

# WHA... Newsletter **CONNECT:**



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Wellness Tourism**

**Digital Healthcare  
and Wellness**

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# GROUP CEO TALK

## Wellness Tourism

The leap in the development of technology and the COVID-19 pandemic in the past few years have resulted in behavioral and lifestyle changes, with health and well-being as the main concern. The Global Wellness Institute reported that the global wellness tourism market is at USD \$4.4 trillion in the year 2020 and is expected to grow to USD \$7 trillion by 2025.

At the end of 2021, NielsenIQ presented the key factors that influence consumers who prioritize health and well-being, as follows: **(1) Rapid Tech Adoption:** consumers are increasing their usage of digital technologies such as smartwatches or telemedicine in their daily routines. **(2) Generation Shift:** the concept of well-being, sustainability, and eco-living will shift more and more to millennials and Gen Z consumers. **(3) New Normal Life:** consumers are taking healthcare more seriously, resulting in more interest in preventive medicine, healthy food, personal beauty care, and anti-aging medicine. **(4) Omni-connected Communities:** the seamless connection between the online and offline world enables new kinds of services to transpire, such as smart clinics, health and wellness communities in the metaverse. **(5) Biological Technology:** the progression of bioresources enables the development of health products and services, as well as new approaches to treat diseases such as alternative proteins, lab-grown food and DNA testing. **(6) AgTech Advancement:** modern agricultural technology not only helps increase productivity but also helps with the development of high-quality, safe and nutritious new products. **(7) Policy, Legislation and Governance:** many countries have set policies, rules, measures and legal sanctions in order to ensure that businesses provide safe products and services to consumers.

As for Thailand, the government has made efforts to support wellness tourism through various

projects such as the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC). The project has played a huge role in driving Thailand to become the regional medical hub through the development of the medical device industry and long-distance medical care. The private sector has also made attempts to support wellness tourism by helping with the development of tourist attractions and health and wellness centers to accommodate health-conscious tourists. Examples include Chiva-Som, Asia's renowned and pioneering wellness destination, and RAKxa, a health retreat center that combines modern medical technology and holistic wellness.



Although the country has long been attracting medical visitors for its local herbs, spas and beautiful culture, **Thailand should urgently find new ways to further improve the country's wellness tourism. This includes creating a research network on modern medical technology, improving Thai traditional medicine and increasing the value of Thai herbs.** Such improvements will contribute to making Thailand the center of wellness tourism and become more distinguished internationally. This will not only help attract health-conscious tourists but will also be the driving force to help reboot the country's economy after the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul**

Chairman and Group CEO  
WHA Corporation PCL

# HIGHLIGHTS

## WHA Group Signs MoU with Samitivej Hospital for Cooperation on Digital Healthcare

WHAbit, WHA's newly launched healthcare app, will open a world of health services for employees and customers in partnership with Samitivej Hospital



*In the picture:* Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), Chairman and Group CEO of WHA Corporation PCL, and Dr. Chairat Panthuraamphorn (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), Managing Director and CEO, Samitivej and BNH Group of Hospitals, signed the collaboration agreement during a ceremony attended by WHA Group and Samitivej senior executives at Samitivej Srinakarin Hospital.

WHA Corporation PCL and Samitivej Hospital announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote and develop digital healthcare. The aim is to enhance accessibility to healthcare services and solutions for all employees and customers of WHA industrial estates, logistics centers and office buildings, through its new **WHAbit** digital application, and Samitivej's virtual hospital platform.

The MoU agreement will enable both parties to explore and study the end-to-end workflows and processes needed to provide the most effective delivery of online healthcare solutions and services that connect with the offline channel. This includes telemedicine, health check-ups, non-communicable diseases (NCD) clinic, smart clinic, pharmacy, data analytics and other relevant services.

WHA Group pledges to identify resources and infrastructure to provide to its newly launched digital health application, **WHAbit**, which will be fully operational soon. It will also provide market information, pain points and requirements that will be used to design and enhance healthcare solutions and services offered by Samitivej through its virtual hospital platform.

For Samitivej, this collaboration consists of providing medical services, including access to medical professionals from Samitivej Hospital's network, enabling delivery of digital healthcare solutions and services through the

WHAbit application. It will also provide the hospital's facilities and services so that **WHAbit** users will have all complementary information in addition to online services. Moreover, it will identify or share resources and basic infrastructure to connect Samitivej's solutions and services to the WHAbit application.

During the signing ceremony, Dr. Chairat Panthuraamphorn, Managing Director and CEO of Samitivej and BNH Group of Hospitals, said: "This MoU represents an innovative partnership between the industrial and health sectors, and we are proud to partner with WHA Group, a leader in fully-integrated logistics and industrial facilities that embraces technological advances to achieve its goals. I am confident that the collaboration between WHA Group and Samitivej Hospital will break healthcare barriers by bringing health and wellness to a broader audience. The strength of Samitivej Hospital lies in its medical expertise and experience in telemedicine, ensuring significant changes and innovations. With WHA Group's support, we aim to utilize the most advanced digital technology to provide various health services such as diagnosis, treatment, health restoration, and disease prevention. This partnership will benefit the industrial sector, help attract investors to the EEC and contribute to the country's economy."

