

PRESS RELEASE

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## SPOUT SECURES S\$3 MILLION SEED ROUND FUNDING

Acquisition of venture builder Zaany Technologies also announced.

**June 6<sup>th</sup> 2017, Singapore** - Singapore-based start-up Spout Entertainment Group today announces that it has closed a S\$3 million (US\$2.1 million) seed round funding from business builder REAPRA, to support the Group's continued business expansion. The funds raised will be used to finance Spout's expansion into emerging markets such as Myanmar. Up to S\$835,000 (US\$600,000) will be committed to providing free education resources to the local community.

REAPRA Founder and CEO Shuhei Morofuji, and Chief Financial Officer Takeo Matsuda, will join Spout's advisory board. Spout Founder and CEO Daryl Teo will join REAPRA's five-seat investment committee.

Spout CEO Daryl Teo said: "Southeast Asia is one of the world's fast-growing region, with a burgeoning young-middle class, and a strong appetite for real-time on-demand content, particularly in the sphere of competitive gaming. Millennials in particular want to have their preferred content when they want it, where they want it. Spout is committed to meeting that need."

Spout today also announces the acquisition of Zaany Technologies, a venture builder specialising in marketing campaigns, technology consulting and mobile applications. Now in its fourth year of operations, Zaany has an acclaimed portfolio of clients including Grab, Singapore Tourism Board, Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and Accelerate Korea, a government start-up incubator.

Zaany's expertise in designing mobile applications will be a useful addition to the Group's capabilities, allowing it to build a live-streaming portal for e-sports influencers, to better connect with their fan followings, and for brands to market their products via 10-second advertisements.

The Zaany acquisition adds to Spout's high-growth asset portfolio which includes newlyadded Spout Arena, which was formerly known as Alienware Arena, in Lucky Chinatown. The sprawling gaming stadium, which takes up the whole Level 3 of the shopping mall, offers recreational and competitive gamers a convenient and affordable venue to play games including League of Legends, Dota, FIFA and Overwatch.

REAPRA CEO Morofuji said: "Daryl's and Spout's ambition is to create a Southeast Asian business that addresses each country's unique flavour, which will give us valuable clues and the confidence to provide other REAPRA products and services seamlessly across the region."

Spout CEO Teo said "All of Spout's rungs are climbing to a very lucrative destination: owning viewership in Southeast Asia. Unlike the rest of the world, there were no shortcuts to this market, which meant Spout has to ladder its way up: first, by delivering an orthogonal product that appeals to an underserved market (Think: E-Sports), and then leveraging that

position into an array of products (Education, Entertainment) that will both expand the addressable market and increase Spout's monetisation potential".

Zaany Technologies will shortly be launching a year-long partnership with international consulting firm GAC (which specialises in R&D tax credit and innovation financing), to provide a one-stop service to all business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs, to create their own mobile apps, websites and technology companies, using government grants. Interested SMEs and individuals can email <u>community@spout360.com</u> to enquire more about how to leverage the SpoutAgency support network and launch new projects, with the aid of government grants and subsidies.

## About Spout Entertainment Group

Founded in 2017 by Singaporean entrepreneur Daryl Teo, Spout Entertainment Group is the fastest growing e-entertainment company in Southeast Asia. By solving industry pain points and pursuing profitability, Spout has a larger agenda to make e-sports in Southeast Asia a sustainable ecosystem. Its subsidiary companies include e-sports network Spout360.com, e-sports influencer agency SpoutAgency, e-sports gaming stadium Spout Arena, e-education company Cite and Zaany.

https://www.techinasia.com/spout-360-esports https://www.dealstreetasia.com/stories/spout-entertainment-media-group-reapra-70373/ https://vulcanpost.com/609186/spout360-esports/

## About REAPRA

Set up in Singapore in 2014 by Japanese entrepreneur Shuhei Morofuji, REAPRA is a business builder whose mission to work with Southeast Asian start-ups to create new and prosperous industries using a disciplined approach of research and practice. REAPRA comes up with original ideas and seeks entrepreneurial CEOs to create new business models. The company has established 14 direct subsidiaries and invested in 40 start-ups in diversified industries including agriculture, healthcare, education, hospitality, digital media, travel, real estate and aerospace. The company's businesses operate across Asia including Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines and Bangladesh.

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