Singapore Computer Society Announces
IT Leader Awards 2015 Winners

*Distinguished individuals receive top honours from four award categories, ‘IT Leader of the Year’, ‘IT Hall of Fame’, ‘IT Entrepreneur of the Year’ and ‘IT Youth of the Year’.*

6 March 2015 – Singapore Computer Society (SCS), the nation’s largest body for infocomm professionals, today announced the winners of the IT Leader Awards 2015, along with a new award category that recognises excellence in entrepreneurship. Four distinguished individuals, recognised for their outstanding achievements and contributions to Singapore’s information, communication and technology industry, took centre stage at the awards ceremony, held during the annual SCS Gala Dinner.

The SCS Gala Dinner and the IT Leaders Awards Ceremony, held in its 19th year, was graced by Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Communications and Information, and attended by more than 900 infocomm professionals and representatives from both the public and private sectors.

“For almost two decades, the annual IT Leader Awards has emerged as a key platform to acknowledge and honour individuals’ strong contributions to Singapore’s ICT landscape,” said Ong Whee Teck, Chairman of the IT Leader Awards 2015 at SCS. “We congratulate all of this year’s winners on their individual achievements and celebrate their contributions to the industry’s progress as a whole. We are confident that their accomplishments will serve as an inspiration for the younger generations to pursue careers in IT and set new benchmarks.”

**IT Leader Awards 2015 Winners**

This year, four distinguished individuals have been conferred.

**IT Leader of the Year**

Mr Tan Tong Hai is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Executive Director of Starhub. Mr Tan is an industry veteran with more than 26 years of experience in the region’s information technology, internet and e-commerce fields, and firmly believes in the transformative power of IT to benefit businesses, the community and the nation. He implemented the Central Identification and Registration Information System (CIRIS) for the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA), which became the top e-government project at the 2008 Infocomm Singapore Awards. At Starhub, Mr Tan also oversaw initiatives such as the Golden Gurus programme, which empowers tech savvy citizens to impart IT knowledge to their peers, and MySmartEye, an award-winning mobile app which aids the visually impaired.
**Hall of Fame**

Professor Christopher Chia is an educator who has contributed by bridging information technology and the business world. Professor Chia’s contribution goes as far back to the early 80s when he first joined the National Computer Board (NCB), the agency charged with propelling Singapore to the Information Age. In 1995, he became the founding CEO of the National Library Board (NLB) where he instrumentally leveraged IT to set up digitally networked libraries, offering users information in multiple formats such as electronic databases and various multimedia services. Professor Chia also played a pivotal role in Singapore’s media industry as CEO of the Media Development Authority (MDA), increasing the value-add of the sector from S$4.27bn in 2003 to over S$7bn in 2010.

**Entrepreneur of the Year (New Award Category for 2015)**

Mr Darius Cheung is the founder of property portal 99.co. Mr Cheung was formerly the founder and CEO of mobile security company tenCube, which was later acquired by McAfee, where he served as the Director of Consumer Mobile Technology. His strong involvement in the entrepreneurial ecosystem for close to a decade made him an inspiration to today’s entrepreneurs. Mr Cheung is also an angel investor in a dozen startups, a Venture Partner at Golden Gate Ventures, an Entrepreneur-in-Residence at INSEAD and serves on the Board of Trustee of Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE). He is also a recipient of the Singapore Youth Award, the nation’s highest youth accolade.

**IT Youth of the Year**

Mr Quek Yang Sheng is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Computing in Computer Science at the National University of Singapore. Mr Quek was the Gold Medallist for graduating top of his cohort at Temasek Polytechnic. During his student internship, he worked on a collaborative initiative by Ministry of Education’s FutureSchool and Rockmoon Pte Ltd, and created an innovative and educational mobile messaging app for classroom environment. Mr Quek also led his peers in community work by collaborating with the Chinese Development Assistance Council, where they started a workshop titled “Build Your Own Android App”, and won the Outstanding Achievement Award by Metropolitan YMCA Singapore.