"Signing this MoU with Samitivej Hospital is an important step for WHA Group," Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul, Chairman and Group CEO of WHA Corporation PCL, said. "We are proud to be among the pioneers of the digital healthcare business, and to provide this service to companies at WHA industrial estates. At WHA, we aim not only to provide a healthy work environment in our industrial estates, but also to improve health and well-being. Aside from providing 24/7 access to efficient medical services, digital healthcare can help lower medical costs, while raising awareness on health and wellness. It also benefits the community as it helps to reduce congestion at health and medical centers" she outlined.

"WHA Group has developed the **WHAbit** application under the corporate wellness concept, to provide easier access to healthcare. It received positive feedback from

WHA Group employees back in 2021, reflecting WHA Group's commitment towards innovation and technology in order to create a healthier work environment."

The **WHABit** application is a digital health tool that will enable WHA subscribers to manage their own health and wellness. Available to employees, customers and companies at all WHA industrial estates by Q3 of 2022, **WHABit** will facilitate virtual consultations with highly qualified doctors for prompt diagnoses, treatment and medication. **The WHABit application is primed to be the perfect digital tool to accompany users on their health journey for a happy workplace and a healthy life.**

Samitivej Virtual Hospital was launched in March 2019 and has since undergone constant development. Providing a comprehensive range of healthcare services capable of improving the lives of patients with utmost speed and convenience, Samitivej Virtual Hospital's focus on innovation has been recognized at home and abroad, recently receiving the following four awards:

- Prime Minister's Export Award 2021: Best Service Enterprise Award (Health & Wellness) for outstanding healthcare services offered through Samitivej Virtual Hospital, Samitivej Plus and Precision Medicine
- Product Innovation Awards 2021: For outstanding Samitivej Virtual Hospital healthcare services
- GlobalHealth Asia-Pacific Awards 2021: Smart Hospital of the Year in the Asia-Pacific region
- Thailand Digital Excellence Awards 2020: Thai Digital Champion for Business Innovation

## WHA Group Signs MoU with Mahidol University Faculty of Public Health for Academic Cooperation on Wellness in Industry



**In the picture:** Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul (center right), Chairman and Group CEO of WHA Corporation PCL, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sarawut Thepanon (center left), Dean of Mahidol University Faculty of Public Health, were present during the signing of the collaboration agreement which was held at WHA Headquarter at WHA Tower in Bangna.

WHA Corporation PCL and Mahidol University's Faculty of Public Health jointly announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for enhanced collaboration in the field of 'Wellness and Industry'. The aim is to develop and promote an awareness and understanding of health and well-being in the industrial landscape, in order to develop a comprehensive curriculum for academic courses and training programs for students pursuing degrees in public health, and for professionals interested in industry development.

The collaboration was signed by Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul, Chairman and Group CEO of WHA Corporation PCL, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sarawut Thepanon, Dean of the Faculty of Public Health at Mahidol University, during a ceremony attended by WHA executives and Mahidol faculty members.

Effective for 5 years, the MoU agreement is part of WHA Group's initiative to provide a safe and healthy environment for factory workers and other employees in its logistics centers and industrial estates in Thailand. WHA pledges to support the research initiatives and development of training courses to be offered to university students as part of Mahidol University's Faculty of Public Health curriculum for undergraduate and graduate students.

**The exchange of knowledge and information between the two institutions will enable a new generation of students, employees and future industry leaders to see health issues in the industrial workplace with a fresh outlook, and provide them with the skills to solve problems and offer solutions that will benefit individuals, companies, society and the country.**

For Mahidol University's Faculty of Public Health, this collaboration will enable the creation of custom-built courses and programs focusing on workplace wellness and industry. Students will also benefit from value-added courses that will be offered following this MoU, and gain experience in real working environments. They will develop an awareness of existing practices and be able to transfer skills they learn in the classroom to the workplace, and share what they observe in the workplace with fellow students.

"Next gen students are interested in studies that are profession-oriented and aligned with labor market needs", Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sarawut, said. "This MoU represents a valuable opportunity for our Faculty to collaborate directly with the industrial sector, and we are proud to have WHA Group as our partner for this commendable project. WHA Group's support, experience and insights will help us design and create learning and training programs that will add an exciting new dimension to our curriculum. This cooperation will also give our students the chance to observe local and international companies in Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) and see the importance of health and well-being in an industrial environment. They will benefit from real-life experiences and see how wellness and industry can co-exist to achieve sustainable development goals."

Ms. Jareeporn said: "I am delighted to see new collaboration between the educational and industrial sectors. Signing this MoU with Mahidol University Faculty of Public Health brings a lot of optimism to our industry in general, and to WHA in particular. At WHA, we aim to provide a healthy work environment in all our logistics centers and industrial estates, so this collaboration is in line with our corporate mission. Together we can raise awareness on health and wellness in the workplace, support the creation of academic courses that could help create new jobs and bring new energy, and introduce sustainable policies in the industrial sector that will help boost the economy."

