




## Graduation from the Training Programme on Productivity Consultancy

In 2012, SPRING Singapore partnered with the Japan Productivity Center (JPC) to develop the Training Programme on Productivity Consultancy (with Emphasis on Retail and Food Services), customized for the Singapore context. The JPC conducted the first session of the program from November 2012 to August 2013, and 18 consultants successfully completed it.

The graduation ceremony for the program was held on 30 August and officiated by Senior Minister of State for Trade & Industry and National Development Lee Yi Shyan. Some 70 guests, including representatives from the JPC, Embassy of Japan, local partners of SPRING Singapore, companies participating in the training program, and the media, were present at the event. The representatives from the JPC attended as part of the APO's Bilateral Cooperation Between NPOs Program.

During the ceremony, Senior Minister Lee emphasized the importance of consultants in accelerating the productivity journey of companies, as demonstrated in countries like Japan, the ROK, and ROC. Graduate George Wong Hock shared the best practices in productivity for retail and food service companies as experienced during the training program. CEO Tey Soon Heng of the participating company Spring Maternity described how the enterprise had benefited from the work of consultants.

Subsequent sessions of the training program will be administered by the recently established Singapore Productivity Centre. It will train another 50 consultants in the next three years to meet the needs of retail and food service companies in Singapore. 



*Guest of honor Minister Lee (center, seated); SPRING Chief Executive Tan Kai Hoe (3rd L, seated); JPC President Masayoshi Matsukawa (5th L, seated); and graduates.*

### About the consultancy training program

The nine-month course comprised both classroom sessions and consulting practice in selected local retail and food service companies. It included a week-long study mission to Tokyo, where trainees observed the best practices of retail and food services in Japan to complement their learning in Singapore. The curriculum included modules on productivity gap analysis, change management, productivity implementation and control, and sector-specific management techniques in retail and food service.