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**SPEECH BY DR BEH SWAN GIN, MD EDB, AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF
AGILENT AUTOMATION SOLUTIONS MANUFACTURING FACILITY, 19 JUNE
2009, 3PM AT 1 YISHUN AVENUE 7**

Dr. Nick Roelofs, VP & GM, Life Sciences Solutions Unit,

Mr. Gooi Soon Chai, Agilent Technologies Singapore President,

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Introduction

1. Good afternoon. It gives me great pleasure to be here with you for the official opening of this manufacturing investment by Agilent Automation Solutions.
2. This facility marks Agilent Automation Solutions' first manufacturing footprint outside of the USA. Whilst Agilent has had a long history of manufacturing and R&D activities in Singapore from the Electronic Measurement part of the company, the event today is also significant as it is the first foray by Agilent's Bio-Analytical Measurement Business here in Singapore.

Key Manufacturing Site for Research and Scientific Instruments

3. We are delighted that Agilent selected Singapore for this project. It builds on our capabilities in precision manufacturing and the production of laboratory instrumentation. Other global leaders in research and scientific instruments such as Bio-Rad, Illumina and MDS Sciex are also producing in Singapore. Just two weeks back, Affymetrix announced that it is consolidating all of its micro-array manufacturing activities into Singapore. Consequently, Singapore is now one of the world's leading manufacturing sites for research tools and diagnostic instruments, supplying 50% of the global demand for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) instruments and more than half of the world's micro-arrays.

Asia's Leading Bio-Cluster

4. We also strongly welcome this investment by Agilent because it complements Singapore's biomedical sciences initiative. The biomedical research community in Singapore today comprises more than 50 companies carrying out drug discovery, translational and clinical research as well as medical technology innovation. In the public sector, biomedical research expenditure exceeded S\$1.1 billion in 2007.

5. This growing base of R&D players represents potential lead users as well as research collaborators for Agilent Life Sciences. Conversely, for the researchers, a partnership with Agilent would mean the ability to access cutting edge technologies and innovations earlier to propel them ahead in the race to discover new knowledge and products.

Asia's Healthcare Market

6. The third reason why we believe that Agilent made the right decision is that this operation will provide the company with an excellent perch to participate in Asia's rapidly growing healthcare market, which was valued at US\$240 billion in 2008 (Frost & Sullivan, January 2009).
7. Powerful trends are driving this demand for better quality healthcare. The rising middle-class in Asia, the ageing population in a number of cities and countries, as well as the massive urbanization that is taking place. The opportunities for new diagnostic products and solutions will be immense and from Singapore, Agilent will be better able to identify the unique needs of patients in Asia. We would thus like to encourage Agilent to also leverage on Singapore to create new products so that beyond improving your bottom-line, we can help drive your top-line growth and.

Conclusion

8. In closing, allow me to extend my heartiest congratulations to the management and staff of Agilent on the official opening of Agilent Automation Solutions manufacturing facility. This marks a new chapter in the Agilent-Singapore partnership. I wish you every success in the years ahead.

9. Thank you.