

SP Alliance & Network

# SP Alumni eNews

July 2024



**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:  
INSPIRING LIVES  
THROUGH  
EDUCATION  
AND MENTORSHIP**





## Terence Teo

President of AutomationSG & CEO  
 Founder of Anewtech Systems

Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (1984)

# THE ENTREPRENEUR & LIFELONG LEARNER

**From his early days at SP to his current role as a leader in industrial IT, Terence’s journey is an inspiration to aspiring engineers and entrepreneurs, showing that dedication and hard work can lead to remarkable achievements.**

### Laying the Foundations

Curiosity is a powerful motivator. For Terence Teo, a fascination for his uncle’s engineering projects led him to pursue a Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at SP. Here, he transformed his passion into a successful career and nurtured a lifelong dedication to the importance of continuous learning.

“My uncle’s work fascinated me, and it seemed natural to follow in his footsteps. SP offered the perfect platform to begin my journey.”

### SP Life – A World of Difference

Transitioning from secondary school to SP was an eye-opener for Terence. The freedom and autonomy allowed him to thrive, and he was supported by dedicated lecturers who ensured that he had the skills and knowledge to do well.

“The lecturers at SP were incredibly patient and supportive, especially when I struggled with subjects like engineering drawing. Their extra tutorials and remedial lessons were crucial in helping me succeed.”

### Projects that Leave a Mark

One of the most impactful experiences at SP was Terence’s Final Year Project (FYP), supervised by Dr Loh Wai Kwan. The project required close collaboration between the teams handling hardware and software, fostering a deep understanding of practical engineering.

“Our project was demanding but rewarding. We spent extra hours in the electronics lab, learning everything from PCB (Printed Circuit Board) fabrication to system integration. This hands-on experience was invaluable.”

### From Academia to Industry

After graduating, Terence embarked on a career as a Systems Design Engineer at Matsushita, where he applied his SP-acquired skills in factory automation and programmable logic controllers. This next step felt like a logical extension of his education in SP. Terence’s

tenure included an enriching six-month training programme in Japan, which solidified his technical expertise.

“The training in Japan, in particular, was pivotal in enhancing my understanding of electronic circuit design and system maintenance.”

### Embracing his Entrepreneurial Side

Seeking to broaden his skill set, Terence transitioned to a sales role at TME Systems. This move was motivated by his desire to develop essential skills for his entrepreneurial aspirations. The experience gained in sales, including negotiation, marketing, and customer management, proved instrumental when he founded Anewtech Systems in 1999.

“I believed that sales skills were crucial for entrepreneurship. My time at TME Systems taught me how to manage client relationships and understand market dynamics, which were essential when starting my own business.”

### Building Anewtech Systems

Terence’s vision for Anewtech Systems was clear from the start. Together with two partners, he established the company and grew it into a successful enterprise over the years. His leadership and strategic direction have earned Anewtech numerous accolades, including the prestigious Enterprise 50 (E50) Award in 2021.

“The journey wasn’t easy, especially the first five years. But the foundation laid at SP and my industry experiences were instrumental in overcoming challenges and achieving success.”

### Mentoring the Next Generation

Terence remains deeply committed to education and mentorship. He actively engages with educational institutions, mentoring students and supporting entrepreneurship projects to nurture future generations.

“I believe in giving back to the community by mentoring young talents and sharing my experiences. We also accept many interns from the various polys. If they perform well, they can become our future staff. This is another way for us to recruit.”

### The Lifelong Learner

Despite his achievements, Terence continues to value education. He recently completed an MBA to complement his practical experience with academic knowledge, and further refine his skills in business administration and strategic management.

“I believe we should always upgrade ourselves. The MBA provided insights that enhanced my analytical and managerial skills, reinforcing the importance of continuous education.”

To new SP alumni, Terence eagerly shares some valuable advice, drawn from his decades of experience.

“Stay curious and never stop learning. Keeping up with new knowledge and skills is essential. Success is about finding fulfilment in your personal life and giving back to the community. Make time for your family, hobbies, and causes you care about.”





### Beating the Odds to Succeed at SP

Despite a rocky start to his educational journey, Dillon Tay saw a remarkable turnaround, culminating in his graduation from SP with a Diploma in Engineering with Business. He credits this to a dedicated secondary school teacher, who instilled in him the values that mattered most.

Dillon's diploma, which combines mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, and business, demonstrated how these fields can integrate to turn engineering ideas into practical businesses. This diverse curriculum provided him with valuable insights and practical skills.

A key experience for Dillon was participating in a sustainability competition in Kuala Lumpur. He addressed a sustainability issue within the Malay community, utilising SP's facilities to develop a prototype. Dillon pitched his solution to judges in Malaysia, showcasing his ability to bring innovative ideas to life.

Recognised with the Lee Kwan Yew Award, Dillon's achievements highlight his academic prowess and potential in engineering and business, supported by the lasting effects of strong mentorship and a well-rounded education at SP.



