

**OPENING ADDRESS BY MR MANOHAR KHIATANI,
CEO, JTC CORPORATION, AT THE
LAUNCH OF THE NTU-JTC I³ CENTRE
ON WEDNESDAY, 3 AUGUST 2011 AT 1.15 PM**

Professor Freddy Boey, NTU Deputy President and Provost,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Good afternoon.

1. It is a pleasure for me to be here today as we mark an important milestone for JTC and NTU in our joint efforts to drive innovation in the areas of industrial infrastructure.
2. Today's launch of the NTU-JTC I³ Centre is an affirmation of JTC's commitment in the sustainability of Singapore's development. And we are honoured to be partnering with one of the world's largest and leading engineering colleges, NTU's College of Engineering.
3. Over the years, we have seen increasing research collaborations with NTU. These were carried out on ad-hoc basis, resulting in a range of diverse projects. As JTC's research needs start to intensify, it is now timely to set out a more structured platform in facilitating our R&D efforts. The idea of a research centre was thus mooted.
4. The NTU-JTC I³ Centre will be focusing its R&D efforts in areas of our established research thrusts. This allows for NTU to better align their research focus with our needs. Our research thrusts mirror the Nation's needs for sustainable development and the imperative to ensure that Singapore remains

an attractive investment location for industry, increasing competition notwithstanding.

5. Singapore's resource constraints have and will continue to serve as the impetus for us to devise more effective and cost-efficient measures to sustain our economy. As JTC evolves from a provider of standard, efficient industrial solutions to an Industrial Infrastructure Innovator, we are stepping up our efforts to develop innovative solutions that will provide our industries a competitive advantage and, at the same time, optimise land use and address the challenges of environmental sustainability.
6. We hope that this centre will help us build up these capabilities and serve as a resource centre for industrial infrastructure development. This could also open doors to research collaboration with international institutions.
7. I am confident that this collaboration will not only help grow the pipeline of JTC's innovative projects but also benefit the academia. With bright new minds and fresh perspectives, we can, in turn, look forward to more breakthroughs and leading-edge ideas.
8. I would like to thank NTU for joining us in this journey as we seek to strengthen our innovation capacity and look for opportunities to break new ground. Thank you.

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