



## **INFORMATICS HOLDINGS LTD**

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

## **Informatics appoints 2 new Board members and accepts the resignation of CEO**

Singapore 31 March 2006 – Mainboard-listed Informatics Holdings Ltd (“Informatics” or the “Group”), a leading provider of quality lifelong learning services, is pleased to announce the appointment of two senior executives, Mr Val Ortega and Ms Cecilia Tong as Executive Directors to the Board of Informatics. Prior to these appointments, Mr Ortega was the Chief Operating Officer and Vice President, Academic Affairs of Informatics, and Ms Tong was the Executive Officer for the Group’s finance and corporate functions. The Group also wishes to announce the resignation of Dr Michael Teng Yeow Heng as both Director of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Group with effect from 31 March 2006. Mr Val Ortega is appointed as the Acting CEO of the Group and Dr Michael Teng is appointed as an adviser to the Board with effect from 31 March 2006.

Mr Val Ortega has been with Informatics for sixteen years in different senior management capacities, including Board appointments. He has extensive experience in the private education industry, spanning a period of about 25 years and ranging from teaching and curriculum development to assessment and administration. As the Vice President for the Group’s academic affairs, he acts as the guardian for the Group’s academic standards. The job also entails the establishment of relationships with international examining bodies, universities and other institutions of higher learning worldwide. In addition to his academic role, he was appointed on 23 December 2005 as the COO of Singapore Domestic Operation and manages the operations of the new 600,000 sq ft Informatics Campus at 12, Science Centre Road which has 4,500 students from 22 countries. He is also a board

member in various subsidiary companies in the Group. He served a term as the General Secretary of the Singapore Association of Private Schools.

Besides several professional qualifications, including a Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing (UK), Postgraduate Diploma in International Advertising (New York) and the CAM Foundation Professional Diploma in Communication, Advertising and Marketing (UK), Mr Ortega also holds a Master of Science Degree in International Marketing (University of Strathclyde), Glasgow, UK, and a Master of Education (RMIT University), Melbourne, Australia.

Ms Cecilia Tong joined the Group as Financial Controller of Informatics Holdings in July 2001 and was promoted to the executive level in August 2004. In September 2005, she was promoted again and appointed as the Executive Officer for the Group's finance and corporate functions and board member in a number of subsidiary companies of the Group. As the Executive Officer for the Group's finance and corporate functions, she has been driving changes and enhancements to the Group's finance and corporate functions and corporate governance. As an additional portfolio, Ms Tong was appointed as a Director of Salem International University (a US university), and served as the University's Chairperson of Finance and Audit Committee from July 2003 to September 2004.

Ms Tong has 14 years of auditing and finance experience in various industries, such as banking, manufacturing, education, construction, import and export trade, hotel and other services. She also has regional experience in Singapore, Hong Kong and China. She graduated with a Bachelor of Business (Accounting) degree from Monash University in Melbourne, Australia, in 1992 and was admitted to the status of Certified Practising Accountant of CPA Australia in 1996. She gained auditing experience at Kwan Wong Tan & Fong BDO (now known as Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu) in Hong Kong from 1993 to 1995, before moving on to another auditing firm Coopers & Lybrand (now known as PricewaterhouseCoopers) in Singapore from 1996 to 1998. From 1998 to 2001, she assumed the position of Controller of Illinois Tool Works in Singapore (subsidiary of a US Fortune 200 company).

The appointments of Mr Val Ortega and Ms Cecilia Tong will strengthen the Board of the Company.

Dr Michael Teng is leaving to pursue his own personal interests. The Group thanks him for the effort he has put in to help its turnaround and wishes him all the best in his personal pursuits. Because of what Dr Teng has already set in motion and the effort of every staff, the Group is pleased to note that it continues to be on track towards a turnaround. All its operations will progress as planned.

With the addition of Mr Val Ortega and Ms Cecilia Tong, Informatics now has a nine-member Board comprising:

- i) Tan Sri Dato' Seri Vincent Tan Chee Yioun – Non-Executive Chairman;
- ii) Mr Ung Gim Sei – Independent Director;
- iii) Mr Anderson Tang Siu Ki – Independent Director;
- iv) Professor Chew Soon Beng – Independent Director;
- v) Dato' Mohd Annuar Bin Zaini – Non- Executive, Non-Independent Director;
- vi) Mr Freddie Pang Hock Cheng – Non-Executive, Non-Independent Director;
- vii) Mr Ortega Valentine Philip – Acting CEO and Executive Director;
- viii) Mr Wong Wee Woon – Executive Director
- ix) Ms Cecilia Tong Chiu Fai – Executive Director

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## **ABOUT INFORMATICS GROUP**

Informatics Holdings Ltd (IHL) is a multinational corporation listed on the Mainboard of the Stock Exchange of Singapore. Established in 1983, it is a leader in providing quality lifelong learning services in the fields of information technology and business management. Informatics currently has 300 centres worldwide and a global network spanning more than 50 countries, while its wholly-owned subsidiary NCC Education in the UK has 300 centres in 45 countries. The Group offers programmes from O levels (for international students) and diplomas to undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. It has the most awards among Private Education Organisations (PEO) in Singapore, including the Singapore Brand Awards 2002 and 2003, the Singapore Quality Class for Private Education Organisations (SQC for PEO) and certification for the ISO 9001: 2000 standards. Following these, it clinched the Golden Brand Award in September 2005 and CaseTrust for Education in July 2005. Informatics has the most number of international government scholars among the PEOs and is also the only PEO in Singapore with employees awarded the National Excellent Service Award (EXSA) for two consecutive years (2004-2005). For more information, please visit <http://www.informaticsgroup.com>.

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