

## Annual AIBP Award Showcases ASEAN Retailers' Technology Projects to Drive Innovation

The AIBP Enterprise Innovation Awards recognises Southeast Asian organisations implementing technology-driven projects to digitally transform their business

## SINGAPORE, May 4, 2023

/EINPresswire.com/ -- 124 submissions from public and private organisations in Southeast Asia were received for the annual <u>ASEAN Innovation Business</u> <u>Platform (AIBP) Enterprise Innovation</u> <u>Awards</u> - out of which 47 projects were selected as finalists. This is the 7th year that awards are being given out to



regional organisations which take a technology-first approach towards innovation.

Unsurprisingly, almost a third of the projects involve some aspect of artificial intelligence (AI) or

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Irza Fauzan Suprapto

machine learning (ML). Many organisations in Southeast Asia, especially consumer facing businesses, have been exploring the use of AI/ML and the rise of generative AI in 2023 has opened up a range of questions around the utility of this technology.

Companies from the manufacturing and financial services segments continue to account for a large majority of the finalists (20 out of 47). Manufacturing is a key driver of Southeast Asia's economic growth, accounting for more than a fifth of total gross domestic product (GDP), while

financial services companies have always been at the forefront of technology investments.

The number of finalists from the retail segment more than doubled this year, with eight of them being shortlisted as finalists. This highlights the growing influence of the retail sector in the

region, especially in the face of challenges such as the recent bankruptcies of once-popular retailers like Bed Bath & Beyond and Toys "R" Us. The long lockdowns imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic also forced retail leaders to re-think their business operations.

The World Economic Forum estimates that ASEAN domestic consumption, which accounts for 60% of gross domestic product (GDP) today, is set to double to \$4 trillion by 2030.[1] This presents a significant opportunity for retailers in the region, who are already demonstrating their ability to keep up with the times. While digital native upstarts like Grab, GoTo, Bukalapak, Lazada and Shoppee have taken up mindshare of regional consumers over the past years, traditional retailers have been investing in technology to protect their turf. Some examples include:

2022 winner: SM Malls Online from the Philippines, which was setup to augment SM Supermalls, the largest mall chain operator in the country
2023 finalist: Big C from Thailand which launched its online shopping platform which has been optimized to provide an omnichannel presence to its customers

The 3rd installment of The Retail Revolution in ASEAN, a survey

## AIBP REPORTS Retail Revolution in ASEAN We surveyed 80 retailers in the ASEAN region...



## AIBP Report: Retail Revolution in ASEAN



Malaysia Minister of Science & Technology presenting the AIBP ASEAN Enterprise Innovation Award to Genting Malaysia

conducted by AIBP among retailers in the region, highlights this trend. The survey found that 72.6% of retailers believe that their stores would serve as a hub for brand and product experiences, showcasing the importance of creating an immersive and engaging customer experience. Additionally, the survey revealed that 71.2% of retailers were currently building omnichannel customer journeys, indicating a shift towards integrating digital and physical channels to provide a seamless customer experience. Notably, 53% of retailers found integrating

online and in-store experiences to be the most challenging aspect for their organizations. [2]

"This is the seventh consecutive year we're running the AIBP Enterprise Innovation Awards and we're encouraged by the increasing quantity and, more importantly, quality of projects being submitted. Governments in the region have been pushing for digitalisation to keep us economically competitive and we're seeing these policies come to fruition with the private sector, especially large enterprises, taking bold steps in modernizing their businesses to keep up with consumer needs. I believe that we will see small & medium enterprises follow suit." says Irza Fauzan Suprapto, CEO of the ASEAN Innovation Business Platform.

The finalists will be presenting their projects to a panel of judges made up of local and regional industry stakeholders between 16 May and 1 June 2023. Final scoring will be tabulated and the awards will be presented at the annual AIBP Conferences being held locally:

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: 4 - 5 July 2023, InterContinental Kuala Lumpur Manila, Philippines: 11 - 12 July 2023, Marriott Manila Jakarta, Indonesia: 19 - 20 September 2023, Ritz Carlton Mega Kuningan Bangkok, Thailand: 26 - 27 September 2023, Grand Hyatt Erawan

The 47 Finalists are: Astra Financial, Indonesia Bank Aladin Syariah Tbk, Indonesia PT Bank Mandiri (Persero) Tbk, Indonesia PT Bank CIMB Niaga Tbk, Indonesia PT Akebono Brake Astra Indonesia Jabar Digital Service, Indonesia PT HM Sampoerna Tbk, Indonesia PT. MAP Boga Adiperkasa, Tbk, Indonesia PT PLN (Persero), Indonesia Hong Leong Financial Group (HLFG), Malaysia RHB Bank Berhad, Malaysia PLUS Malaysia Berhad, Malaysia PETRONAS, Malaysia Sime Darby Plantation Berhad, Malaysia **IOI** Corporation Berhad, Malaysia PETRONAS Gas Berhad, Malaysia Top Glove Sdn Bhd, Malaysia Malaysian Communications & Multimedia Commission, Malaysia UEM Sunrise, Malaysia Sime Darby Auto Bavaria Sdn Bhd, Malaysia Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Malaysia Sarawak Energy Berhad, Malaysia Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI), Philippines mWell, Philippines

Megaworld Corporation, Philippines Ayala Property Management Corporation, Philippines Wilcon Depot, Inc., Philippines **MERALCO**, Philippines Aboitiz Data Innovation, Philippines PrimeWater Infrastructure Corporation, Philippines KASIKORN Business-Technology Group, Thailand CPF IT Center Co., Ltd. (AXONS), Thailand PTT Global Chemical Public Company Limited, Thailand Thai Union PCL, Thailand Phyathai-Paolo Hospital Group, Thailand Samitivej Public Company Limited, Thailand Asset World Corp, Thailand Big C Supercenter Public Company Limited, Thailand Central Food Retail, Thailand Central Restaurant Group, Thailand PTTDigital/PTTOR, Thailand True Digital Group, Thailand Gulf Energy Development Public Company Limited, Thailand **BIDV**, Vietnam MB Bank - Digital Banking Division, Vietnam Vietnam Prosperity Joint Stock Commercial Bank, Vietnam Vietnam Posts and Telecommunications Group, Vietnam

[1]

<u>https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF Future of Consumption in Fast Growth Consumer Mark ets ASEAN 2020.pdf</u>
[2] <u>https://aibp.iotbusiness-platform.com/media/leading-the-asean-retail-</u>evolution?page=%2Fretail&widget=643391a25d1e6c51f3aabac5

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