

# Behind the Enterprise 50 Awards' storied past

This year marks 26 years since the Enterprise 50 (E50) Awards were established in 1995 as the first for small and medium-sized companies in Singapore. Here are some highlights along its path to becoming a sought-after mark of recognition. **BY THE BUSINESS TIMES**

More than  
**600**  
companies

have been recognised by the awards to date.



12 of the Supertrees at Gardens by the Bay were built by **Expand Construction** for **S\$57 million** in 2011.

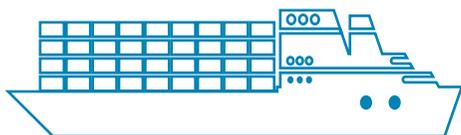
*The Supertrees were considered a construction feat then, rising as tall as a 16-storey building.*

Over  
**140** E50 winners

have gone on to list on both local and overseas stock markets

Including:

- Hyphens Pharma
- ValueMax Group
- Sunningdale Tech (to delist on Apr 20)
- Koufu Group
- Osim International (delisted)
- Challenger Technologies



**US\$1.63 billion**

was how much Dubai Drydocks World paid for **Labroy Marine** in 2007, in what is said to be the biggest known buyout of an E50 winner. Founded in 1980 by Tan Boy Tee and Chan Kwan Bian, Labroy listed in 1996. It operated a shipyard and owned a fleet of vessels.

The first locally designed and built bus was the SC Neustar launched by **SC Auto** in 2018.



*The bus cost S\$6 million to develop, and is said to be lighter than the average passenger bus, to offer fuel savings.*

**8 leaders** of E50 winners have also been named Businessman of the Year in the Singapore Business Awards

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1 Forrest Li</b><br>Garena Online (now part of Sea) | <b>5 Ron Sim</b><br>Osime International                                      |
| <b>2 Sam Goi</b><br>Tee Yih Jia Group                  | <b>6 Goh Lik Tuan</b><br>GES International (now part of Venture Corporation) |
| <b>3 John Chuang</b><br>Petra Foods (now Delfi)        | <b>7 Tommie Goh</b><br>JIT Holdings (now part of Flex)                       |
| <b>4 Roland Ng</b><br>Tat Hong Holdings                | <b>8 Kartar Singh Thakral</b><br>Thakral Corporation                         |

**6 leaders** of E50 companies are currently among Singapore's 50 richest people, according to Forbes.

**Forrest Li**  
Sea



Net worth:  
**US\$7.1b**

**Sam Goi**  
Tee Yih Jia Group



Net worth:  
**US\$1.9b**

**Ron Sim**  
Osime International



Net worth:  
**US\$1.3b**

**Lim Chap Huat**  
Soilbuild Group Hldgs



Net worth:  
**US\$890m**

**Tan Boy Tee**  
Labroy Marine



Net worth:  
**US\$675m**

**Yao Hsiao Tung**  
Hi-P International



Net worth:  
**US\$665m**

