

**MEDIA ALERT TO BE DISSEMINATED IMMEDIATELY**

## **The Textile and Fashion Federation Welcomes New President and Members of Council**

*The elected group of leaders is a clear reflection of TaFF's boundless opportunities that lie ahead as they achieve continued success.*

**Singapore, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020** – The Textile and Fashion Federation (TaFF), is pleased to announce the appointment of Wilson Teo as TaFF's new President. Wilson's strong leadership experience will redefine the organisation's business strategy by driving significant growth within the local fashion industry and across global markets. As the Executive Director of TEO Holdings Pte Ltd, Wilson has a proven record of accelerating performance with remarkable results for privately-owned investments in Asia Pacific that encompasses numerous businesses, such as real estate, apparel manufacturing, trading and outsourcing as well as brand development for wholesale, retail and distribution in the baby products field.

In addition to the new President, TaFF has also identified reputable faces who are recognised from their valuable contributions in the textile, apparel and technology sector. The latest board of council consists of John Lee as the Vice-President of TaFF; Carolyn Kan as the Hon Secretary of TaFF; Council members such as Felicia Gan, Nelson Yap, Roger Yuen, and Nicole van der Elst Desai, as well as Associate Council members that include Sonja Prokopec, Dro Tan, Amanda Wu and Esther Huang. Each individual offers vital knowledge from their expertise such as sustainable operations and manufacturing, digital innovation, entrepreneurship and many more.

The council's collective accomplishments in the diverse areas of the fashion trade will fundamentally support TaFF's vision and mission, that is to be the innovative fashion hub in Southeast Asia and world-renowned strategic partner in the fashion business. The elected group of leaders is a clear reflection of TaFF's boundless opportunities that lie ahead as they achieve continued success.

CEO of TaFF, Semun Ho said, "We are glad that the 2020 AGM was conducted successfully and the transition to the new council was smooth. Working off a strong foundation lay by previous councils and leadership teams, we believe that TaFF is positioned to do even more for the industry."

Wilson Teo, President of TaFF commented, "I am honoured to be elected as the new President of TaFF and our initiatives have positively impacted the community. I look forward to the next important chapter with my Council Members as we move TaFF's mission forward."

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### **Annexe A – TaFF Council**

#### **Wilson Teo - Executive Director, Teo Garments Corporation Pte Ltd**

Wilson Teo is the Executive director of TEO Holdings Pte Ltd, a privately-owned investments holding company based in Singapore. Its group of companies are in the business of real estate, apparel manufacturing, trading and outsourcing as well as brand development for wholesale, retail and distribution in the baby products industry. The group's investments are focused in Asia Pacific, with presence in Australia, China, Cambodia, Malaysia, India and Vietnam.

#### **John Lee - CEO, Lee Yin Knitting Factory Pte Ltd**

John is the CEO of the Lee Yin Group of Companies. Lee Yin was founded in 1974 and he joined the company in 1988 as an Engineer. Currently, the group operates several factories in Indonesia and manufacture and export a range of apparels for

leading brands around the world. With engineering and marketing training, John has taken on technical, production, business development roles over the years and has a keen interest in Industry 4.0 development. He is actively involved in industrial engineering projects to elevate the group's ODM capabilities to excel in the industry. Lee Yin also operates a retail chain in the region by the name of COLDWEAR specializing in travel wear and accessories and John successfully spearheaded the expansion into Indonesia. COLDWEAR operates 10+ outlets in Singapore and Indonesia in major shopping malls.

**Carolyn Kan - CEO, The Good Life Club Pte Ltd**

Carolyn Kan is the founder and designer of artisan jewellery brand Carrie K. Besides Carrie K., Carolyn is also involved in programmes with Lasalle College of the Arts and Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. She is also the co-founder of Keepers, a collective of Singaporean independent designers, artists and craftsmen who come together to showcase their craft in rotational thematic installations.

