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News Release

CLA Southeast Asia and Spirit of Enterprise Celebrate Entrepreneurship and Future Leaders at SOE Awards 2026



(L-R) Ms. Novie Djayayanti Tjoa, President, Spirit of Enterprise | Mr. Chee Hong Tat, Guest-of-Honour, Minister for National Development and Patron of Spirit of Enterprise| Dato' Elaine Teh, Group Managing Director, Octopus (APAC) Holdings Limited, and Award Recipient of the SOE-CLA Southeast Asia Entrepreneurship Award 2026 | Mr. Loh Ji Kin, Assurance Leader, CLA Southeast Asia, and Award Presenter.

Singapore, 27 November 2026 – CLA Southeast Asia joins **Spirit of Enterprise (SOE**) in celebrating 23 years of inspiring and championing the entrepreneurial spirit at the annual **SOE Awards 2026** Ceremony & Gala Dinner, where **CLA Southeast Asia** serves as the main partner. The occasion honours 59 honourees across eight award categories, ranging from established enterprises and emerging start-ups to businesses championing sustainability and social impact.

Having partnered with SOE since 2007, **CLA Southeast Asia** has continued to support the growth of entrepreneurs while creating platforms and opportunities for emerging business leaders to connect, grow and advance their entrepreneurial journeys.

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The highest honour of the year was presented to **Dato' Elaine Teh, Group Managing Director of Octopus (APAC) Holdings Limited**, who was named the award recipient of the **SOE-CLA Southeast Asia Entrepreneurship Award 2026**. Selected by the Judging Panel, the prestigious accolade recognises past SOE Honourees who have demonstrated continued entrepreneurial excellence and elevated their organisations and businesses to new heights. On receiving the award, **Dato' Elaine Teh** said, "I accept this award with gratitude and humility, pledging to foster entrepreneurship, serve society and create meaningful opportunities for others."

"Presenting the **SOE-CLA Southeast Asia Entrepreneurship Award** to **Dato' Elaine Teh** is a fitting recognition of her remarkable entrepreneurial journey. Her achievements are a testament to her leadership, innovation and perseverance, and she stands as an inspiring role model within the entrepreneurial community. Beyond her business accomplishments, **Dato' Elaine** commitment to nurturing fellow business owners, supporting SMEs, empowering women, and giving back to charity and the wider community speaks strongly to her character and values. On behalf of **CLA Southeast Asia**, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to **Dato' Elaine** on this well-deserved recognition," shared **Mr. Henry Tan, Group CEO & Chief Innovation Officer, CLA Southeast Asia.**



President of the Spirit of Enterprise (SOE), Ms. Novie Djayayanti Tjoa, and Guest-of-Honour, Mr. Chee Hong Tat, Minister for National Development and Patron of Spirit of Enterprise, graced the event alongside all 59 Honourees of the SOE Awards 2026.

“An award marks a milestone, not the finishing line. **CLA Southeast Asia**, **SOE**’s Main Partner and a steadfast supporter since our inception, shares our commitment to celebrating entrepreneurial excellence. The **SOE-CLA Southeast Asia Entrepreneurship Award** honours continued growth beyond recognition. This year, we celebrate past SOE Award winner **Dato’ Elaine Teh** of **Octopus (APAC) Holdings Limited**, whose journey inspires fellow entrepreneurs to keep building and reaching higher,” said **Ms. Novie Djayayanti Tjoa, President, Spirit of Enterprise.**



Ms. Novie Djayayanti Tjoa, President of SOE, presents a token of appreciation to Mr. Edwin Leow, Co-Advisory Leader and Head of Tax at CLA Southeast Asia and Treasurer of SOE, celebrating the longstanding partnership between both organisations.

New Name, Long-lasting Dedication

CLA Southeast Asia, previously known as **CLA Global TS**, had been an active supporter and parter of **SOE** sharing its mission to promote, inspire and cultivate the entrepreneurial community in Singapore. Further proving the firm’s dedication and commitment to the cause, key members of **CLA Southeast Asia’s** management team contribute their expertise while serving on **SOE’s** Executive Committee to further advance its efforts in encouraging local entrepreneurship.

About CLA Southeast Asia:

Established in 1993, **CLA Southeast Asia** (formerly CLA Global TS) is a leading public accounting and Asia-focused business advisory firm with more than 30 years of experience supporting businesses at every stage of growth. From its beginnings as a two-person firm, it has grown into one of Singapore's top ten accounting firms, serving clients across Singapore, China, and Malaysia through a team of over 320 professionals.

The firm is led by experienced professionals with deep expertise across Assurance & IPO, Tax, Risk Advisory, Valuation, Insolvency & Restructuring, Sustainability & Climate Change Advisory, Mergers & Acquisitions, Business Process Outsourcing, Cybersecurity, Data Analytics, and Country Advisory services. With a strong reputation as a trusted IPO advisor, the firm has supported numerous successful listings across regional capital markets while continually expanding its capabilities to meet the evolving needs of businesses.

CLA Southeast Asia is an independent network member of **CLA Global Limited (CLA Global)**, a leading international organisation of independent accounting and advisory firms serving fast-growing, innovative, and cross-border businesses. As **CLA Global**'s leading firm in Asia, **CLA Southeast Asia** represents the network across Singapore, Southeast Asia, and China, combining local market knowledge with global connectivity to help clients navigate complexity, seize growth opportunities, and achieve their ambitions with confidence.

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