



WEBER SHANDWICK

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Wanted: Videos to help change the world

IN CELEBRATION of MasterCard's 25th anniversary in Asia and the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day on March 8, MasterCard and UN Women Singapore have come together to launch Project Inspire (<http://www.5minutestochangetheworld.org>). Youths between the ages of 18 and 35 are welcome to submit a five-minute video on creating a better world of opportunities for women and children in the Asia-Pacific region, the Middle East and Africa. Ideas should revolve around empowering disadvantaged women or children through skills training, financial inclusion, or social entrepreneurship. The winner will get a US\$25,000 grant to bring their vision to life. The closing date for submissions is June 30.

LTA takes home Gartner award

THE Land Transport Authority (LTA) has won the Gartner Business Intelligence Excellence Award for Asia Pacific this year, beating 19 other submissions from six countries.

The award was organised for the second time in the region by the technology research and advisory firm Gartner. From the submissions, Gartner selected three finalists, who presented their case studies to delegates at a recent summit in Sydney. The delegates then voted for the winner.

At the summit, IT manager of application service Jonah Ong of the LTA said the key to success was having involvement and ownership from the business users of the data throughout the organisation.

NLB chief to step down next month

THE Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (Mica) announced yesterday that the chief executive of the National Library Board (NLB), Phoon Chew Ping, will step down from her position from next month due to health reasons.

In the meantime, deputy chief executive Ngian Lek Choh will serve as acting chief executive of the NLB. The appointment of a new chief executive will be announced in due course.

ABN Amro ties up with Insead

ABN AMRO Private Banking has partnered international business school Insead to develop a customised global certification programme for its private bankers. They aim to accredit all of them by the end of 2013.

The curriculum of the ABN Amro Insead Private Banking Certification Programme is the first that caters to ABN Amro's private bankers, and was developed in close collaboration with Insead. Under the programme, the private bankers will attend modules at the business school's campus and also undergo a 12-month supplemental self-study period.

The programme will start for the region's private bankers at the end of this month.