NEWS RELEASE

KPMG AND A*STAR PARTNER TO DIGITALISE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Agreement inked for first joint lab in the Professional Services sector to jumpstart innovations in Cyber Security, Text -Mining, Machine Translation and Data Analytics

Singapore, 26 July 2018 – Professional services firm KPMG and the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) have signed a three-year Master Research Collaboration Agreement (MRCA).

With this MRCA, KPMG plans to work with A*STAR's research institutes under the Science and Engineering Research Council to drive the digitalisation of the firm's capabilities, products and services.

To kick-start this collaboration, KPMG, and A*STAR's Institute for Infocomm Research (I²R) will be launching an inaugural joint laboratory, focusing on the areas of Cyber Security, Text-Mining, Machine Translation and Human Resources (HR) Analytics.

With an initial joint investment of S\$5 million, the research facility would be KPMG's first joint laboratory in Singapore; as well as the Agency's first foray into the professional services industry.

This joint laboratory will

to determine and manage recruitment and attrition trends as well as facilitate more accurate workforce planning.

Mr Ong Pang Thye, Managing Partner, KPMG in Singapore, said: "Almost 90 percent of Singapore CEOs surveyed in the KPMG CEO Outlook 2018 say that digital disruption presents new opportunities. This opportunity to collaborate with A*STAR's I²R in creating a data-science powered lab will not just empower our internal processes, but will also allow us to raise our game in serving our clients."

Professor Tan Sze Wee, Executive Director of A*STAR's Science & Engineering Research Council, said, "A*STAR is happy to partner KPMG to drive its digitalisation efforts in the professional services sector. This joint lab with KPMG will bring our strong capabilities in the areas of cyber security and data analytics to help address the needs of the professional service industry and its clients."

For more information, please contact:

Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) Gladys Chung Corporate Communications Office: +65 6826 6348

Email: Gladys_CHUNG@hq.a-star.edu.sg

KPMG Kelvin Lee External Communications Office: +65 65071534

Email: kelvinlee1@kpmg.com.sg

Selina Lim
External Communications
Office: +65 65071509

Email: selinalim@kpmg.com.sg

About the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)

The Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) is Singapore's lead public sector agency that spearheads economic oriented research to advance scientific discovery and develop innovative technology. Through open innovation, we collaborate with our partners in both the public and private sectors to benefit society.

As a Science and Technology Organisation, A*STAR bridges the gap between academia and industry. Our research creates economic growth and jobs for Singapore, and enhances lives by contributing to societal benefits such as improving outcomes in healthcare, urban living, and sustainability.

We play a key role in nurturing and developing a diversity of talent and leaders in our Agency and