

**Underwater World Singapore is first Oceanarium in Asia to feature ROVs  
(Remotely Operated Vehicles) used in marine research**

*Singapore, 21 May 2008* – Visitors to Underwater World Singapore (UWS) can now add more adventure to their trip by doubling up as deep sea explorers, without getting a drop of water on themselves! As part of its continuing efforts to introduce more exciting and interactive oceanarium experiences to its visitors, UWS has launched the Ocean Invaders, which are remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) for its latest mid year display, making it Asia's first oceanarium to do so.

Submersible ROVs are largely used for underwater filming and scientific studies of marine life in waters that are unsafe for researchers to dive into. Its other uses include search and rescue in the ocean and conducting offshore surveys and inspections of ships, oil rigs and pipelines. In parts of the United States, ROVs are used to ensure port, ship and bridge security through underwater inspection. In the context of marine aquaculture, however, ROVs come in handy in the inspection of fish cages and clam beds.

Equipped with lights, propellers and a video camera, the Ocean Invader at UWS is one of the lightest remotely operated vehicles (ROV) in the world and weighs only 3.5 kg. It does not travel too fast nor produce bubbles that would scare fish. While exploring, visitors can get a close-up view of the fishes on a television screen fitted near the ROV console.

Dr Jeffrey Mahon, Curatorial Director of UWS commenting on the rationale behind launching the Ocean Invaders, "ROVs are very versatile tools that are used for fisheries research, archaeology, industrial inspections, and many other applications. We want our guests to thoroughly immerse themselves in this amazing technology, and let them see how adaptive and exciting it can be."

Mr Kwek Meng Tiam, General Manager of Underwater World Singapore commenting on the launch of the Ocean Invader, "At UWS, we constantly introduce new and unique exhibits to enhance the experience of every visitor. This time around, we want to take it a step further by educating our guests on diving and the marine world without them getting wet! Exhibits such as these bring forth creativity, imagination and appreciation for aquatic life among visitors of all ages".

### **School Holidays Promotion**

In conjunction with the school holidays, Underwater World Singapore is pleased to offer a special price of \$13.90 for adult and \$8.90 for child admission tickets during the period of 24 May 2008 to 22 June 2008 (both dates inclusive). This rate, which represents 30% discount off published rates, is valid only for Singapore citizens, permanent residents and holders of employment passes, workers' permits and dependants' passes.

### **About Underwater World Singapore**

Underwater World Singapore is a wholly owned subsidiary of Haw Par Corporation Limited. Situated on Sentosa Island, this leisure and educational attraction showcases the rich variety of marine life to be found around the region, with educational and recreational activities available here.

The Dolphin Lagoon, an attraction of Underwater World Singapore houses the Indo-Pacific Humpbacked Dolphins, commonly known as pink dolphins for its coat of "bubbly" pink in contrast to the usual grey appearance of dolphins. At the "Meet-the-Dolphin" sessions, visitors can enjoy a close encounter with these adorable pink creatures.

At Underwater World Singapore, our mission goes beyond making our guests aware of the fascinating marine life. Our commitment to marine conservation and environmental awareness is demonstrated through our work in public education, breeding, rescue and rehabilitation and research. Underwater World Singapore reinforces its environmental efforts through educational exhibits and a variety of education programmes to children and other guests. School visits are actively supported, and a number of new educational programmes are planned. Underwater World Singapore has also been very active in providing special activities and assistance to the physically and mentally disabled.

### **For more information, please contact any of the following:**

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