



## ST EDUCATION & TRAINING PTE LTD

### Press Release

07 November 2006

#### ~ STET's Business Foray into the Middle-East Market ~

**An article on STET's business in Qatar, with an exclusive interview with COL (Ret) Michael Chen, CEO, STET was featured in "The Business Times" dated 09 November 2006**

---

STET established a presence in Qatar over the past two years and have secured a Security Consultancy project with state-owned security company, Qatar Security Services Company – Hemaya, a commercial security company set up by the Ministry of Interior. STET has been instrumental in helping to buildup the various capacity of security business and is the strategic partner of Hemaya and is currently involved in several homeland security related projects within the State of Qatar.

With the world's largest GDP per capita, Qatar presents good economic potential. With the increasing oil and gas prices, its economy has been given a substantial boost in recent years. Qatar's main economic strength however, is its natural gas reserve, which is the 3rd largest in the world. Qatar is thus likely to see continuous economic growth for the years to come.

The country is undergoing a rapid path of modernisation and national development. Projects planned or already underway include infrastructure projects for a new airport, a new port, new satellite cities, expansion of its gas facilities, massive residential and commercial property developments, new industrial parks and infrastructural development required to support the overall growth of the state. Given the rather uncertain regional political and security environment, there is also increased expenditure to strengthen security.

The importance of the Qatar market is growing rapidly as it is a niche market for STET and we intend to further consolidate ourselves, building on the goodwill established. Qatar will form the base for STET to further explore the Middle East market in the years ahead. The Qatar market, like our other overseas market, is part of ST Electronics' growth and expansion of its business into the international markets.

STET has secured a few million dollars worth of contracts and we are awaiting the confirmation of several larger projects. We are establishing a ST Electronics Branch office in Qatar. This office will serve as the country office for the entire ST Electronics Group, providing a total solution for our clients. We will also be approaching the Qatar public sector to explore business opportunity in consultancy, education and training. Qatar is a market with huge potential. Singapore companies who do business there need the support of the Singapore Government particularly for projects related to Qatar government and the public sectors.