

**SPEECH FOR DATO JUDE BENNY, SMF BOARD MEMBER
SINGAPORE NITE@NOR-SHIPPING, 10TH JUNE 2009, 6.30PM,
HOTEL RADISSON SAS PLAZA,
OLYMPIA BANQUET HALL, LEVEL 2,**

Mr Raymond Lim, Minister for Transport and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs

Your Excellency Ng Ser Miang, Singapore's Ambassador to Norway

Mr Otto G. Tidemand, Honorary Consul-General of the Republic of Singapore in Norway

Mr Choi Shing Kwok, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Transport

Distinguished guests

Fellow Singaporeans

Good evening

1. On behalf of the Singapore Maritime Foundation, I would like to welcome you to the Singapore Nite Reception.
2. We are honoured that Mr Raymond Lim, Minister for Transport and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs is leading the Singapore delegation for *Nor-Shipping* this year. Thank you for joining us this evening.
3. The Singapore Maritime Foundation is a private-sector led organisation that seeks to work in tandem with the government and maritime players to promote Singapore as an International Maritime Centre.
4. Nor-Shipping is one of the most important maritime trade and networking event in the global maritime calendar. It is vital for Singapore to be part of this show to be in the radar of the global maritime community.
5. The Singapore Pavilion is back this year, for the third time. We seek to fly the Singapore flag high by presenting the essence of Singapore's multi-faceted maritime industry to the world. The Singapore Pavilion showcases a

comprehensive range of maritime expertise and services, from ship building, marine engineering to ship management.

6. We staged this participation amidst the financial crisis and the economic downturn this year. However, despite these challenging circumstances, I'm pleased that we have garnered the support of 13 Singapore-based maritime companies at *Nor-Shipping 2009*.
7. Through the *Singapore Nite Reception*, we hope that our participating companies of the Singapore Pavilion will be able to network and forge new partnerships with our Norwegian shipping counterparts, partners and guests of the Singapore Pavilion exhibitors. We have specially flown the chefs from Singapore to give our guests an authentic taste of the Singapore cuisine.
8. I would like to thank Ambassador Ng Ser Miang, Mr Otto R. Tidemand, Mr Svein Aaser, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, IE Singapore for their strong support. Special thanks to DnB Nor Bank, DBS Bank, Keppel Offshore and Marine Limited, Ocean Tankers Pte Ltd, Sembcorp Marine Limited, Singapore Technologies Marine Ltd and Thome Ship Management Private Limited for their sponsorship of the Singapore Nite Reception.
9. I would like to thank our co-organiser, ASMI for co-organising the Singapore Pavilion and all the participating companies for their hard work. I hope that through the Singapore Pavilion and the Singapore Nite, you would be able to forge new partnerships and strengthen old ties, most importantly gather new leads that will eventually translate to business collaborations in the near future.

Have an enjoyable evening.

Thank you.