



Citi Microentrepreneurship awards. As part of the follow-on activities to the 2016 Citi Microentrepreneurship Awards (CMA), the University of the Philippines Institute for Small-Scale Industries (UP ISSI) recently held the CMA – Microenterprise Management & Development Program, a five-day event that brought together business management and finance mentors and the CMA winners, where practical insights on entrepreneurship and personal finance were imparted to participants. The annual CMA is a joint undertaking of Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Citi Philippines, and Microfinance Council of the Philippines (MCPI), and funded by Citi Foundation. Photo shows the CMA winners and UP ISSI officials and instructors with (seated from left) MCPI finance and administration manager Aileen Paglinawan, UP Diliman Chancellor and CMA National Selection Committee member Dr. Michael Tan, and Citi Philippines Public Affairs and Corporate Citizenship director Aneth Lim.

Conduent appoints new CEO for PH

CONDUENT Inc., leading business services provider, has named Jojo Gajitos as chief executive officer for all of Conduent's operations in the Philippines.

Previously the country leader of Conduent's operations in the Philippines (formerly Xerox Business Services), Gajitos will assume greater responsibility in his new role for the overall management and direction of Conduent's activities in the Philippines.

Conduent operations in the Philippines include 8,000 employees, are based in Metro Manila and Cebu City, and are engaged in a range of activities including finance and accounting services,



GAJITOS

human resource services, transaction processing and customer experience services.



Korean treat. Citi cardholders will enjoy a Bibimbabowl surprise when they dine at any Bonchon store from now until Oct. 31, 2017. With a food and drinks bill of P1,500 or more, payment with a Citi credit card or debit card entitles the cardholder to a free Bibimbabowl. This promo is available for both dine-in or take-away transactions.

Resto reservation app now in PH

EATIGO, Southeast Asia's leading restaurant reservations platform, is now in the Philippines.

TripAdvisor-backed Eatigo, which raised \$15.5 million in funding to date, aims to connect empty tables with empty stomachs and offers discounts that go as high as 50 percent throughout the day in its partner restaurants.

Eatigo allows diners to make fuss-free reservations at more than 2,000 restaurants across Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, India, and the Philippines.

As part of its expansion strategy, Eatigo aims to leverage the growing eating out

trend dictated by the "on the go" lifestyle of most Filipinos.

Eatigo's entry to the Philippines complements this trend by boosting the dine out generation with great choices, pleasant dining experience and bills that do not break the bank.

Having seated more than 5 million diners in the region, Eatigo addresses an issue all food establishments face - the challenge of empty seats during their off-peak hours.

By utilizing yield management via time-based discounting, Eatigo is able to help restaurants shift demand and shape traffic in a way that maximizes their capacity

and increases their profitability.

This has attracted hundreds of restaurants to partner with Eatigo Philippines within its first month of operations in the country - from your favorite hole in the wall joints like Sweet Ecstasy to big brands like CIBO and Ramen Nagi to premium establishments like Heat at EDSA Shangri-la Hotel Manila and Food Exchange at Novotel Araneta Center Cubao.

Diners, on the other hand, will enjoy a fuss-free reservation process and discounts that go as high as 50 percent at selected times of the day with Eatigo partner restaurants. The

process is seamless and does not require any form of prepayment, vouchers, coupons, or subscriptions.

"I am glad that we have finally launched in the Philippines and I am proud to note that Metro Manila had one of the strongest launches in Eatigo's history, being on track to seat well over 100,000 diners in our first month. After just one week, Eatigo has become the number 1 ranked app in the food and drink category in the Philippines for both the App Store and Play Store," said Michael Cluzel, co-founder and chief executive officer of Eatigo.

Industries urged to switch to HEMS

THE Department of Energy has installed a private sector-initiated project, Switch to High Efficiency Motors and Drive Systems (HEMs) that is funded by the European Union's Switch Asia Program.

The HEMs project encourages industries to replace their old and inefficient electric motors with high efficiency motors (HEMs) and drive systems, and reap electricity savings and better operational outcomes immediately and over the long term.

By switching to HEMs, businesses are given the opportunity to reduce operating costs, while reducing environmental impacts.