## WHA Group Opens WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21, Largest Logistics Center Near Bangkok Welcomes Kerry Logistics as First Customer



**In the picture:** WHA Group signs a lease agreement with Kerry Logistics (Thailand) Company Limited for a 10,000 sq.m. warehouse for fashion and lifestyle products.

WHA Corporation PCL (WHA Group), Thailand's leader in fully-integrated logistics and industrial facilities solutions, has just launched WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21 with a total building area of approximately 400,000 sq.m. on 400 rai of land. The newly-developed center is WHA Group's largest warehouse facility closest and most accessible to Bangkok.

WHA Group officially welcomed Kerry Logistics (Thailand) Ltd., the leader of integrated logistics service providers in the

country, during the recent lease agreement signing ceremony for a 10,000 sq.m. Built-to-Suit facility. With the new warehouse, Kerry Logistics now occupies 18,000 sq.m. of warehouse space in WHA's facilities.

The newly launched WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21 is a mixed-use, free zone logistics center offering a variety of Built-to-Suit warehouses and factories between 5,000-100,000 sq.m. to suit a wide range of customers, including e-commerce, manufacturers, showrooms, training centers and others.

**The Kerry Logistics warehouse at WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21 will serve as a major storage and distribution center for a wide range of fashion and lifestyle products, considered one of the highest potential sectors today.** WHA's logistics center offers convenient access to arterial roads to the city center, Suvarnabhumi Airport, Laem Chabang Deep Seaport, and other key destinations.

With the continuous growth of e-commerce and the booming demand for courier services during the COVID-19 pandemic, the timely opening of a new smart

facility using the latest automated solutions in warehouse and supply chain management matches Kerry Logistics' investment plan for 2022.

"We are the first customer of WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21," Mr. Pongsiri Sirithorn, Country Manager of Kerry Logistics (Thailand), under Kerry Logistics Network Limited (KLN), a giant transport and logistics company, noted, "Offering a large spacious area, the project is conveniently located along a main road, between Suvarnabhumi Airport and Laem Chabang Deep Seaport in Chonburi province."

"The new warehouse will be dedicated to brand name customers in the fashion and lifestyle sector, a market that is expected to grow substantially once the COVID-19 situation eases. During the last 2 years, the pandemic caused widespread economic slowdown and impacted many industries, but the high-end fashion and lifestyle business was only slightly affected. Moreover, in the future, Thailand can become a hub for high-end global fashion brands. We are confident that Kerry Logistics' services can answer the demand of customers, and once the pandemic is behind us, we expect our revenue from the fashion and lifestyle industry to double."

"Transportation from the fashion warehouse to the city center is fast and convenient, making it an excellent location for brand name customers, some of whom have already signed contracts," Mr. Ponsiri added. "Our warehouse management is already serving customers and getting good feedback. To achieve our goal of becoming the region's hub for high-end global fashion brands, it is crucial for Kerry Logistics to have world-class warehouse facilities to create better customer experiences and accompany our expansion and growth. We are confident of our partnership with WHA."

"It is a great honor for us to welcome Kerry Logistics to WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21 as our first customer," said Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul, Chairman and Group Chief Executive Officer of WHA Corporation PCL. "We are delighted to play a role in Kerry Logistics' business expansion, which is a result of its perceptiveness in foreseeing opportunities to grow, especially during the pandemic situation. From its new strategically located warehouse, Kerry Logistics will be able to achieve the highest level of operational efficiency. WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21 will use the latest technology and innovation to offer value-added services and accompany the growth of our customers."

Kerry Logistics is the leading integrated logistics service provider, offering a wide array of services, including third party logistics services, supply chain solutions, warehousing and nationwide distribution. It answers customers' demands from all industries such as fulfillment center service for online businesses, fashion and lifestyle, FMCG, electronics and technology, automotive, and pharmaceutical and medical devices, with its global presence across 58 countries and territories.

## WHA Group Holds Stone Laying Ceremony for WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21



**In the picture:** The auspicious ceremony was presided by Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul (second left), Chairman and Group CEO WHA Corporation PCL., and attended by other WHA executives Mr. David Nardone (second right), Group Executive - Industrial and International, Mr. Vivat Jiratikornsakul (right) Chief Operating Officer, Industrial and International of WHA Industrial Development PLC, and Mr. Pajongwit Pongsivapai (left), Chief Operating Officer of WHA Corporation PCL.

WHA Corporation PCL. (WHA Group) recently held a stone laying ceremony for the new WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21, the largest warehouse facility and most accessible to Bangkok. With a total building area of 400,000 sq.m. on 400 rai of land, WHA Mega Logistics Center Theparak KM. 21 offers Built-to-Suit warehouses and factories between 5,000–100,000 sq.m. to accommodate a wide range of customers, including e-commerce, manufacturers, showrooms, and training centers. Its strategic location provides convenient access to arterial roads to the city center, Suvarnabhumi Airport, Laem Chabang Deep Seaport, and other key destinations.

