



## **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Straits Interactive and OCEG launch Proficiency Certificate in Data Protection and GRC as well as Practitioner Certificate in GRC using COVID-19 as case study**

#### ***New courses are part of a roadmap towards internationally- recognised professional certification in Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC)***

Singapore, 27 April 2020 - Straits Interactive and the global non-profit think tank, OCEG, today announced two new proficiency certificates relating to governance, risk and compliance (GRC). Graduates of these courses have the option to pursue international certification with OCEG as Governance, Risk & Compliance Professionals (GRCP), which is an internationally-recognised certification.

The OCEG certificate “Proficiency Certificate in Data Protection & GRC” will be awarded to all successful graduates of Straits Interactive’s popular Data Protection Officer Hands-on course in Singapore as well as its Data Protection and Cybersecurity courses in the ASEAN region.

The OCEG “Practitioner Certificate in GRC” course will be part of a new “GRC Hands-On” course offered jointly by the Singapore Management University’s SMU Academy and Straits Interactive. This is targeted at professionals interested in applying GRC from a practical perspective in their organisations or learning about it for career development. The course will include a hands-on project that will see participants applying GRC concepts to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Kevin Shepherdson, CEO, Straits Interactive said, “We are pleased to partner with OCEG, which has recognised our international expertise in data protection. Data Protection compliance is a microcosm of an organisation’s overall GRC efforts, concentrating on the personal data protection aspects of the organisation’s overall business. Those pursuing their qualifications in data protection now have an additional avenue to broaden their knowledge about governing personal data through our new GRC Hands-On course and, through OCEG’s popular GRCP certification, can acquire valuable knowledge about governance, risk and compliance.”

With this new announcement, data protection officers or professionals taking courses through Straits Interactive’s DPEX (Data Protection Excellence) Network now have three roadmaps to further their data protection competencies:

- *Academic Adult Learning route:* Advanced Certificates in Data Protection Operational Excellence and Data Protection Principles leading to an Advanced Diploma ( for example, with SMU Academy)

- *Specialised professional certification route* through the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP), such as the Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM), Certified Information Privacy Technologist (CIPT), Certified Information Privacy Professional Asia and Europe (CIPP/A and CIPP/E)
- *GRC route with OCEG*, which includes the Practitioner Certificate in GRC and the Governance Risk & Compliance Professional Certificate (GRCP)

Carole Stern Switzer, Esq. Co-Founder and President of OCEG said, “Partnering with Straits Interactive, the leading data protection specialist in the ASEAN region where data protection laws are relatively new, allows us to extend the importance of GRC to the area of data protection. As the international authority on GRC and issuer of the GRC Capability Model, OCEG is pleased to form this partnership to complement our international efforts of integrating GRC in organisations through our GRCP certification.”

In Singapore, government training grants are available for these two new courses. For more information, please visit [dpexnetwork.org](http://dpexnetwork.org) for more information.

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## **About OCEG**

OCEG is a non-profit think tank dedicated to achieving a world where every organization and every person strives to achieve objectives, address uncertainty and act with integrity. This approach to business, and to life, is what we call Principled Performance®. GRC is the integrated collection of capabilities that enable an organization to attain Principled Performance. While the acronym was used in the early 2000's, the first peer-reviewed academic paper on the topic was published in 2007 by OCEG founder Scott L. Mitchell in the International Journal of Disclosure and Governance. This ground breaking paper influenced an entire industry of software and services.

OCEG, through the efforts of an expert team of hundreds of its members, has published and maintains the only open source standards for GRC, releasing the first version of what is now called the GRC Capability Model (or the OCEG Red Book) in 2003 for public review and comment. Since then, the Model has been updated several times to reflect growth and change in GRC processes and approaches. The current version 3.0 has been used by our 85,000 members around the world to advance GRC planning, guide development of GRC technologies and enable the achievement of Principled Performance in businesses and government entities. OCEG also offers the only GRC Professional (GRCP) and GRC Audit (GRCA) certifications that demonstrate understanding of the GRC Capability Model. Individuals holding these credentials are aiding companies and governments worldwide in advancing GRC and gaining the confidence needed to operate in today's ever changing and challenging environment.

## **About 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 certification 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 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)

## **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).

**For media enquiries, please contact:**

### **Straits Interactive Pte Ltd**

Ms Angela Schooling  
Marketing & Communications Director  
Mobile: (65) 98222625  
Email: [angela@straitsinteractive.com](mailto:angela@straitsinteractive.com)

### **OCEG**

Ms Carole Stern Switzer, Esq.  
Co-Founder and President,  
Telephone: (001) 520.232.0952  
Email: [cswitzer@oceg.org](mailto:cswitzer@oceg.org)