



PRESS RELEASE

SMOU BRINGS JOY TO NTUC ELDERCARE AND SENIOR CITIZEN MEMBERS AT MARITIME LUNAR NEW YEAR HONG BAO PRESENTATION

Singapore, 28 February 2007 – Senior Citizens from the NTUC Eldercare Centres were invited for lunch with unionists and the maritime community as guests of a Maritime Lunar New Year Luncheon hosted by the Singapore Maritime Officers' Union (SMOU) at the Raffles City Convention Centre.

The luncheon graced by Ms Grace Fu, Minister of State for National Development and an advisor to the SMOU, saw more than 500 elderly from NTUC Eldercare and senior citizen union members receiving red packets from Ms Fu herself, maritime leaders and other NTUC and SMOU officials..

In his address, SMOU President, Captain Robin Foo, said that SMOU have always believed in caring and sharing and contributing positively towards its membership and the community especially with the elderly and senior citizen members who are the Silver Collar in the union's membership.

He added, "All of us at SMOU have constantly been helping our members and the community through various welfare schemes that address the needs of our members including work placements and hardship grants. We have also been active in the area of community projects especially with our adopted charity, the Henderson Senior Citizens Home."

The Lunar New Year celebration attended by more than 700 elderly folk, union members and the movers and shakers from the maritime community was the 15th such event held by SMOU since 1992.

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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.

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

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.

About NTUC Eldercare

NTUC ElderCare Co-operative Ltd was set up on 2 April 1997 by National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) with a view to meet the challenges of a growing ageing population in Singapore.

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NTUC ElderCare's main core activity is operating social day care centres for the elderly. In addition, NTUC Eldercare also offers a range of auxiliary services that caters to the needs of the elderly and their family members as well as being involved in other community projects and activities.

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