# WHAUP Appoints New CEO to Drive Utilities Business



WHA Utilities and Power PLC (WHAUP) announced the appointment of Mr. Somkiat Masunthasuwun as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective from 1 May 2022, to grow the utilities business (water and power) both inside and outside WHA Group's industrial estates. Mr. Akarin Prathuangsit was also appointed Chief Operating Officer to handle operations in Thailand and overseas. The new CEO will continue business expansion locally and abroad to build sustainable growth while developing new solutions for utilities and renewable energy.

WHAUP informed the Stock Exchange of Thailand that its Board of Directors passed a resolution to appoint Mr. Somkiat Masunthasuwun as CEO, with goals to move the business forward based on strategies to extend utilities and power investments in several formats, including greenfield projects, joint ventures and mergers and acquisitions (M&A), both inside and outside WHA Group's industrial estates in Thailand and overseas. The focus is on the development of solutions for utilities and renewable energy businesses.

**WHAUP aims to follow WHA Group's policy to become a technology company in the next three years, reaffirming confidence in its future business growth.**

On the new appointment, Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul, Chairman and Group CEO of WHA Corporation PCL said: "Mr. Somkiat Masunthasuwun has vast experience and expertise in the power business to serve as new CEO of WHAUP. I am very confident that he will drive the company to achieve its goals and will be able to carry on the investment plan to grow the utilities and power businesses successfully in Thailand and overseas. Moreover, he will develop new renewable energy solutions

to achieve WHA Group's objectives, which aim to build sustainable business growth in the long term."

WHAUP has also appointed Mr. Akarin Prathuangsit as the new Chief Operating Officer, in charge of WHAUP's operations both domestically and internationally. This will help strengthen WHAUP's management team and enable it to support the utilities and power investment expansion both inside and outside WHA Group's industrial estates.

Mr. Somkiat, WHAUP's new CEO, said that he felt honored and very pleased to join WHAUP under WHA Group. With more than two decades of experience and expertise in the energy industry, he is determined to ensure that WHAUP will achieve its goals, in line with the 5-year strategic plan (2022–2026) to seek investment opportunities in the utilities business, as well as develop several renewable energy projects both domestically and internationally. This is in line with the idea to jointly develop projects with partners to strengthen the businesses.

Part of WHAUP's goals is to achieve total revenue and normalized profit sharing of THB 6 billion, while maintaining EBITDA profit margins of over 50% from the growth of its core business (water and power) under the THB 10 billion investment budget for supporting business expansion in the next 5 years. This consists of:

**Utilities business:** The company plans to use approximately 50% of its 5-year total investment budget to expand the water business in vertical integration by exploring alternative raw water resources to ensure stability and manage the cost of purchasing raw water. It will also extend the development of the wastewater reclamation project for reusing treated wastewater. The project has received very good responses in terms of customer satisfaction, environment preservation, and using technology to develop new products based on the company's expertise to produce value-added water such as demineralized water and premium clarified water.

Furthermore, additional investments in a smart utilities service platform and new solutions have been applied to improve operational efficiency and deliver customer services in a more integrated manner. In 2022, the company targets to achieve 128 million cu.m. of domestic water sales and management, and 25 million cu.m. overseas, representing a growth rate of 13% from the previous year.

**Power business:** WHAUP will focus on expanding its portfolio of solar power projects and other forms of renewable energy projects both domestically and internationally. In 2022, it has set the target for accumulative sales of solar power contracts at 150 MW, up from 92 MW in the previous year. This will increase the power capacity according to shareholding equity up to 700 MW.

In addition, WHAUP will continue preparing for the future of solar energy business through the development of several technologies,



such as a smart energy platform for solar energy trading among customers within WHA's industrial estates, or peer-to-peer energy trading system in cooperation with PTT Public Co., Ltd. and Sertis Co., Ltd. to jointly develop a trading platform called RENEX, using blockchain technology to enhance transaction security and facilitate energy trading among entrepreneurs in industrial estates. The project received cooperation from the Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA) and is part of the Energy Regulatory Commission's Energy Innovation Experiment Project (ERC Sandbox). It is currently in the final preparation stage to do trial commercial trading services, with commercial trading expected to officially kick off soon. Once the power trading system is completed, it is believed that it will be a factor

supporting WHAUP's renewable energy portfolio to grow substantially.

WHAUP's new CEO Mr. Somkiat concluded that aside from its aforementioned plans, the company has also introduced the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) which will be used together with solar energy power production, and proposed as another service to customers. It is also conducting the study of the smart microgrid system to enhance the utilities system within WHA's industrial estates to extend the renewable energy business portfolio and create a new business model for the company. Therefore, the CEO intends to manage and drive WHAUP as a business organization towards substantial growth, alongside the steady growth of WHA Group.

## WHAUP and SUPERNAP Thailand Break Ground for Solar Farm Project

WHA Utilities and Power PLC (WHAUP) closed the first quarter of 2022 with a deal to install a ground-mounted solar power system for SUPERNAP (Thailand) Co. Ltd., the most advanced Tier-IV certified data center in Southeast Asia. The installation will be carried out on a total area of 10,000 sq.m., representing an investment of about THB 30 million.

In line with the company's policy to help save the planet, reduce global warming and greenhouse effect, the project will also help SUPERNAP Thailand, and its clients, to reduce electricity costs significantly throughout the system's life, while offsetting 18,250 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emission to the environment.

