

SPEECH

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**Speech by Mr Lam Kong Hong, Director,
Enterprise Services
SPRING Singapore**

**Singapore 1000, SME 1000 and SI 100
Media Conference
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Ladies and Gentlemen,

SPRING Singapore is pleased that this year's SME rankings have been expanded from 500 companies to 1000.

The ranking is a reflection of the performance of our local SMEs. By doubling the size of the rankings, more SMEs that have excelled in their growth can be profiled – acting as role models for other growing enterprises.

One such rising star is iKnow Pte Ltd, an IT educational products retailer. It is the sole



SINGAPORE 1000
SINGAPORE SME 1000
INTERNATIONAL 100

distributor of Besta products and selected Aiptek products in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia. In Singapore, its Besta Chinese electronic dictionary has 80% market share. iKnow's sales turnover grew 68% from 30 million to 51 million from 2008 to 2009. Its growth can be attributed primarily to its expansion from selling its products at retail kiosks in 23 bookstores like Popular to opening three of its own retail outlets in 2009.

Being part of the expanded SME1000 ranking, SMEs like IKnow will benefit from the recognition as being amongst Singapore's most successful SMEs. It projects confidence, opening up business opportunities with potential partners both locally and overseas.

As the enterprise development agency, SPRING Singapore aims to develop a competitive SME sector and help our SMEs build their capabilities for growth. This ranking not only gives recognition to our top performing SMEs but is an added boost for their growth with the business opportunities it opens up.



SINGAPORE 1000
SINGAPORE SME 1000
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On behalf of SPRING Singapore, I extend my congratulations to all these SMEs.



SINGAPORE 1000
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Thank you.