Source: Berita Mediacorp, 6 Jun 2024

### SP Alumna Inspires with her Achievements

SP alumna, Nuryanee Anisah, was diagnosed with dyslexia. Despite this setback, she has turned her challenges into triumphs. Yanee said she used to take classes at the Dyslexia Association of Singapore (DAS) after school. Now, over 15 years later, she has secured a place at the National University of Singapore (NUS) to pursue business administration.

The 24 year-old even runs her own social enterprise, Commenhers, which employs more than 70 housewives and has been engaged by large companies such as H&M and Decathlon. She collaborated with housewives, the elderly, and local tailors, sparking the idea to expand her business.

Yanee believes that everyone with dyslexia has unique talents. Her own story of overcoming dyslexia to creating a successful business is the perfect example of this belief.

Source: CNA938, 26 May 2024



Source: Channel NewsAsia, 7 Jun 2024

### Making Waves, Making SP Proud

Meet Sahira Sha'ri, the 28-year-old Singaporean chief officer of the luxury cruise ship Celebrity Beyond. As chief officer, Sahira oversees operations, navigation, communication, and the safety of the nearly 4,000 passengers and 1,400 crew members on board.

After graduating from SP with a Diploma in Nautical Studies in 2017, Sahira worked on cargo and merchant ships, often as the only woman. Despite the challenges, she embraced the adventure. She joined Celebrity Beyond in October 2021, quickly rising through the ranks.

Her role involves long hours and significant responsibilities, including humanitarian efforts and leading a diverse team. Despite missing family events, she stays connected through regular calls. Sahira's resilience and passion makes her a role model in the maritime industry.

## On-Campus Privileges



### SPORTS FACILITIES

Alumni access hours:

**GYM@POOL**

Weekdays : 12pm - 4pm | 6pm - 9pm

Saturday : 9am - 7pm

**SWIMMING POOL**

Weekdays : 9am - 4pm

Saturday : 4pm - 7pm

Please note your SP Alumni e-card and any form of identification is required for verification purposes. SP Sports Facilities may be closed due to curriculum or events without prior notice.



### SP LIBRARY

SP Alumni eCard holder is entitled to 20% off annual library membership fees.

Library membership is required to enter SP Library.

[Click here](#) to find out more.

**OPENING HOURS:**

[Click here](#) for more information.

## Off-Campus Privileges



### SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC GRADUATES' GUILD

10% discount for ala-carte menu at SPGG F&B outlets (SPGG Coffee Hub & The Restaurant)

Terms and conditions apply



### THE ESCAPE ARTIST

10% discount for the entire bill

Terms and conditions apply



### PLAY V-ROOM PTE LTD

10% off 1 VR headset per card

Terms and conditions apply



### LAO JIANG SUPERIOR SOUP

10% off total bill

Terms and conditions apply



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**Learning  
Fest  
2024**

**HEART OF BUSINESS:  
HOW HR WEAVES SKILLS AND PEOPLE TOGETHER**

2nd August 2024 | 9:30AM – 2:30PM  
Singapore Polytechnic Convention Centre  
Dress Code: Business Casual

Organised by SP Singapore Polytechnic  
Supported by SkillsFuture SG  
In support of SkillsFuture Festival



Register

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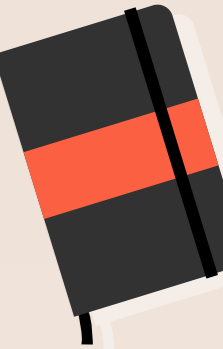
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**CELEBRATING**  
70 Years of Memories:  
Call for Contributions

START SEARCHING FOR:

**1 PHOTOGRAPHS:**

Your snapshots from the 1950s to the early  
1990s, capturing moments of triumph,  
camaraderie, innovation, and daily life within SP.



Submit using: Our  
SP Memories  
Contribution Form

**2 MEMORABILIA:**

Objects associated with SP life, such as  
mementoes of significant events.

Send email with a photo of the object(s) to  
[SP\\_Memories@sp.edu.sg](mailto:SP_Memories@sp.edu.sg)  
We shall contact you to arrange submission.

Thank you for your  
contributions that will add  
to the stories and  
memories of SP's journey  
over the years.



## Exploring new career opportunities?

Check out the **SPAN Job Portal** to discover various job listings.



[Click Here](#)



# The Art of Public Speaking

 Tuesday, 6 August 2024  
 7:00PM to 10:00PM

 SPGG Daisy Room  
 Complimentary

**SPGG**  
Get Connected. Stay Connected.



# CONNECT WITH US

Education & Career Pathways | Industry Insights | Career Coaching

Email us at [ecg@sp.edu.sg](mailto:ecg@sp.edu.sg) for an appointment

## NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO?


Just graduated from SP < 6 months ago and feeling like life's thrown you a curved ball?

Contact our friendly SP counsellors for short-term counselling support if you need.

Email SP: [contactus@sp.edu.sg](mailto:contactus@sp.edu.sg) with subject 'Requesting for Counselling'



## Journeying with you beyond SP

 Stay Connected @SPANalumni

Interested to partner SPAN? Reach out to us at [SPAN@sp.edu.sg](mailto:SPAN@sp.edu.sg).

**SP** Singapore Polytechnic