Dr. Niphon Bundechanan, former Chief Executive Officer of WHAUP, announced the signing of the contract to install a ground-mounted solar power system for SUPERNAP Thailand the most advanced, multi-tenant, Tier-IV certified data center in Thailand and the ASEAN region, with the capability to connect with every network operator without any restrictions. Located in the Economic Eastern Corridor (EEC), the project installation area is outside the Bangkok flood zone and close to international cable landing stations with links across Thailand.

"SUPERNAP Thailand is a Tier-IV certified data center colocation and cloud services provider with the most advanced technology in the ASEAN region," said Dr. Niphon. "It is driven by demand in Asia Pacific for purpose-built data centers that can guarantee performance, availability and disaster risk reduction. The growth of data and applications in the region is derived from the need to stay closer to businesses and consumers to improve customer experience using Cloud, AI, IoT and BIG Data. SUPERNAP Thailand is the leader in Asia, offering higher service capabilities than any



**In the picture:** Dr. Niphon Bundechanan (center left), Former CEO of WHA Utilities and Power PLC, together with Mrs. Sunita Bottse (center), Chief Executive Officer of SUPERNAP (Thailand) Co., Ltd., held a groundbreaking ceremony to start the construction of SUPERNAP Thailand's solar farm project, which will cover 10,000 sq.m. of space.

other data centers in Southeast Asia. Having such a great company as our customer reinforces WHAUP's position as a standard service provider of solar power systems."

By being the first data center implementing renewable energy, SUPERNAP Thailand will contribute to the development of the green digital infrastructure of the region, supporting the national strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as lowering the carbon footprint of its client.

"SUPERNAP Thailand guarantees 100% uptime with power capacity of 33 KW per cabinet, and has a lower Power Usage Efficiency (PUE) than any other data center in Thailand," noted Mrs. Sunita Bottse, Chief Executive Officer of SUPERNAP Thailand, "making it already the most sustainable data center. To reduce energy consumption further as per our sustainability goals, the company is committed to procuring electricity from renewable energy, including having our own solar panels to supply power to our facility."

Mrs. Sunita continued, “WHAUP has been chosen to install the solar power system at SUPERNAP Thailand because of its expertise in engineering and safety and its solid experience in the installation of solar power systems. We are confident in the potentiality and professionalism of the company” she added.

The project’s construction commenced in April and the commercial operations will be ready for service in October 2022. The power production throughout the contract lifetime is estimated at 37,725 million units. In the meantime, WHAUP will be able to gain income from the project as soon as it starts supplying solar power in October. Therefore, the company is confident that it can achieve its target of 150 megawatts of accumulative solar power purchase contracts, from 92 megawatts the previous year.

With its commitment to be a solar power installation service provider serving customers inside and outside WHA industrial estates, WHAUP has been trusted by many leading local and international companies. With its professionalism, engineering expertise, experience in providing utilities services, renewable energy solutions, and its ability to adopt new technologies and innovations, WHAUP ensures the company’s future business expansion.

The installation of the solar farm system will help reduce electricity costs for SUPERNAP Thailand, and offset carbon dioxide emissions by up to 18,250 tons.

## WHAUP Wins THB 600 Million Contract to Sell Premium Clarified Water to GULF

WHA Utilities and Power Public Company Limited (WHAUP) is boosting its water reclamation project that provides premium clarified water for industrial use from wastewater treatment systems. It recently signed a contract with Gulf Energy Development Public Company Limited (GULF) to supply 1.3 million cubic meters (cu.m.) of premium clarified water (Project 2) per year to Gulf’s Tasit 3 and 4 power plants (Gulf TS3 and Gulf TS4) in WHA Eastern Seaboard Industrial Estate 1 (WHA ESIE1). The 15-year contract has a total value of over THB 600 million.

### Gearing Towards Sustainable Business Development

Dr. Nippon Bundechanan, former Chief Executive Officer of WHAUP, recently announced the contract signing with GULF to supply from its water reclamation project 1.3 million cu.m. of premium clarified water per year for industrial use. This is the second consecutive contract

between WHAUP and GULF, one of the largest power plant operators in Thailand, and commercial delivery of services will begin in July 2022.

WHAUP takes great pride in its water reclamation project using wastewater treatment systems to produce premium clarified water. The company won the SET (Stock Exchange Thailand) Awards in 2021 in the Outstanding Innovative Company category for its “Innovative Demineralized Reclaimed Water” project, or alternative water resource for sustainable development. This distinction highlights WHAUP’s commitment to developing new products and services to serve the water needs of customers in the industrial sector. The company is ready to develop more water products to create long-term business opportunities for sustainable growth and to help conserve natural resources.

## WHAUP Joins Forces with PTT, SERTIS & PEA to Pioneer Free Energy Trading for Thailand’s Industrial Sector in WHA Industrial Estates

WHA Utilities and Power Public Company Limited (WHAUP) is joining forces with PTT, Sertis and the PEA to implement peer-to-peer energy trading using blockchain technology – the first time this has been done at industrial scale in Thailand. The Renewable Energy Exchange, or RENEX platform, will help enhance efficiency and security of transactions and facilitate energy trading between industrial users. The project will kick off with an initial wave of 23 industrial users in WHA Industrial Estates.



