

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Catalysing Singapore SMEs' Understanding of Information Security and Cybersecurity Domains through Engagement, Knowledge Sharing and Network**

*The Memorandum of Understanding facilitates NTUC Members' understanding of information security and cybersecurity domains in Singapore's digitalised work environment.*

**Singapore, 18 August 2020** – The Association of Information Security Professionals (AiSP) and National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) today, to formalise collaborative efforts in raising the understanding of information security and cybersecurity domains for Singapore SMEs<sup>1</sup>.

The COVID-19 pandemic has pushed many individuals and organisations to work remotely in a digitalised environment. Cybersecurity threats are borderless and information security practitioners are constantly keeping up with developments and honing their capabilities and skills. As more Singaporeans would be involved in Singapore's digital economy in the near future – either as end users or practitioners, proper understanding in information security and cybersecurity domains would help our workforce to operate and perform better, while managing their digital risks properly. AiSP and NTUC recognise the importance of information security knowledge for SMEs and will be partnering on the following:

1. First-year complimentary AiSP Affiliate Membership to all current NTUC members, where the members can:
  - a) be connected to Singapore's cybersecurity community
  - b) receive invites to free or discounted events and networking sessions organised by AiSP and its partners
  - c) Receive notifications on industry regulations
  
2. AiSP, as an U Associate of NTUC, will co-organise talks as well as awareness and focus group workshops under its Cybersecurity Awareness and Advisory Programme (CAAP) with NTUC. These events cater to NTUC members' understanding of

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<sup>1</sup> SMEs refer to Professionals, Managers and Executives.

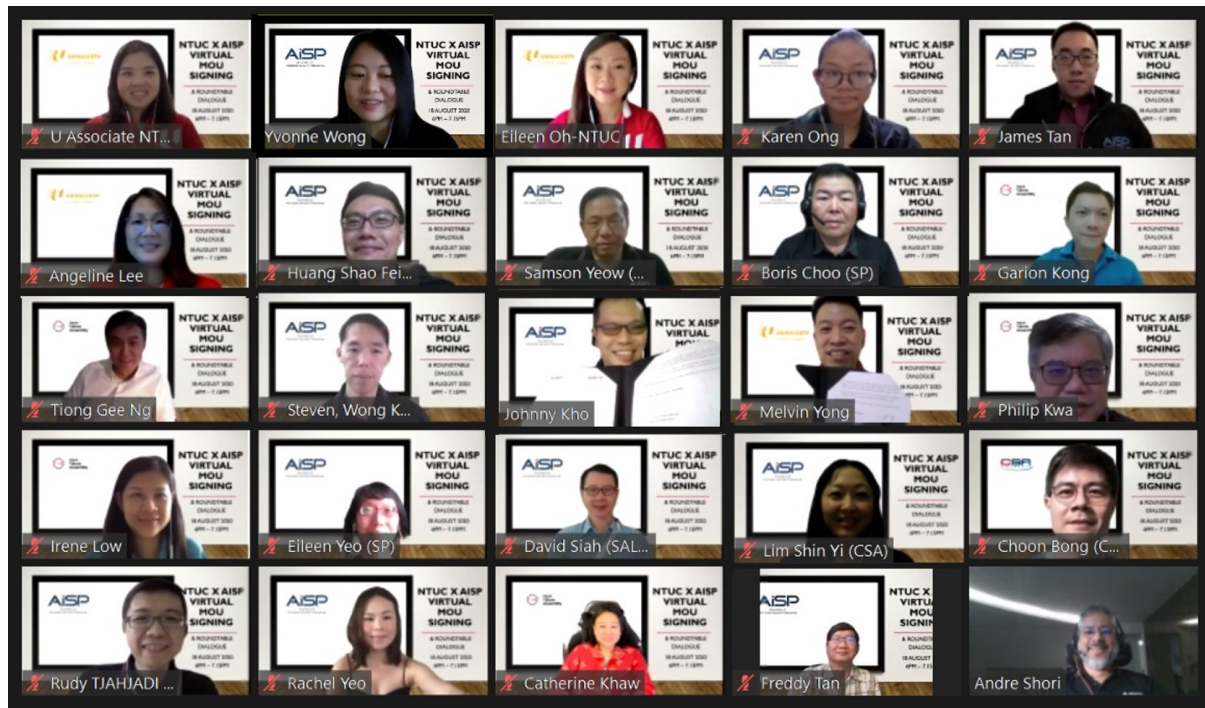
Singapore's information security and cybersecurity risks and practices in a business environment.

