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WELCOME ADDRESS FROM THE LOCAL CHAIRS

We welcome all of you to the 8th International Conference on Logistics and Transport (ICLT 2016) in Singapore. SIM University is privileged to host the ICLT conference this year.

We live in a globalised business world where materials and components are sourced worldwide, products are manufactured offshore and distributed to different countries after local customisation. The flexibility to respond to changes in market conditions and the ability to strategise appropriate measures in response to these changes are vital because the customer in today's marketplace has become more demanding, not just of the quality of the product, but also that of customer service.

Rapid urbanisation and the rise of the affluent middle class in Asia have led to greater demand for logistics services in the region. Intra-Asian trade is set to increase significantly as Asian countries evolve to become major consumer markets. Increasing economic integration among Asian countries through the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and China's "One Belt, One Road" will further spur demand for logistics services.

Emerging trends in the past few years have presented the logistics and transport industry with exciting challenges and opportunities to be better, faster, leaner and more productive. Trends such as big data, 3D printing, automated guided vehicle (or mobile robot), unmanned aerial vehicle (or drone) and augmented reality can pave the way for game-changing solutions.

The theme of this conference is indeed timely as the next generation supply chains dawn upon us. We trust this conference will provide you with the platform for a meaningful exchange of ideas and findings, as well as facilitate education and research efforts in the field of logistics and supply chain management. And to our friends from overseas, we hope that you will be able to take some time off to enjoy the sights, sounds and culinary delights that Singapore has to offer.

We wish you a memorable experience at ICLT 2016.

Tan Yan Weng
ICLT Local Chair

Tay Huay Ling
ICLT Local Chair