Dr. Niphon Bundechanan, WHAUP's former Chief Executive Officer, explained that in line with its commitment to be a leader in the renewable energy business and energy innovations development, the company has continued to embark on the solar energy business and various technologies such as smart energy systems to enhance energy stability and cost reduction, as well as clean energy usage among customers within WHA Group's Industrial Estates. This has led to the development of the peer-to-peer energy trading system – an energy trading platform using blockchain technology. It is part of the energy innovation projects under the Energy Regulatory Commission Sandbox (ERC Sandbox) scheme, the joint implementation between the company and leading energy and technology partners. The platform will allow participating companies to freely bid and trade solar power with one another directly through the grid network of the PEA.

### Developing Energy Trading Platform RENEX

Recently, WHAUP joined forces with PTT Public Co., Ltd. and Sertis Co., Ltd. to develop a peer-to-peer energy trading platform under RENEX. The platform uses blockchain technology to enhance efficiency and security of transactions and facilitate energy trading between industrial users. The project is under cooperation with the Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA).

Mr. Noppadol Pinsupa, PTT Chief Operating Officer, New Business and Infrastructure Group, said the smart energy management system is a significant mechanism in the future of the energy business. "PTT's main goal is to enhance energy management efficiency and upgrade the country's sustainable energy innovations under the vision framework of *'Powering Life with Future Energy and Beyond'*. The development of energy management systems, both in terms of using blockchain technology in energy trading, as well as introducing energy innovations, can be used for new types of fuel."

"These new technologies all aim to support the growth of renewable energy in the future," Mr. Noppadol outlined, "and to link activities related to the efficient use of renewable energy. They also help enhance the quality of products and services to meet international standards for industrial customers and service users." Driving the country towards a low-carbon society, this collaboration is an important effort in boosting digital technology and strengthening the

country's energy innovation ecosystem. It also allows further enhancement of sustainable energy production in the future.

Mr. Thuchakorn Vachiramom, Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Sertis Co., Ltd., said: "As a partner in the RENEX project using blockchain technology for the solar power trading platform, we hope that it will benefit all parties involved. In terms of usage, both energy buyers and sellers will be able to trade solar power at the required price and quantity on a stable and secure platform with price matching and bidding system. The platform was co-developed with PTT and has been certified with a petty patent from the Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Commerce. This platform will effectively reduce organizations' energy costs."

"As a consultant and technology developer, as well as an administrator of the smart energy management system," Mr. Thuchakorn continued, "Sertis is ready to develop and enhance the platform's efficiency and capacity, by integrating artificial intelligence (AI) technology or adding new features that can serve users' needs in the future. This project is an initial point in harnessing the potential of technology along with the capabilities of personnel to develop a platform that can facilitate and support the clean energy trading industry. I believe that this project will be a milestone for the continuous and stable growth of small power producers, domestically and regionally."

**Peer-to-peer energy trading is a new concept for the power industry, and it is soon to be realized for the first time in Thailand at WHA Industrial Estates.**

The first wave of participants joining as energy traders consists of 23 industrial users. Once successfully implemented, the project will elevate Thailand's energy industry to the next level, reduce energy cost for the industrial sector, boost clean energy consumption, and promote energy innovations as well as benefit the environment.

## WHA RAYONG 36: RESPONDING TO INCREASED DEMAND FROM S-CURVE INDUSTRIES



*Equipped with the latest digital innovations and technologies, WHA Group's 11th Smart Eco Industrial Estate in Thailand is ready to welcome world industry leaders looking to establish a manufacturing base in the EEC.*

With the recent launch of WHA Rayong 36 in Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC), WHA Group, Thailand's leader in fully-integrated logistics and industrial estate development, reveals its readiness to welcome S-curve industries that include next generation automotive, robotics, aviation, electronics and logistics, among others.

Several 5,000 sq.m. ready-built factories are nearing completion. Grade A smart facilities and infrastructure, together with world-class services, ensure its customers outstanding operating conditions around the clock. Investors also have the possibility of acquiring developed industrial estate land where they can design and build their own manufacturing facilities according to their precise requirements.

### ON-SITE INFRASTRUCTURE AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES TO OPTIMIZE PRODUCTIVITY

Covering a total area of 1,281 rai (507 acres / 205 hectares), WHA Rayong 36 offers world-class infrastructure such as reinforced concrete roads with a width of 25-40 meters and stable power supply from the Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA), with 22kV and 115kV lines. It will be equipped with fiber to the factory networks and utilities that will meet the demands of industrial investors.

In line with WHA Group's concept of 'Smart Eco Industrial Estates', WHA Rayong 36 features the latest digital and innovative technologies in terms of communications, mobility, security and safety, environment control, water production and wastewater treatment. WHA Rayong 36 is linked to WHA's Unified Operations Center (UOC) at its headquarters at WHA Tower in Bangna, enabling real-time monitoring of environmental parameters, such as air quality, industrial water and wastewater quality, as well as rainfall levels, traffic management and safety.

