

## RGE Chairman Sukanto Tanoto Addresses Wharton Students in Asia for Course on Sustainable Growth in ASEAN

SINGAPORE, May 27, 2015 – RGE welcomed about 50 EMBA and MBA students from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania as they commenced their 5-day visit to Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia as part of their Global Modular Course on 'Sustainable Growth in ASEAN'.



RGE Chairman, Sukanto Tanoto, addresses visiting Wharton students

Addressing the students in Singapore on May 25 as keynote speaker, RGE's Founder and Chairman Sukanto Tanoto spoke about how he scaled and diversified his businesses, which now occupy strategic points in the resource-based manufacturing value chain.

With almost 50 years of successful entrepreneur experience under his belt, Mr Tanoto shared candidly about his journey as an entrepreneur, including how he survived the Asian Financial Crisis in the late 1990s, and sought to diversify his business after the crisis. He cited building diverse teams with multiple skill sets, focusing on technology and innovation, and creating shared value and the "3C" values, as success factors that underpin each of RGE's business groups.

"We continue to embrace the 3Cs in everything we do: Good for Community, Good for Country, Good for Company. If we do what is good for the community and country, the company will benefit," said Mr Tanoto.

The 3Cs are evident in his companies' work, which includes creating direct and indirect employment, partnering and empowering smallholders, developing the communities and infrastructure in its areas of operations, and implementing state-of-the art technologies for sustainability and competitive advantage.

Mr Tanoto is also a known philanthropist who founded the Tanoto Foundation in 2001. It is under the auspices of the Tanoto Initiative with the School of Wharton, which seeks to promote studies and research on ASEAN with a focus on Indonesia, that the students will be spending two days in Pangkalan Kerinci later this week. They will be joined by some undergraduates from the Singapore Management University (SMU), Wharton's local partner for the course.

Pangkalan Kerinci, located in Riau province of Sumatra, Indonesia, houses RGE's key pulp and paper and palm oil operations. The Wharton-SMU delegation will visit the company's world-class facilities, and learn about the rural communities it supports, as well as the sustainability practices embedded in its operations.

## About RGE

<u>Royal Golden Eagle (RGE)</u> manages a global group of companies in the resource-based manufacturing industry. The companies occupy strategic positions in the pulp and paper (APRIL, Asia Symbol), palm oil (Asian Agri, Apical), specialty cellulose (Bracell), viscose staple fibre (Sateri) and energy resource development (Pacific Oil & Gas) markets.

The combined assets held by the group of companies exceed US\$ 15 billion. With more than 50,000 employees, RGE has operations in Indonesia, China and Brazil, and corporate offices in Singapore, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Beijing and Nanjing.

RGE was founded in 1973 as RGM by prominent businessman and philanthropist <u>Sukanto</u> <u>Tanoto</u>. Mr Tanoto is known for his business acumen and pioneering success in the resourcebased industry in Indonesia. Under his <u>leadership</u>, the RGE group of companies remains at the forefront of the industry with its multi-cultural teams, robust sustainability programmes, fruitful smallholder partnerships, strong community development initiatives, and emphasis on innovation and forward-looking technologies.

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