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EMERGING ENTERPRISE 2011



Pride and joy: Mark Tan, managing director, STOLZ Engineering Pte Ltd sharing a jubilant moment with his son

GALA events are usually thought of as formal affairs that while resplendent, are often interspersed with many a boring moment. An anomaly then can be said to have occurred at the awards ceremony cum gala dinner of this year's Emerging Enterprise Awards, where an electrifying atmosphere permeated the air.

Into its fourth year, the Emerging Enterprise Awards honour local businesses that are up to 10 years old and have annual revenue of less than \$10 million. The awards are jointly presented by *The Business Times* and OCBC Bank, and supported by Spring Singapore, NUS Extension, Acorn Marketing and Research, SingTel, and RSM Chio Lim.

Upon the announcement of the winners of Emerging Enterprise Awards 2011 (EE2011), the audience burst into rapturous applause. Some employees were seen engaging in repetitive rounds of *yum-sengs*, with wine glasses clinking as they toasted their wins. Others, meanwhile, remained in their seats in the hopes of getting a perfect Kodak moment to remember the special occasion.



The top three winners of EE2011 are heat transfer equipment maker Heat Exchangers Specialist, fashion retailer MDS Retail, and metal recycling service provider World Metal Recovery. Minister of State for Trade and Industry and National Development, Lee Yi Shyan, presented the winners with their awards at the awards ceremony held at the Shangri-La Hotel last Thursday.

For winning the top prize, the three companies each received prizes worth \$390,000 – in an interest-free loan, educational and development grants, business consulting services, and brand and product development research services.

As a testament to their business innovations, awards were also given to environmental solutions provider Hydroemission Corporation and plastic recycling firm Winrigo. The two companies each walked away with a business infocomm technology solutions package worth \$30,000 from SingTel and a \$100,000 interest-free loan from OCBC Bank.

The infectious laughter, coupled with the jubilant crowd created a celebratory mood that was shared by all who attended the gala dinner.