Strategically situated close to Rayong's Highways 36 and 3375, WHA Rayong 36 is just 25 km from Map Ta Phut Deep Seaport, 31 km from Laem Chabang Deep Seaport and 23 km to U-Tapao Airport.

"We are receiving a lot of interest from blue-chip companies in various industries such as automotive, electronics and consumer products," said Mr. David Nardone, Group Executive - Industrial and International, WHA Industrial Development PLC. "As a Smart Eco Industrial Estate, WHA Rayong 36 will enable customers to lower their operating and logistics costs, streamline the process of getting materials from their supply sources, and finished products to their final destinations. With over 30 years of experience, trust is at the core of WHA Group. WHA provides the best infrastructure, utilities, service and support to enable our customers to fulfill their manufacturing goals."

The entry of S-curve industries in Thailand will help generate employment, facilitate skills upgrading, and enable technology transfer. WHA Group is proud to help foster sustainable economic and social development and contribute to Thailand's economic growth.



# CUSTOMER SHOWCASE

## LINAK APAC Ltd.

### Developing the Asia-Pacific Market of Actuator Systems from WHA ESIE 2



Established in October 2020, LINAK APAC Ltd. is the latest subsidiary of Denmark-based LINAK Group, a family-owned business specializing in the production of high-quality electric linear actuator systems. In line with the company's slogan, *"We Improve Your Life"*, its innovation-based technology is vital to several sectors ranging from healthcare to agriculture, comfort furniture, office interiors, industrial automation, and many others.

Today, the LINAK Group employs 2,400 people worldwide, with production facilities in Denmark, China, the USA, Slovakia and Thailand, plus subsidiaries in over 30 countries. As part of its international expansion strategy and its desire to stay close to its customers, it chose Thailand to serve its growing customer base in the Asia-Pacific region.

"We selected Thailand over other Asian countries because it matched our objectives in terms of competitiveness and availability of a skilled workforce," says Mr. Kurt Lorenzen, Managing Director of LINAK APAC since August 2020, following his diverse experience with the company across different positions, mainly in research and development at the Group's headquarters in Denmark. "Then we chose WHA Industrial Development because of its reputation and the professionalism of its teams, plus the world-class infrastructure, water utilities and stable power supply offered at WHA ESIE 2. The industrial estate's convenient location close to Laem Chabang port and its easy access to arterial roads make it easy for us to import our spare parts from overseas and export our finished products around the Asia-Pacific region."

Construction of the factory started in February 2020 and was completed in April 2021, when the first products were exported to Australia. After an

initial purchase of 12,000 sq.m. and an extension of 7,400 sq.m., the BOI-sponsored company recently acquired an extensive additional 50,000 sq.m., also at WHA ESIE 2. LINAK APAC focuses on electric actuators designed for the healthcare segment, such as hospitals beds and wheelchairs, and for desk solutions, such as standing office tables and workstations. It also serves as the distribution center of LINAK products manufactured in China for the whole Asia-Pacific region.

"After one year at WHA ESIE 2, we are extremely satisfied and see a very promising outlook in Thailand and the region," commented Mr. Lorenzen. "LINAK enjoys a long-term vision with strong emphasis on training our people and developing a sustainable business environment. In addition, we are delighted to discover that the Danish and Thai family business cultures are quite similar."

From 40 employees today, LINAK APAC confidently foresees growth of up to 500 people within the next few years, reinforcing both its presence in the region and its leadership in the global market for actuator systems.

## GIZTIX Company Limited

### A Pioneering Digital Start-up in Logistics



Established in 2017 by three young, passionate co-founders, GIZTIX is a leading e-Logistics start-up that aims to transform the logistics business in Thailand through digitalization and automation, using its own digital platform and custom-built software to connect transportation and logistics operators with end-users. Mr. Sittisak Wongsomnuk, the company's co-founder and CEO, found himself in the logistics business since childhood, as his parents owned and operated an SME in the industry. After studying business economics in the UK and thoroughly analyzing the market, Mr. Sittisak and his two co-founders decided to create a new business model based on innovative digital technologies.

He sees great potential in inland transport services in Thailand, which represent 70% of the market estimated at THB 19 billion. Approximately 90% is covered by road, with the remaining 10% shared by rail, river, and air transportation. While its competitors concentrate on parcels of 1–10 kg, GIZTIX focuses on bulkier parcels from 15–250 kg.

"Quality, time and cost are the three key factors in our business," explains Mr. Sittisak, "thanks to our unique digital platform, we can deliver multi-parcels in one day, or even in the same day. Our goal is to expand nationwide by building partnerships with third-party logistics (3PL) players and lease our software to them, so they can improve their operations and grow their business with us."

In November 2021, Bualang Ventures and WHA Group invested THB 100 million each in GIZTIX's Series B funding round, worth approximately THB 260 million. To further forge the strong partnership between WHA Group and GIZTIX, the latter recently moved its office to WHA Tower in Bangna. "WHA Group and GIZTIX share a common vision for the logistics business", Mr. Sittisak noted. "We have similar customers, such as manufacturers and retailers, and we use similar infrastructure, such as distribution centers, so there are lots of synergies between our two companies." GIZTIX currently rents a 12,000 sq.m. distribution center in WHA Mega Logistics Center Bangna-Trad KM. 23 for its operations in Bangkok and the vicinity."

