

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018

This year has been a mixed bag for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Singapore; the economy seems to be on a steady upward trend, but challenges still abound for businesses.

Uncertainty in the international front, the rise of e-commerce giants that challenge brick-and-mortar stores, and a possible dip in demand from China, are all reasons for concern. With the rate of change happening faster than ever before, SMEs can ill-afford to remain where they are.

To stay ahead of the pack, businesses need a sound strategy to build capability, go digital and expand overseas.

In this series, we talk to several forward-looking SMEs which are planning ahead for the future in order to make sure that they are able to capitalise on opportunities that come their way in 2018. Being small is no obstacle to them as they navigate their way forward with agility and boldness.



"The outlook for 2018 is guarded because of Singapore's strong currency and the improvement in the medical infrastructure of regional countries. We'll continue to improve on our service delivery, on top of refining our skills and expertise as medical experts in our fields."

– Dr Julian Tan, cardiologist,
Julian Tan Heart Specialist Clinic

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"Healthcare has always been a sector where we care for patients regardless of the dollars spent... We need to make sure that ethics are maintained, and the doctors are not pushed to work for guarantees to investors."

– Grace Chong-Tan,
CEO and co-founder, Smile Inc

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"We will definitely explore not just digital lifestyle, but also other aspects of lifestyle. This is my idea of expanding from a reseller business to one which occupies a central position in our customers' psyche."

– Kenneth Lim,
chairman, EpiCentre

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"People who join us must be at least graduates, because the research skill is important. In that way, we are also raising the bar of our field."

– Desmond Ng,
fengshui master,
Desmond Jason Academy

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