

Press Release
For immediate release

Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City achieves two significant milestones

- ***Groundbreaking of first Neighbourhood Centre at Start-Up Area to provide residents with one-stop social services and public amenities***
- ***Initiation of Ascendas-Singbridge International Launch Pad at Ascendas OneHub GKC to facilitate innovation***

24 March 2017, Guangzhou – Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City (SSGKC) celebrated two significant milestones yesterday, with the groundbreaking of the first Neighbourhood Centre (NC1) at the Start-Up Area and the initiation of the Ascendas-Singbridge International Launch Pad (ASB ILP), a platform that is designed to foster innovation, facilitate collaboration and business-to-business exchanges. The celebration was graced by Chairman of Ascendas-Singbridge Group, Mr. Wong Kan Seng, and was joined by Senior Management and Board of Directors of the group. Other attendees and guests include the Consul General of Singapore Consulate General in Guangzhou, Mr. Chua Teng Hoe; Deputy Director of Guangzhou Development District Administrative Committee, Mr. Sun Xuewei; Chairman of Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City Investment and Development Co., Ltd (GKC Co), Mr. Xu Hong Sheng; as well as representatives from the Guangzhou Development Zone Party Working Committee.

Exporting Singapore's community living concept

Located at the southern region of SSGKC's Start-Up Area, NC1 is the first of five Neighbourhood Centres to be constructed at the Start-Up Area. Occupying a land area of 18,000 sqm, and comprising gross floor area of 47,975 sqm, NC1 is expected to be completed in end 2018 and will be operational in 2019. The total investment amount for the Centre is estimated to be RMB230m.

Once NC1 has been completed, residents will enjoy easy and convenient access to comprehensive suite of commercial services, one-stop government services, and integrated community services. In terms of commercial services, there will be banks, supermarkets, post offices, food and beverage outlets, laundromats, hair salons, pharmacies, electrical repair shops, markets, and communication services providers available in NC1. NC1 will also be a one-stop government services hub in areas of social administration, employment, population and family planning, social security, justice administration, city planning and management, cultural and education, etc. Plans are also underway to construct a library, a small theatre, a multi-function hall and cultural activity centre to cater for the community's needs.

Incorporating community living concepts adopted from Singapore's nodal living model, such Neighbourhood Centre will be the focal point of community life, catering to residents' basic needs and daily activities, offering convenient access to services in commercial, culture, sports, healthcare, education, government and family services. Each of the five Neighbourhood Centres planned for SSGKC will serve approximately 6,000 to 8,000 households or 20,000 to 30,000 residents who live within a 1km radius from each centre. Taking a leaf from Singapore's immense township planning experience, such centres will help develop a vibrant community and enhance the attractiveness of the living environment in the SSGKC.

Mr. Sun Xuewei, Deputy Director of Guangzhou Development District Administrative Committee, commented: "The first Neighbourhood Centre at SSGKC combines the concept of covered walkways from Singapore, and the unique architectural features in Guangdong. This is a significant showcase of co-operation between Guangdong and Singapore. Guangzhou Development District and Ascendas-Singbridge Group will continue working closely to create a highly livable environment that will enhance the quality of life within SSGKC."

Initiation of Ascendas-Singbridge International Launch Pad

Ascendas-Singbridge yesterday also celebrated the initiation of the Ascendas-Singbridge International Launch Pad (ASB ILP) at Ascendas OneHub GKC. Leveraging Singapore's experience in cultivating a supportive ecosystem for businesses and start-ups, the ASB ILP comprises three main components: a premium business lounge that facilitates business exchanges through networking, casual discussions or formal meetings; an innovation centre that nurtures innovative enterprises offering digital and smart manufacturing services; as well as a collaboration centre that provides a comprehensive suite of business services such as business registration, access to accelerator and financial services, intellectual property rights commercialisation and protection, as well as marketing services. *(More details can be found in Appendix.)*

As a start, the ASB ILP will focus on attracting companies in the sectors of eServices, eMobility, eHealth and eNergy Management. Building on Ascendas-Singbridge's strengths in business parks and capitalising on its pan-Asia network, the ASB ILP will seed a cluster of start-up and growth companies within Ascendas OneHub GKC's rapidly growing business community that will catalyse economic growth and innovative ventures in Guangzhou.

