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# SIT, SMF ink pact to upgrade manufacturing manpower capabilities

**By Mindy Tan**

[tanmindy@sph.com.sg](mailto:tanmindy@sph.com.sg)

@MindyTanBT

Singapore

THE Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) and the Singapore Manufacturing Federation (SMF) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to enhance SIT students' career opportunities and upgrade manpower capabilities in the manufacturing sector.

Under the terms of the MOU, SMF will provide more opportunities through SIT's Integrated Work Study Programme (IWSP). This will be in the form of increased IWSP opportunities in 10 companies under SMF's umbrella. In addition, SMF will extend 10 positions in its Business Immersion Programme for SIT students.

SIT has also agreed to partner SMF to identify gaps in national manpower skills in the manufacturing industry and to collaborate on productivity enhancement projects.

"There is a need to be more focused on applied learning and technical skills," said Douglas Foo, SMF president. "Through this MOU, we will facilitate better alignment of the supply of and demand for skills in the manufacturing sector, and will also help to draw in new talents to the industry."

SIT has actively engaged the various associations and federations in Singapore to reach out to its members. In November last year, it signed an MOU with the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (ASME) to boost the technology and management capabilities of Singapore's SMEs.