

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Abbott and the Abbott Fund partner with Science Centre Singapore to launch science education programmes for youths in Singapore

15 March 2010, Singapore – The global health care company Abbott and its philanthropic foundation the Abbott Fund are partnering with the Science Centre Singapore (SCS) to launch creative education programmes that are designed to spark an interest in science among the youth of Singapore. The two programmes, Family Science and Operation Discovery, actively engage young people in learning about science and innovation through hands-on experiments and activities led by Abbott scientists.

Developed in partnership with leading educational organisations in the U.S., both programmes are a part of Abbott's global science education outreach efforts. Singapore is the first Asian country where they are being introduced, following successful launches in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Ireland.

"Science and engineering are of strategic importance to our society. They are key drivers of tomorrow's economy. Science Centre aims to develop youths' interest in science early and enhance their capabilities in science through various platforms. We are very pleased to be working with Abbott to enhance science learning and groom future student scientists," said A/Prof Lim Tit Meng, Chief Executive, Science Centre Singapore.

"Today's science and engineering students will grow up to become the inventors and innovators of tomorrow's life-saving medicines and medical devices," said Hui Hwa Koh-Minjoot, General Manager, Abbott in Singapore. "Our programmes are designed to foster a better appreciation of science, and by nurturing the spirit of discovery, Abbott hopes to help inspire the next generation of scientists who may want to consider science as a career."

"We have been working with the Ministry of Education and the SCS to develop a programme specifically designed to complement the science curriculum taught in Singapore," said Dr. Steven A. Nowak, Site Head, Analytical R&D, Abbott in Singapore. Our programmes are designed to be hands-on because young people learn best through interactive learning. This also helps them to understand that science is a part of their everyday lives."

Family Science took place today at Science Centre Singapore. The programme reaches out to families with younger children to provide them with an opportunity to learn about the wonders of science together. Family Science brings kids, parents, teachers and scientists together for an exciting, hands-on experience focused on basic science skills such as observation and problem-solving teamwork, as well as building confidence as science learners. About 400 participants experienced for themselves how they are surrounded by science and discoveries, and learn to turn everyday ingredients into tools for experiments.

Operation Discovery was held on 12 March 2010 at the Abbott Manufacturing Singapore facility, which was opened in 2009. This programme provides local youth with hands-on opportunities to experience science, and also acts as a forum for teachers to explore trends and best practices in secondary school science education.

Experiments were led by Abbott scientists, working side-by-side with more than 50 young people exploring science in three areas – drug discovery through plants, separation chromatography and DNA extraction. Students also are introduced to some of the tools and procedures that Abbott employees use every day in their work.

The initial run of the Abbott science programmes in Singapore reached out to more than 450 participants. Abbott is targeting to run its science programmes twice annually in Singapore.

Note to the editor:

About Science Centre Singapore

The Science Centre Singapore is a non-formal educational institution dedicated to the promotion of science and technology among students and members of the public. As a leading Science Centre in the region, the Science Centre Singapore has twelve exhibition galleries with more than 1,000 exhibits, and another 18,000 sq metres of outdoor space showcasing the Waterworks, Ecogarden and the Kinetic Garden exhibits. The Centre also houses the Omni-Theatre — Singapore's only dome-shaped, 5-storey high theatre with a capacity of 276 seats. The Science Centre received 1.049 million visitors, while Omni-Theatre and Snow City received 400,000 visitors for FY2008/2009. For more information, please visit www.science.edu.sg.

About Abbott and the Abbott Fund

Abbott is a global, broad-based health care company devoted to the discovery, development, manufacturing and marketing of pharmaceuticals and medical products, including nutritionals, devices and diagnostics. The company employs approximately 83,000 people and markets its products in more than 130 countries. Abbott's news releases and other information are available on the company's web site at www.abbott.com.

Abbott has established its presence in Singapore since 1970 and provides Singaporeans with a diverse range of nutritional, pharmaceutical and medical products, and diagnostic tests. Abbott has more than 750 employees in Singapore. Its primary businesses in Singapore include nutritional products, pharmaceuticals and medical products. Over the years, Abbott has also opened several key facilities in Singapore, including Abbott Manufacturing Singapore dedicated to nutritional products, the Pharmaceutical Research & Development Lab and the Abbott Medical Optics Asia Pacific Technical, Training and Education Centre.

The Abbott Fund is the philanthropic foundation of Abbott. The Abbott Fund's mission is to create healthier global communities by investing in creative ideas that promote science, expand access to health care and strengthen communities worldwide. For more information, visit www.abbottfund.org.

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