The launch of ASB ILP marks another key milestone in the development of the SSGKC, which is progressively developing to become a model and catalyst for Guangdong's innovation drive and economic transformation.



Mrs. Nina Yang, Ascendas-Singbridge's CEO for Sustainable Urban Development, said: "The progress of development at SSGKC is taking place rapidly, and across all fronts. As the city of Guangzhou continues on its economic transformation, SSGKC, as a vibrant hub that appeals to global talent in the knowledge economy, will serve as a key enabler that facilitates the growth of new and innovative industries. This will continue to put the city on the world map as it drives the wheels of modernisation in China."

She added: "Guangzhou and Singapore are both strategic gateways along the maritime silk route outlined in China's 'One Belt, One Road' initiative. With SSGKC's status as the first and only platform to implement the proposed Comprehensive Intellectual Property Rights Reform Pilot programme in China, coupled with Singapore's drive towards building a global innovation alliance, we believe SSGKC holds great potential for the development of a healthy and vibrant ecosystem that is conducive for both Singapore and Chinese companies to flourish and thrive."

Continuing progress at the Sino-Singapore Joint Research Institute

As part of yesterday's programme, the guests also visited the Sino-Singapore International Joint Research Institute (SSIJRI) exhibition area at Ascendas OneHub GKC. SSIJRI, which was set up two years ago as a joint venture initiative between Nanyang Technological University of Singapore and the Southern China University of Technology, to focus on new technologies in five key areas, i.e. electro mobility, urban development and sustainability, food sciences, pollution control and environmental protection, as well as new biomaterials.

SSIJRI has received funding commitment of approximately RMB250m from governments of Guangzhou City and Guangzhou Development District. As part of its first phase development, three incubator platforms will be set up to cater for research and development activities in areas of food sciences, pollution control and environmental protection, as well as new biomaterials, respectively. To-date, there are 23 research projects in the pipeline, some of which have already filed for patent application and have promising potential for commercialisation. SSIJRI is currently in the process of evaluating and shortlisting these projects. Work is underway to set up a team of qualified research personnel, as well as to install all necessary research and development equipment before the centre commences operation in May.

With SSGKC expected to be a key driver of innovation and industry transformation in the Guangzhou region, SSIJRI will play an increasingly important role in spearheading this cause through its research and technology projects.



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For media queries, please contact:

Joyce Wee

Senior Manager, Group Communications

DID: +65 6508 8970

Email: joyce.wee@ascendas-singbridge.com

Jemaine Soh

Manager, Group Communications

DID: +65 508 8651

Email: jemaine.soh@ascendas-singbridge.com

About Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City (www.ssgkc.com)

Positioned as a model and catalyst for the economic upgrading and environmental enhancement of Guangdong, Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City (SSGKC) will lead in creating innovations, new ventures and high-value products and services; and in building a sustainable, low-carbon city.

With a total site area of 123 sq km, half of which will be preserved as forest, the remaining 60 sq km of land in SSGKC is expected to be developed in phases over the next 15-20 years.

SSGKC is located in the northeast of Guangzhou city, heart of Guangzhou Eastern Scenic New City. It is 25 km from Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport, merely a half-hour drive from the Guangzhou city centre. It will benefit from a convenient transportation network encompassing expressways, highways, metro lines as well as inter-city rail linking it to Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, downtown Guangzhou and major cities in the Pearl River Delta region.

About Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City Investment and Development Co., Ltd.

Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City Investment and Development Co., Ltd. (GKC Co) is a 50-50 joint venture company established by Singbridge, a member of Ascendas-Singbridge, and Guangzhou Development District Administrative Committee. GKC Co is the master developer of SSGKC – developing the 6.27 sq km Start-Up Area (SUA) as the first phase, and subsequently the rest of the 123 sq km SSGKC in stages.



About Ascendas-Singbridge Group (www.ascendas-singbridge.com)

Ascendas-Singbridge Group is Asia's leading sustainable urban and business space solutions provider. With the combined capabilities of Ascendas and Singbridge, the group is uniquely placed to undertake urbanisation projects spanning townships, mixed-use developments and business/industrial parks. Headquartered in Singapore, Ascendas-Singbridge has projects in 29 cities across 10 countries in Asia, including Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Singapore and South Korea.

Ascendas-Singbridge has a substantial interest in and also manages three Singapore-listed funds under its subsidiary Ascendas. Besides these listed funds – Ascendas Reit, Ascendas India Trust and Ascendas Hospitality Trust, Ascendas also manages a series of private real estate funds, which hold commercial and industrial assets across Asia.

Jointly owned by Temasek Holdings and JTC Corporation through a 51:49 partnership, Ascendas-Singbridge is the asset and investment holding arm of the integrated urban solutions platform formed by Temasek and JTC to capitalise on urbanisation trends in the region.

APPENDIX

Three Components of the Ascendas-Singbridge International Launch Pad

1. Premium Business Lobby

Situated at the natural cross roads of foot traffic within Ascendas OneHub GKC, the 650-sqm Premium Business Lobby will be an iconic hotspot for different users of the park including entrepreneurs, business representatives, mentors, academia from universities, researchers, venture capitalists and industry partners to meet and co-work, catering to the needs of the larger international business community to come together for a brief business engagement and network. The lobby is targeted to be launched in end-July 2017.

A human-centric design that seamlessly integrates different layouts cater to the needs of different user groups. These include waiting areas for guests, informal clusters for small-group discussions and larger layouts for bigger meetings. The flexible and movable configurations enable greater flexibility in creating space for events such as talks, networking and gatherings within the lobby. It also offers convenient access to a 4,200-sqm clubhouse with meeting and seminar facilities, exhibition spaces, gymnasium, swimming pool, recreational amenities and a 1,900-sqm canteen.

An enhanced IT setup will ensure users enjoy superb connectivity, complemented with apps that provide supporting services such as booking of space for meetings, reservation of amenities, ordering of food, among others.

2. Innovation Centre

Responding to China's ambitious vision of Made in China 2025 to upgrade its manufacturing sector, the ASB ILP's Innovation Centre provides a landing platform for Singapore and international technology companies with innovative solutions for smart manufacturing services to set up shop within SSGKC. The Innovation Centre builds on Ascendas-Singbridge's experience in building innovation platforms in Singapore through partnerships, which include AIRmaker in collaboration with SG Innovate and China's Runyang Group, and The Hangar in Singapore Science Park, a partnership with NUS Enterprise. To be launched in end-May 2017, the 600-sqm Innovation Centre will have a demonstration gallery, meeting rooms, collaborative spaces and private work areas that will bring more Chinese and international start-ups into SSGKC's growing ecosystem.

3. Collaboration Centre

Beyond physical space, Ascendas-Singbridge will set up a specialised unit to curate the space within the ASB ILP, seed and shape the innovation ecosystem through forging strategic partnerships, managing the programmes, serving the tenants, organising and coordinating activities that build a vibrant and interactive community. Services provided through this Collaboration Centre will include assistance to Chinese start-ups expanding into Singapore and Southeast Asia, and connecting foreign start-ups to markets and potential partners in China, taking care of all their needs so they can focus on innovation and research. It will also collaborate with Singapore Centre to provide incoming companies with investment consultancy, government facilitation, business matching, as well as company incorporation and set-up services. Companies which choose to locate in ASB ILP can also enjoy supporting services in the areas of financial services, intellectual property rights commercialisation and protection, as well as marketing.