PRESS RELEASE

Nanjing International Water Hub Secures Respected Water Research Institutes as Strategic Partners

- They will establish a presence at the hub and support companies there in testing and validating new technologies

Singapore, July 12, 2016 – Nanjing International Water Hub, an upcoming centre for water industry players developed by Sembcorp, today secured two respected water research institutes from China as strategic partners.

These are the National Engineering Research Centre for Special Separation Membranes; and the National Environment Protection Organic Chemical Wastewater Treatment and Recycling Engineering Centre. The former is a state-level research institute under Nanjing Tech University, with strong expertise in the application of membrane solutions for industrial and wastewater treatment. The latter is a state-level research institute backed by Nanjing University, well known for its wastewater treatment and water reclamation expertise.

These water research institutes will establish a presence at the Nanjing International Water Hub, and contribute to its vibrant eco-system for water players. They will carry out research and development (R&D) activities at the hub, and offer technical consultancy services to companies operating there, especially for test bedding and validation of water technologies. In addition, they plan to collaborate with the water hub to hold industry events and seminars, as well as to place promising university students in internships there.

The two Nanjing research institutes join organisations such as the National University of Singapore (NUS) Centre for Water Research and Singapore’s national water agency PUB, which also intend to establish a presence at the Nanjing International Water Hub. Already, academic exchanges are being explored, such as post-doctorate R&D exchange programs between NUS and the two Nanjing universities, as well as visiting professorships.

The two new strategic partnerships were sealed with memoranda of understanding (MOUs) between the water hub and each of the Nanjing research institutes today. The MOUs were signed by Daniel Wong, General Manager of the Nanjing International Water Hub, and by Professor Li
Weixing for the National Engineering Research Centre for Special Separation Membranes and Professor Zhang Shujuan for the National Environment Protection Organic Chemical Wastewater Treatment and Recycling Engineering Centre respectively. The signings were witnessed by Mr Tan Cheng Guan, Sembcorp’s Executive Vice President & Head of Group Business Development & Commercial of Utilities, Professor Xing Weihong, Vice Chancellor of Nanjing Tech University, as well as other distinguished guests.

Commenting on the signings, Mr Tan Cheng Guan said, "We are very happy to welcome these two leading research institutes to the Nanjing International Water Hub. Their presence will help to establish the water hub as a centre for water R&D and also contribute to the vibrant water industry ecosystem there.

“Furthermore, these research institutes can support companies at Nanjing International Water Hub in test bedding and validating innovative water technologies, so that these solutions can be brought to market both in China and beyond. This will strengthen the water hub’s value proposition as a platform for cutting-edge, emerging water technologies that address market needs and support sustainable development.”

Targeted for completion in 2018, the Nanjing International Water Hub is poised to become a leading centre in Nanjing for industry players and science and water technology exchanges. It will feature fully-equipped R&D facilities, business and conference space, and bring together leading investors and operators of water facilities, technology and R&D providers, government agencies, academia and research institutions, to create a vibrant industry eco-system. Companies at the water hub will also have the opportunity to test bed their new solutions at Sembcorp’s many water facilities across China. This will create a conducive platform for the rapid commercialisation of innovative water technologies, and offer water companies enhanced access to opportunities in both the China and global markets.

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The Group has total assets of over S$21 billion and employs over 7,000 employees. Listed on the main board of the Singapore Exchange, it is a component stock of the Straits Times Index and several MSCI and FTSE indices.

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