



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **LUNAR NEW YEAR HONG BAO PRESENTATION LUNCHEON 2006**

*Singapore, 08 February 2006* – Some senior citizens and the elderly from the Henderson's Home and other residences were in for a treat as guests of a Lunar New Year luncheon hosted by the Singapore Maritime officers' Union (SMOU) at the Meritius Mandarin Hotel.

The luncheon graced by Mr Lim Swee Say, Minister, Prime Minister's Office and Deputy Secretary-General of the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) saw more than 500 elderly citizens and senior union members receiving red packets from Mr Lim himself and other NTUC and SMOU officials, amounting to approximately S\$27,000.

In his address, SMOU President, Captain Robin Foo, said that SMOU have always believed in caring and sharing with the less fortunate and those going through difficult periods of their life.

He added that in line with the union's 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary theme of *Together We Make A Difference*, SMOU had adopted an attitude of contributing positively towards the lives of its members and those within the community through its outreach programs.

The Lunar New Year celebration attended by more than 750 elderly folk, union members and the movers and shakers from the maritime community was the 14<sup>th</sup> such event held by SMOU since 1992.

The event is one of the many charity initiatives by SMOU & Wavelink to consistently contribute back to the community as part of the union's ongoing care and share program.

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Since 1987, SMOU has contributed more than S\$2.1 million through various charity projects over the years.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **About SMOU**

The **Singapore Maritime Officers' Union** (SMOU) was established in 1951 to safeguard the interest and well-being of seafaring officers. The primary role of the organisation is to promote good industrial relations between members and their employers, improve the working conditions of members in the maritime industry through the terms and conditions of collective bargaining agreements negotiated on behalf of members and signed with shipping companies which employ them and to advance the cultural, recreational and educational aspirations of its members.

### **About Wavelink**

**Wavelink Co-operative Ltd** (Wavelink) was jointly founded by **Singapore Maritime Officers' Union** (SMOU) and **National Trades Union Congress** (NTUC) on 29 June 2000 in an attempt to venture into new frontiers and business opportunities. The Co-operative aims to promote opportunities for social interaction, cultural appreciation, healthy recreation and leisure activities on an economic co-operation basis, at the same time, create career opportunities for members in the maritime and/or other industries.

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