**Felicia Gan - Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Ghim Li Group Pte Ltd**

Felicia Gan began her career at GLG as a Legal Officer where she was assigned the task of leading the legal compliance office. She is now responsible for the overall management of the Sales & Marketing Teams and the Product, Development and Design department. She builds, direct and drives the annual strategic sales and marketing plan to achieve results in sales, market penetration, day to day operations, customer relationships and order fulfilment. In addition, she plans and implements marketing strategies to identify and develop new customers and business opportunities on a global scale.

**Nelson Yap - Chief Executive, Benjamin Barker Aust Pte Ltd**

Nelson Yap, is the founder and Chief Executive of Benjamin Barker. The brand has 10 retail outlets in Singapore and retails in Overseas countries like Australia and Cambodia. He studied at the University of Melbourne and graduated with Bachelor's degree in Creative arts, Cinematography and Film/Video Production.

**Roger Yuen - Chief Executive, Clozette Pte Ltd**

Roger is the CEO & founder of Clozette, an omni-channel platform that enables brands to engage with the new consumer through a full suite of content-centric digital marketing solutions powered by a network of creators and influencers that spans over 700 million combined followers in South East Asia. He is also the chairman & co-founder of Visenze, an AI company that powers visual commerce at scale for retailers and publishers; and the co-founder of 6Estates that provides AI-driven real-time, actionable intelligence focused on the finance industry.

**Nicole van der Elst Desai - Founder/Consultant, VDE Consultancy**

Nicole van der Elst Desai's 20 years of experience in the textile and apparel Industry come from working for brands and retailers as well as for their manufacturing partners. She is a valued expert in the field of textile technology innovation and sustainability. VDE Consultancy is also the implementation partner for Circular Leap Asia (CLA), a programme by Forum for the Future. CLA empowers apparel manufacturers across Asia to fast-track solutions towards a circular economy.

**Sonja Prokopec, PhD - LVMH Chaired Professor, Department of Marketing, ESSEC Business School**

Prof. Sonja Prokopec was named one of the Top 40 under 40 Business School Professors worldwide in 2015. Her research explores consumer judgment and decision-making, and was published in the Journal of Consumer Research, Journal of Consumer Psychology, and International Journal of Research in Marketing, as well as Huffington Post and the Business of Fashion among many others. Outside of teaching and research, she actively advises companies from the luxury and automotive industry in regard to consumer behaviour trends, consumer research and marketing and brand management issues.

**Dro Tan, PhD - Executive Director, Matex Int Ltd**

Dro Tan is Matex's Executive Director since 2010. Prior to Matex, Dro was with architectural firms in Seoul, Korea and Singapore. As Vice President of International Affairs at the Textile and Fashion Federation Singapore (TAFF) and an Academic and Examination Board Member of the Textile and Fashion Industry Training Centre (TaF.tc), he works closely with respective stakeholders to help develop and grow the Singapore textile and fashion Industry and its members globally.

**Amanda Wu - Founder and Director, Fu Yuan International Holdings Ptd Ltd**

Amanda Wu is the Founder and Director of Fu Yuan International Holdings Ptd Limited. In 2014-2015, she set up an International trade hub and consolidation center namely: Missy Fashion, T&, Snow Coase, Natural Textile, Brother Fortune where these 5 companies cater to different market segments and demands.

**Esther Huang - Head, Digital Experience Design, National Gallery Singapore**



An experienced professional with over a decade's experience, Esther has driven numerous first-to-market and high impact strategic projects in key markets such as China, Singapore and Australia. Some of her significant achievements include end-to-end transformation projects in complex retail ecosystems, often including multiple disciplines such as digital innovation, marketing, designs and real estate.

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**About Textile and Fashion Federation (TaFF)**

Textile and Fashion Federation (TaFF) is the official association for the textile and fashion industry in Singapore and plays an active role in the development of the industry. Working closely with the Singapore government, TaFF is working to position Singapore as an innovative fashion hub in SEA with focus on Technology & Innovation, Sustainability and Asian Craftsmanship. TaFF champions programmes that build capabilities, expand Singapore's fashion and textile businesses internationally, and promote environmentally friendly business practices.

For updates on TaFF, follow @taff.sg and @thecocoonspace on Instagram.