

# Breaking new ground at the 2024 Emerging Enterprise Awards

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IT WAS a night to remember for some of the region's most innovative and sustainable companies at the 2024 Emerging Enterprise Awards, held on Oct 24 at The Ritz Carlton Millenia Singapore.

Eight budding companies from Singapore, Hong Kong and Indonesia took home the top honours at the 17th edition of the awards, which was open to businesses across the region for the second year running.

Under the Emerging Enterprise Awards category, Singapore-based Kskin Management and Pancare Medical, as well as Hong Kong-based Fano Labs, impressed judges with their consistent, significant and sustainable growth, as well as the ability to scale and expand overseas.

Kskin Management offers pay-per-visit 15-minute facial treatments; Pancare Medical provides medical services at general practitioner clinics and healthcare projects; and Fano Labs develops artificial intelligence (AI)-driven language solutions.

The Emerging Enterprise Sustainability Awards went to Singapore-based Pyxis Maritime and RushOwl Singapore, as well as Indonesia-based PT Peduli Alam Nusantara.

The three firms were lauded for embedding sustainability in their

operations and driving the transition towards low-carbon economies. Pyxis specialises in maritime electrification; RushOwl provides demand-responsive and self-optimising bus pooling services; and Plana converts plastic and husk waste into a sustainable material.

The Most Promising Sustainability Startup Awards – which recognises businesses for their unique and commercially viable ideas with long-term potential – were conferred on Singapore-based Life Lab Resources and The Powder Shampoo. The former is revolutionising food waste management, while the latter produces eco-friendly, powder-to-foam personal care solutions.

Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry Low Yen Ling, who was the guest of honour at the gala dinner, highlighted how emerging enterprises are always quick to embrace and trailblaze the latest trends.

She noted that this year's awards attracted nearly double the number of entries compared to 2022, with over 650 applications received from a mix of high-growth industries, including biotech, med-tech, sustainable energy, and food and beverage.

Jointly organised by *The Business Times* and OCBC, the awards aim to recognise business innovation, resilience and excellence of small and medium-sized enterprises under 10 years old.



Emerging Enterprise 2024 Awards winners. From left: RushOwl Singapore, Ng Shin, co-founder and CEO; The Powder Shampoo, Jlynn Chen, founder & CEO; Life Lab Resources, Edward Chia, managing director; Pyxis Maritime, Tommy Phun, founder & CEO; PT Peduli Alam Nusantara (Plana), Joshua Christopher Chandra, co-founder & chief of sustainability and relations; Fano Labs, Dr Miles Wen, co-founder & CEO; Pancare Medical, Dr Ong Guan Hong, CEO; Kskin Management, Brian Ng, director. PHOTOS: YEN MENG JIN, BT; AND ALVIN TAN



Guest of honour Low Yen Ling (in red), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth & Ministry of Trade and Industry, arriving at the gala event accompanied by the Emerging Enterprise Awards organisers. On her right is Linus Goh, head of global commercial banking, OCBC and Chan Yeng Kit, CEO, SPH Media is on her left.



From left: Dr Miles Wen of Fano Labs; Senior Minister of State Low Yen Ling; and Linus Goh of OCBC.



The team from Oncode Scientific celebrating. From left: Kathy, administrative director; Dr Goh Share Yuan, chief scientific officer; Associate Professor Dr Lim Su Wen, founder & chief executive officer; Dave Ling, chief commercial officer; Dr Kow Koon Kee, co-founder & chief operating officer; Ying, accounts director; Dr Amy Teh, chief strategy & project officer.



Awards finalists with VIP and organisers. From left: Avanz, Kamnan Chettiar, CEO and co-founder; Covall Technologies, Mike Ellsworth, CEO; Curium, Dr Ali Hasnain, CEO & co-founder; Pancare Medical, Dr Ong Guan Hong, CEO; Cybermatics, Edwin Lee, CEO; PT Finfleet Teknologi Indonesia, Nathanlel Nugroho, director; Chen Huifen, editor, *The Business Times*; Senior Minister of State Low Yen Ling; PT Jejarung Tiga Artha (Zi Care), Jessy Abdurrahman, CEO; Linus Goh, head of global commercial banking, OCBC; Wavescan Technologies, Dr Kushi Agarwal, CEO & founder; ESA Healthcare, Dr Shawn Li, founder & CEO; Fano Labs, Dr Miles Wen, co-founder & CEO; HeyHi, Liu Yueh Mei, CEO & co-founder; Kskin Management, Brian Ng, director; Little Blossom, Kwek Yi Jun, co-founder; Motorist, Angeta Poh, deputy CEO; Oncode Scientific, Assoc Prof Dr Lim Su Wen, CEO.



