



## **ASEAN's Largest Online Community Portal to connect Data Protection Officers and Professionals launched by Straits Interactive**

***Amongst other resources, sections of the Portal cover data protection in the context of COVID-19 as well as the region's most comprehensive news portal about data protection developments and breaches***

Singapore, 9 April 2020 - Straits Interactive today announced ASEAN's largest online community portal to connect Data Protection Officers and Professionals.

Highlights of the Data Protection Excellence (DPEX) Network portal include extensive information about data protection in the context of COVID-19, as well as a news section focussing on data protection developments and breaches in the ASEAN region.

"We accelerated the launch of the DPEX Network Portal to cater to the current COVID-19 lockdown restrictions being experienced by our community of data privacy professionals. Our partners, customers, students and other members of the public aspiring to learn about data protection will be able to participate in this community effort to enhance their data protection competencies. The DPEX Network aims to provide thought leadership, best practices, training, research and support for all things around data protection from an operational perspective.", said Kevin Shepherdson, CEO, Straits Interactive.

The new DPEX Network portal also features courses delivered jointly or in partnership with accreditation partners such as the Open Compliance and Ethics Group (OCEG), Exin, the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP), Singapore Management University (SMU) through its SMU Academy, the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) and De La Salle University (DLSU) of the Philippines.

Data protection courses offered by other DPEX Network-member universities that will be available soon include those offered by the National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA) of Thailand and Telkom University of Indonesia.

Other sections include blogs with data protection tips and featured data protection professionals; there are also useful resources about developing and implementing data protection management programmes, including links to relevant local service providers.

Individuals who sign up as a members of the DPEX Network will be able to:

- Access information about online / in-person courses and view their past training records
- Join and participate in discussion forums on a range of data protection topics, including 'hot topics' in times of change (e.g. the current COVID-19 situation)
- Gain access to data protection research and video resources
- Receive value-added data protection updates from around the ASEAN region

Data protection courses shown in the DPEX Network portal are all available online during the COVID-19 restrictions. After those restrictions have been lifted by the authorities, courses will be offered in both face-to-face and online modes. More site information can be found at <http://www.dpexnetwork.org>

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### **About Straits Interactive**

Straits Interactive delivers end-to-end governance, risk and compliance solutions that enable trusted business and responsible marketing, especially in the area of data privacy and protection. Recently Data Protection Trustmark (DPTM) certified, we help businesses achieve operational compliance and manage risks through a combination of cloud technology and professional services. Our quest for innovation has led to us being recognised and awarded Intercon's Top 50 Tech Companies (in recognition of the company's contribution to technology) and APAC Business Headlines' Company of the Year, 2019. Our software-as-a-service solutions include DPOinBOX and Governance, Risk & Compliance System (GRACIAs), all of which are supported by professional services that include advisory services, audits, and training. More information about the company can be found on [www.straitsinteractive.com](http://www.straitsinteractive.com).

### **About the Data Protection Excellence (DPEX) Network**

The Data Protection Excellence (DPEX) Network is the first of its kind facility in the ASEAN region whose aim is to provide leadership, best practices, training, research and support for all things surround data privacy from an operational perspective. This collaboration of partnerships comprise accreditation bodies, law firms, universities and organisations who provide professional services and technologies relating to data privacy. An ever-growing network, members currently include Straits Interactive, Singapore Management University, International Islamic University of Malaysia, De LaSalle University, Philippines, IAPP, EXIN, OCEG and Lexxion amongst others. More information about DPEX Network can be found at [www.dpexnetwork.org](http://www.dpexnetwork.org)

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