

Five young businessmen from CACCI member countries – two from the Philippines, one from Russia, and two from Sri Lanka - have been short-listed for this year's 3rd Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Award. The five received the highest scores from among a total of 12 nominees.

The short-listed finalists include the following:

Mr. Edgar Sia II (Philippines)



Mr. Edgar "Injap" SIA II, 33 years old, is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of MANG INASAL PHILIPPINES, INC., a barbecue fast food chain, which owns 211 branches and employs over 6,000 workers in the Philippines.

Growing up in a family of entrepreneurs, Mr. Sia has considerable entrepreneurial experience since his early twenties. In 1997, he put up a photo-developing center; in 1998, he established the Four-Season Hotel; and then in 1999, he set up a laundry shop. In December 2003, he opened his first MANG INASAL outlet in Iloilo City.

As a young and successful businessman, Mr. Sia has been recognized by the following awards: Galing Ilonggo from Iloilo Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Creative Young Entrepreneur (National Awardee) from Jaycees, Most Inspiring Ilonggo Entrepreneur from Go Negosyo, Top Individual Taxpayer in Iloilo City Award from BIR and

Five Young Businessmen Short-listed for the 3rd Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Award

the City of Iloilo, Urban Leadership Award from Canadian Urban Institute and 2009 Agora Awardee for Entrepreneurship (Large Scale).

Mr. Jose Victor Paterno (Philippines)



Mr. Jose Victor Paterno is President and CEO of Philippine Seven Corporation (PSC). The 42-year-old entrepreneur is concurrently President and Director of Convenience Distribution, Inc. and Director of Electronic Commerce Payment (EC Pay) Network, Inc.

Mr. Paterno is also active in social activities. He is Vice President of Internal Affairs and Good Governance, Philippine Franchise Association, Board Co-Chair (Retailer) of ECR Philippines, and a member of Management Association of the Philippines, Makati Business Club and Young Presidents Organization.

Apart from being the President of PSC, Mr. Paterno initiated the founding of the PhilSeven Foundation, which is the corporate social responsibility arm of PSC. The projects carried out by the Foundation include Relief Operations (for Typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng victims), School Supplies Distribution and Bantay Bata Coin Bank Support.

Mr. Oleg Pokusaev (Russia)



Mr. Oleg Pokusaev, 25 years old, set up his own company, New Line LLC, in 2005 and served as General Manager of the IT company from 2005-2007. Currently, Mr. Pokusaev is heading the Board of Founders of the company. Under his leadership, New Line LLC has successfully received all the basic licenses and permit documents from official authorities in Russia.

Apart from his business, Mr. Pokusaev is also active in taking part in social activities. Since 2006, he has chaired the Training and Research Center of Corporate Financial Management of Higher Transportation Business School of the Moscow State University of Railway Transport (MIIT). He is also the Head of Student Union of the MIIT. In addition, Mr. Pokusaev manages education projects for the Department of Corporate Finance and the Department of Personnel Management of the JSC "Russian Railways". From 2006-2009, he joined various internships in Germany and England on finance and management.

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The New Line LLC is implementing a number of social projects as well, including organization of “New Spring”, the annual children’s sports and creative festival, in Kievskiy Village in Moscow, conducting of “The Best Student’s Family”, an annual competition for the families of university students in Moscow, organization of the annual trip of Moscow’s young people to the Elnya City in Smolenskiy and to places of battles of the 6th Division of the National Citizens-in-Arms army within the patriotic upbringing of youth.

In 2008, Mr. Pokusaev was awarded with a Grant of the Moscow North-East Region Head of Administration for outstanding achievements in the field of entrepreneurship and management. In 2009, he was invited to the talent pool of the President of Russia, which included 500 of the best young managers of the country.

Mr. Ruwan Edirisinghe (Sri Lanka)



Mr. Edirisinghe is Chairman/Managing Director of RN Constructions (Pvt.) Ltd which wins the recognition of ISO 9001:2000 Certification. He is currently 44 years old.

Despite his business, Mr. Edirisinghe is also devoted to social services, including the offer of scholarships for school and university students, assistance in community development projects and providing of raining facilities for students of universities and technical institutes. He was therefore recognized and awarded with “Honor of Desamanya”, the best

citizen recognition by the Sri Lanka Vishva Samadhi Padanama, for his social services in 2008.

Mr. Edirisinghe was winner of several awards from 2005-2009. Among them are National Gold Award for Sri Lankan Entrepreneur of the year 2007, National Platinum Award for Sri Lankan Entrepreneur of the year 2008 (The best Entrepreneur of the year 2008), Provincial Gold Award for Sri Lankan Entrepreneur of the year 2008, National Gold Award for “Achiever of Industrial Excellence-2008” and National Silver Award for “Achiever of Industrial Excellence-2009”.

Mr. Nayana D P Dehigama (Sri Lanka)



Mr. Dehigama is Chairman/Managing Director of Epic Lanka Technologies (Pvt.) Ltd. He is an active member of the Chamber of Young Lanka Entrepreneurs (COYLE). Currently, Mr. Dehigama is studying for his doctoral degree at the School of Management at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Thailand.

As a well-known patriotic entrepreneur, Mr. Dehigama is actively engaged in social activities where he mentors deserving entrepreneurs from rural Sri Lanka. Besides his involvement as the immediate Past President of Kingswood Union Colombo Branch, he acts as the psychological skills trainer of Kingswood rugby team.

Mr. Dehigama believes that the university-industry partnership is essential for a nation to succeed, so his company maintains close relations with over six national universities in Sri Lanka regarding cooperation on joint R & D, technology transfer student placements and promoting innovations, among others. His company also

funded and maintains a fully pledged computer training center at a temple in the outskirts of Colombo for school children and adults to receive free IT training monthly.

He is in advisory boards and policy development committees of several state organizations and associations. He is a member of the Advisory Committee on SME policy appointed by the Ministry of Enterprise Development and Investment Promotions, as well as a member of the Executive Council of the Sri Lanka Association for the Software Industry (SLASI).

Mr. Dehigama won the Sri Lankan Entrepreneur of the Year 2008 – Silver Award and also the Entrepreneur of the Year 2008 – Silver Award for Western Province in the Extra Large Category. He was felicitated by the COYLE with the “Achievers’ Award” in 2006 and 2008. The Malaysia Sri Lanka Business Council also recognized his achievements and contribution by awarding the Best Entrepreneur – Gold Award which he secured for two consecutive years in 2007 and 2008. He also received the Outstanding Achievers Award in 2009 at the Sri Lanka Malaysia Business Awards.

Final Selection Process

The five short-listed finalists have been invited to Colombo for the final selection process to be held in conjunction with the 24th CACCI Conference. The final judging is scheduled on the morning of July 5.

Members of the Board of Judges will interview the short-listed nominees to obtain additional information or seek clarification on their achievements. Prior to the interview, each of the shortlisted nominees will be given at most 5 minutes to make a summary presentation of the Chamber’s achievements in each of the agreed criteria, and another 10 minutes to answer questions from the Board of Judges.

The final winner will be announced during the Gala Dinner of the 24th CACCI on July 6, 2010