The finalist trophy for the Emerging Enterprise 2024 Awards, now in its 17th year.



Senior Minister of State Low Yen Ling, speaking at the awards ceremony.



The OCBC team hailing from various departments, out in force to lend their support to the gala event.



The Pyxis Maritime group all set to take a selfie to add to their album.



Finalists for the Emerging Enterprise Sustainability Awards, with VIP and organisers. From left: Little Green Ranger, Kenneth Ong, founder; Sun Bus Tech, Shyan Phang, CEO; Pyxis Maritime, Tommy Phun, founder & CEO; RushOwl Singapore, Ng Shin, co-founder and CEO; Life Lab Resources, Edward Chia, MD; MLC Trading, Eric Wong, director; New Energy Asia Pacific, Danny Lim, business development director; Pollen Tech, Liyana Sulaiman, co-founder and CEO; OCBC's Linus Goh; Senior Minister of State Low Yen Ling; Chen Huifen, *The Business Times*; PT Peduli Alam Nusantara (Plana), Joshua Christopher Chandra, co-founder & chief of sustainability and relations; Ampotech, William Temple, CEO & co-founder; BoxGreen, Walter Oh, co-founder; The Powder Shampoo, Jlynn Chen, founder & CEO; RentalWorks (SG), Alan Pua, CEO, MD; Olio Lifestyle International, Alex Teo, CEO & founder; Vector Green, Ben Teng, MD.



Winners of the Most Promising Sustainability Startup Awards: Life Lab Resources, Edward Chia, managing director, and The Powder Shampoo, Jlynn Chen, founder & CEO.



Seated, from left: Christie Chu, chief judge, Emerging Enterprise Awards & head of emerging business and commercial banking cash, OCBC; Woo E-Sah, partner & head of assurance, RSM; Emily Liew, assistant MD, innovation, Enterprise Singapore; Senior Minister of State Low Yen Ling; Deborah Heng, country manager, Singapore, Mastercard; and Raflana Soh, director (chemical, materials & sustainability), Innovation & Enterprise Group, A\*Star. Standing, from left: Jude Chan, deputy news editor, BT; Geoffrey Yeo, assistant MD, capabilities, urban systems & solutions, Enterprise Singapore; Linus Goh, OCBC; Chan Yeng Kit, SPH Media; Conrado Forcellati, MD, Pala Consulting; Lee Han Boon, director, Innovation and Enterprise, A\*Star; Jonathan Yuen, head, commercial litigation & employment (disputes), Rajah & Tann; and Dennis Lee, partner & head of business consulting, RSM.



All finalists for the Emerging Enterprise Awards 2024. This is the second year that applications were opened to emerging businesses across the region. Over 650 applications from a broad mix of industries were received, more than 200 of which were from Hong Kong, Malaysia and Indonesia. A total of 30 companies were selected as finalists and the winners were decided by a panel of judges from established corporations.



Clockwise from front left: Tim Tee, executive director, serial entrepreneur segment, OCBC; Ben Teng, MD, Vector Green; Fred Tai, business development manager, Vector Green; Jody Dharmawan (husband of Jlynn Chen); Jlynn Chen, founder & CEO, The Powder Shampoo; Eric Ong, head of middle markets & services, head of SME embedded finance, OCBC; Shyan Phang, CEO, Sun Bus Tech; Peter Phang, general manager, Sun Bus Tech; Dexin Fu, relationship manager, serial entrepreneur segment, OCBC; Hor Kar Yan, relationship manager, serial entrepreneur segment, OCBC.



From left: Ampotech, William Temple, CEO & co-founder; BoxGreen, Walter Oh, co-founder; Life Lab Resources, Edward Chia, MD; Little Green Ranger, Kenneth Ong, founder; MLC Trading, Eric Wong, director; RushOwl Singapore, Ng Shin, co-founder and CEO; Olio Lifestyle International, Alex Teo, CEO & founder.



Emerging Enterprise Awards finalist Little Blossom's two co-founders, Kwek Yi Jun, (left) and Gillian Choo.



The awards finalists marching in. In front are HeyHi's Glenn Low, COO & co-founder (left), and Liu Yueh Mei, CEO & co-founder. Behind them are the directors from Kskin Management, Brian Ng (left), and Samuel Pei.



The Powder Shampoo family: Jlynn Chen (left), founder & CEO, with Julian (son), Rebecca Gan (mother), Reynna (daughter), and Jody Dharmawan (husband).

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