The HEMs project is currently working with sugar mills, cement manufacturers, water utilities, food processors, and SMEs in transitioning to high efficiency motors, and gain a first hand experience of its benefits.

The department's commitment to drive the industries' adaptation of HEMs is followed by identifying means to ease the switch to HEMs and encourage investment by creating 'green financing' products developed through consultations and partnerships with



Switch to HEMs project is working with energy service companies and providers to enhance their capacity in helping companies to adopt HEMs.

local banks.

To date, a number of banks, such as BPI, DBP, LAND-BANK, and PNB have participated in the project and joined the energy efficiency campaign.

To sustain the switch to high efficiency motors, the DOE in

partnership with the Bureau of Philippine Standards has also laid the ground work for the country to adopt a minimum efficiency performance standard (MEPS) for electric motors, a policy instrument that is already followed by many developed and develop-

ing countries.

The policy will set minimum efficiency levels for electric motors that can be manufactured or imported in the country.

In this regard, BPS is deliberating the adoption of international standards to serve as basis for MEPS for electric motors.

Partnership to support 200 culinary scholars

THE Center for Culinary Arts' (CCA Manila) social advocacy arm Culinary Education Foundation (CEF) has partnered with the Rotary Club of Sto. Domingo Quezon City, and the Rotary International District 3780 to provide vocational scholarship to 200 beneficiaries including indigent youth.

Considered the first partnership of its kind by the Rotary Club, the civic organization has committed to provide funding for the project through its network of 101 Rotary Clubs in Quezon City. The organization will also select the candidates to the program, where at least 200 indigent high school graduates from Quezon City and nearby communities shall benefit.

CEF's culinary program will last for 18 to 20 weeks. It shall include theory, hands-on and practicum. The scholars will then be assessed for TESDA's NC II Cookery certification and may be employed in The Cravings Group's restaurants, hotels and schools, according to Dr. Ma. Veritas Luna, Chancellor of Education of CCA Manila and the immediate past president of Rotary Club of Sto Domingo, who is also the program head of the CEF Cooking for Life Program.

"We are extremely excited to embark into a partnership with the Rotary Club of Sto Domingo, led by its president, Johnny So, and the Rotary Club D3780. Over the past 15 years, the CEF has catered to hundreds of scholars from diverse background and has provided the



Johnny So (center) receives a Certificate of Recognition as club president for 2017-18 from immediate past president Tawie Luna. They are joined by past presidents (from left) Virgie Fojas, Richard Yu and Marvin Macatol.

necessary skills to out-of-school youth, mothers and underprivileged members of society to work for or build their own food businesses. As the restaurant sector continues to grow, there are huge opportunities awaiting the 200 scholars within The Cravings Group and in the industry once the needed skills and experiences are gained through the program," said Susana P. Guerrero, President of The Cravings Group and founder of CEF.

"Through the scholarship project with CEF, the Rotary Club recognizes the role played by culinary and hospitality professionals in our community. The scholarship will allow the underprivileged members of society to discover their talents in culinary arts and use this vocation to build a better life," said Chito Borromeo, Governor of Rotary Club's 2017-2018 District 3780 which covers Quezon City.

RESTAURANT ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE

AUGUST 12, 2017
MARCO POLO HOTEL, ORTIGAS



Elegant Pilipinas. For the third consecutive year, Diamond Hotel Philippines partners with the "The Elegant Pilipinas, TingTing's List" to be held at the hotel's Diamond Ballroom on Sept. 13, 2017. TingTing Cojuangco, once Harper's Bazaar 100 Most Beautiful Women in the World for their 100th anniversary and once Philippines Hall of Famer Best Dressed, will present awards during the event to chosen women who exemplify elegance and their contribution to society. One of the country's outstanding fashion designers Albert Andrada will be showcasing his collection. Proceeds raised during this event will be for the benefit of Center for Possibilities Foundation for special children. Her co-chair are consul-general Fortune Ledesma of Monaco and Zelda Kienle, co-founder of Philux Fix. (From left) Melanie Pallorina, public relations manager of Diamond Hotel; Ledesma; Vanessa Ledesma Suatengco, general manager of Diamond Hotel; Cojuangco; and Kienle.

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