partnership with you in the years to come.

All of these efforts wouldn't have been possible as well without the support and inspiration given by our Board of Governors, especially to the SOE Talk Committee who have diligently committed their time, effort and talent in making this inaugural event a remarkable one.

We hope, that this forum will be an important learning and networking platform for our local entrepreneurs in the future. May this play as a key role in achieving your entrepreneurial goals and aspirations.

Thank you.