

SME CENTRE @ SMF

SME Centre @ Singapore Manufacturing Federation (SME Centre@SMF) was established in May 2005 as a subsidiary of SMF. Supported by SPRING Singapore, SME Centre@SMF provides small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with easy access to business advisory to help them start, sustain and grow their businesses. The one-stop SME Centre provide services including business diagnosis, information on government schemes and capability workshops.



SME
Centre@SMF

Transform and Grow: Building Manpower-Lean SMEs

SME Centre @ SMF collaborated with the Lean Enterprise Development (LED) taskforce, led by Workforce Singapore (WSG) and SPRING Singapore, comprising of Ministry of Manpower (MOM), Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA), Employment and Employability (e2i), Economic Development Board (EDB) and Singapore Tourism Board (STB), on 3 November 2016, to put together a half-day symposium for Singapore enterprises to learn from each other on lean transformation initiatives.

Attended by more than 700 individuals from sectors ranging from food manufacturing, electronics, precision engineering, and logistics, the inaugural symposium was graced by Manpower Minister Lim Swee Say.

The LED scheme was launched in October 2015 to help SMEs who want to be pioneers and early adopters of change to become more productive, more innovative and more manpower-lean. This will help create stronger business growth, and offer better jobs and careers to Singaporeans. Since then, the scheme has benefitted more than 1,400 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). These enterprises have implemented lean solutions and projects to transform their workplace and grow

their business. The lean manpower initiatives range from the optimisation of technology and automation, redesigning of jobs, reskilling of workers, and adoption of progressive human resource practices.

SMF President, Mr Douglas Foo, in his opening address said: "All businesses should take this time to examine their business model, and think through what they need to do to remain viable. The burning questions to ask include: Will your current business model still work? How can you transform your business model such that you can thrive in this manpower-lean landscape, and while growing your business to stay ahead of the competition?"

To cope in a fast changing business landscape, SMEs must take advantage of technological change to expand their business and improve processes. SMEs should also be open to new ideas and collaboration that strengthen solutions and reap economies of scale.

Said Minister Lim, in his speech, "With ageing and low birth rate, our local workforce is growing much slower, and may stagnate in the next decade. With foreign manpower growing much slower too, our challenge is to ensure that this sharp drop in our total workforce growth will not become the bottleneck in the future growth of our economy and SMEs."



Held at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, the LED Symposium drew more than 700 participants



The symposium included a gallery showcase featuring a number of lean transformation projects



1) Understanding Business Concerns

Understanding your business concerns is a crucial process in identifying gaps in your company. The SME Centre@SMF offers business advisory services to help strengthen your business competencies.

2) Information on Government Assistance Scheme

SME Centre@SMF has developed strong partnerships with the various government agencies. Hence, our business advisors are equipped with the latest updates on various government assistance schemes to share with your company. To find out more about these schemes, attend our workshops or set up an appointment for business advisory.

3) Productivity Advisory Services

SME Centre@SMF offers productivity advisory services to help you gain awareness of how productivity is relevant to your business and assess your current productivity performance.

4) Capability Workshops

SME Centre@SMF regularly partners SMF to organise workshops for its members and guests. Through these workshops, the Centre offers useful information to help the participating companies enhance their competitive advantage.

5) Facilitated Consultancy

SME Centre@SMF assists to advise companies to tap on a pool of well-qualified and experienced professionals in multi-disciplines to assist them on various projects.

6) Satellite SME Centres – SME Centre@SouthWest and SME Centre@NorthWest

The satellite centres, SME Centre@NorthWest and SME Centre@SouthWest, are formed by the SME Centre@SMF in collaboration with North West Community Development Council (CDCNW) and South West Community Development Council (CDCSW) respectively. Situated at NWDC at Woodlands Civic Centre and at SWDC at JTC summit, the satellite centres provide a holistic offering of business advisory services including one-on-one advisory on government schemes, capability workshops, employment placement services and facilitated corporate social responsibility initiatives.

The network of SME Centres is supported by SPRING Singapore for SMEs to have easy access to business advisory to help them start, sustain and grow their business.

Other services

- Brand Development
- Business innovation and Design
- Quality Strategy Development
- Quality & Standards
- Financial Management Human Capital Development
- Intellectual Property
- Franchising
- Productivity Improvement and Toolkit
- Customer Service Excellence
- Technology Upgrading & Innovation
- Workplace Safety and Health
- Workplace Health & Promotion
- Work Life Balance
- Expanding Overseas

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