3. NTUC, as Strategic Partner of AiSP, can tap on AiSP's insights and perspectives on Singapore's cybersecurity industry, as well as skills and competencies required by Singapore SMEs.

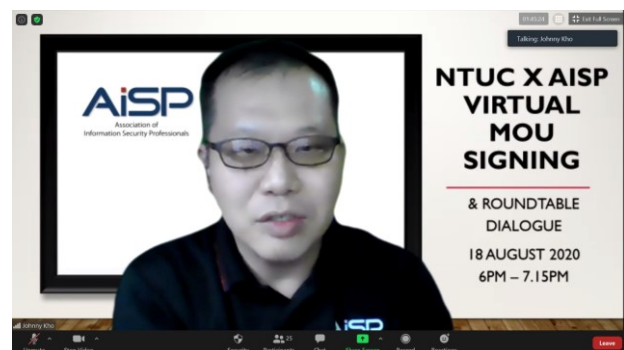
AiSP President Mr Johnny Kho said, "As the only Singapore association for information security professionals, AiSP has been working with diverse stakeholders to ensure a resilient and robust cybersecurity ecosystem for Singapore. It is increasingly important for SMEs to be aware of cyber risks and adopt good cyber practices at work and in their daily lives, as cyber defence involves everyone in the ecosystem. We are hopeful that our collaboration can enable around 900,000 NTUC members to better understand how they can securely embrace and be part of Singapore's digital economy. Our cyber professionals have strong belief in supporting lifelong learning, especially so when more Singaporeans are adapting in the new norm of working from home and this opens new engagement opportunities through the digital realm."

NTUC Assistant Secretary-General and Director of U Associate Mr Melvin Yong shared, "This partnership with AiSP is timely as our workforce and businesses are coping with the new normal of working. Cyber security has become a key business consideration in Singapore and the region. This can bring new opportunities for our SMEs as they reskill for a digitalised data-driven economy. I hope more NTUC members would be more confident and prepared to transit into new areas of work, as they optimise their membership benefits offered by AiSP."

After the virtual MOU signing, attendees of the signing proceeded to have a closed-door dialogue with Mr Melvin Yong on the challenges and opportunities within Singapore's cybersecurity industry, importance of raising cybersecurity understanding among SMEs, and job prospects in the industry. Viewpoints and insights shared at the virtual dialogue would be used to deepen engagement of NTUC members and for SMEs to leverage opportunities in Singapore's cybersecurity ecosystem.



*MOU Signing*



*Roundtable Dialogue*

**About CAAP**

AiSP's Cybersecurity Awareness and Advisory Programme (CAAP) aims to raise cybersecurity awareness among professionals and SMEs in Singapore. Supported by the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore, the programme's outreach efforts include awareness and focus group discussion workshops with partnering business associations and its pool of volunteer speakers and facilitators. Please click [here](#) for more information.

### **About AiSP**

Started in 2008, the Association of Information Security Professionals (AiSP) aims to:

- Promote the integrity, status and interests of Information Security Professionals in Singapore.
- Develop, support and enhance technical competence and management expertise in cybersecurity.
- Bolster the development, increase and spread of information.

Please refer to [www.aisp.sg](http://www.aisp.sg) or reach out to [secretariat@aisp.sg](mailto:secretariat@aisp.sg) for more details.

### **About National Trades Union Congress**

The National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) is a national confederation of trade unions as well as a network of professional associations and partners across all sectors in Singapore. NTUC's objectives are to help Singapore stay competitive and working people remain employable for life; to enhance the social status and wellbeing of our members and working people; and to build a strong, responsible and caring labour movement. NTUC's vision is to be an inclusive labour movement for all collars, ages and nationalities. NTUC is at the heart of the Labour Movement, which comprises 59 affiliated unions, five affiliated associations, 12 social enterprises, six related organisations as well as a growing ecosystem of U Associates and enterprise partners. For more details on NTUC, please visit [www.ntuc.org.sg](http://www.ntuc.org.sg).

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