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Singapore's 'Smart Nation' vision showcased at COMEX

Monday 27th, April 2015 / 23:19 Written by **Ali Ahmed Al Riyami** (http://omanobserver.om/author/aliriyami1/) in **Local** (http://omanobserver.om/category/local/)



By Ali Ahmed Al Riyami — MUSCAT: April 27: For the first time in the Middle East, Singapore's Smart Nation experience, that seeks to bring in a whole array of public and private sector e-initiatives in governance and for services, which is being presented at the on-going IT, Telecom and Technology Show, COMEX 2015, was outlined at a specially held press conference here at the Golden Tulip in Seeb on Monday. The conference follows on from Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore's (IDA Singapore) successful engagement with the Ministry of Manpower, held under the patronage of the Information Technology Authority (ITA).

To further their partnership ties with Oman, where IDA Singapore is focusing on working closely with Omani companies and government bodies to share experience, expertise and knowledge, they brought five successful tech companies from Singapore to COMEX to meet with Omani businesses and government officials so as to collaborate on future initiatives. Addressing members of the press corps were Tan Lark Yang, Group Director of IDA International Pte Ltd — subsidiary of IDA Singapore; Kevin Chan, Centre Director — ME, IDA, and Adrian Tan, Centre Director — ME, IDA. While company representatives included Saw Ken Wye, CEO, Crimson Logic; Suarev Bhattacharrya, CEO of Quantum Inventions; Anurax Lian, MD of Simple Solutions Systems; Alvin Low, Senior VP — Business Development of SQL View; and Adrian Long, GM of V3 Teletech. The companies range from smart mobility solutions, data analytics platforms to e-government and intelligent transport solutions and they will be presenting a wide array of technologies that are critical for a Smart Nation journey. As noted, Singapore and Oman are very similar in many aspects. One of the key similarities is that both nations are interested in leveraging ICT as key enablers to derive social and economic benefits for its citizens and businesses. With this aim in mind, one of the key roles for IDA in Oman is the exchange of ideas with Omani businesses and the government on Singapore's Smart Nation journey.

Singapore aspires to be a Smart Nation, one that will improve the quality of life for individuals and business opportunities for enterprises. In a Smart Nation, they also seek to create an anticipatory Government that can better serve their citizens and be better able to use technology to enhance public services. In this respect, the country has received top ranking from world bodies.

Commenting on IDA Singapore's presence at COMEX, Tan Lark Yang, said: "Oman is the gateway to the Middle East and has much to offer in terms of a young, educated and entrepreneurial population. We are keen to support and continue building this developing tech and business environment together with our Omani counterparts. Technology is constantly changing and it is important to have the right tools in place to ensure successful adaptation to this change, and this is the know-how that our Singapore tech companies are looking to learn from and share with Omani businesses."

IDA has been participating in the COMEX expos annually and first made themselves felt in Oman in 2007. They have since worked on several successful 'tailored for Oman' projects that



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