Mr. Sittisak foresees a promising outlook for GIZTIX, with 3-digit growth forecasts within the next few years and a planned Initial Public Offering (IPO) in 2025. "We aim to become a tech company, with our software-as-a-service (SaaS) solution rentals generating more than half of our revenue. In 5 years, everybody will use GIZTIX," he concluded confidently.

# VEGER Electronics (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

## Supplying Power on the Go



Established in 2016 in Chonburi by a group of Thai and Chinese investors, VEGER Electronics specializes in manufacturing power banks and phone accessories such as fast chargers, cables, and power sockets. With a workforce of 120 people, the company has two production facilities and a warehouse in Chonburi and Samut Prakan. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it diversified its activities and ventured into the field of medical devices by manufacturing face masks, importing and selling up to 2 billion units. To facilitate sales of its products, the company installed 80 new-generation vending machines imported from China in major commercial centers, supermarkets, and hospitals, where consumers had easy access to VEGER's medical and electronic products.

Earlier this year, the company management decided to set up its main office at WHA Tower in Bangna-Trad KM. 7. "I passed the building frequently while it was still under construction and was attracted by its sleek design and unique features," explains Mr. Ding Yajun, Managing Director of VEGER Electronics. "Moreover, I also saw the advantages of its unbeatable location near our production facilities and Suvarnabhumi Airport," he adds.

Having conquered 20% of the power bank market in Thailand, VEGER Electronics is now preparing to export

its electronic products to neighboring countries such as Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia and Myanmar. It also plans to diversify its activities to produce electric vehicles (EVs), specifically motorcycles. "All our products are made in Thailand, and our experience shows that they are highly appreciated by customers in Southeast Asia. We are very confident that we can continue to expand regionally with Thailand as our base," comments Mr. Ding.

Looking forward, his company's expansion plans enable Mr. Ding to foresee additional synergies with WHA Logistics. "We will continue to focus on products for consumers in Thailand and neighboring countries. With the growing demand for electronic devices like mobile phones, tablets, speakers and others, our aim is to become the largest producer of power banks and phone accessories in Southeast Asia," concluded Mr. Ding.

# NEWSCAST WHA GROUP

## WHAUP-PTT-SERTIS-PEA Host Peer-to-Peer Energy Trading Presentation Webinar



WHA Utilities and Power PLC (WHAUP), PTTPLC, Sertis Co., Ltd. and PEA (the Provincial Electrical Authority) recently co-hosted an online seminar to introduce the Renewable Energy Exchange (RENEX) platform, a peer-to-peer energy trading system using blockchain technology. RENEX will enhance efficiency and security of transactions and facilitate energy trading between industrial users. As part of the Energy Regulatory

Commission (ERC) Sandbox scheme, the platform will allow participating companies to freely trade solar power directly with one another via the PEA grid network.

During the seminar, Mr. Punrapee Noparumpa (top left), WHAUP's Director of Power Business Development, together with Mr. Prasong Intaranongpai (top center left), PTT's Executive Vice President, Strategy & Portfolio Management, Mr. Thuchakorn Vachiramon (top right), Sertis' CEO and Founder, and Mr. Kritsanapol Duanghom (top center right), PEA's Deputy Director of Renewable Energy Promotion and Small Power Plant Department, introduced the platform features and conducted platform usage training for the participants in preparation for real energy trading is soon to take place.

## WHAUP Welcomes Provincial Waterworks Authority Staff



WHA Utilities and Power PLC (WHAUP) recently welcomed employees from Provincial Waterworks Authority's Nong Khae branch, Saraburi province, who came to visit the wastewater treatment plant at WHA Eastern Industrial Estate (Map Ta Phut). The visitors were given a comprehensive tour to observe the plant's operation process and to learn about advanced water treatment technology. WHA's commitment to sustainable community development and environmental conservation emphasizes the company's role as a leading utilities and energy service provider in Thailand.



# CUSTOMER NEWS

## LINAK APAC Signs Land Purchase Agreement for Expansion at WHA ESIE 2



LINAK APAC Ltd., market leader in electric linear actuator solutions from Denmark, recently signed a land purchase agreement for 31 rai at WHA Eastern Seaboard Industrial Estate 2. This will enable the company to expand its existing operations and increase productivity, while aiming to better serve customers in the region and increase its market share.

*In the picture:* Mr. David Nardone (center left), Group Executive - Industrial and International, WHA Industrial Development PLC, and Mr. Kurt Lorenzen (center right), Managing Director at LINAK finalized the land purchase contract during the signing ceremony. Also present were Ms. Natatan Jantong (left), Assistant Director - Land Customer Development of WHA Industrial Development PLC, and Ms. Jurairat Tubtim (right), Manager of Finance at LINAK APAC Ltd.

## MAX Holds Pilot Piling Ceremony for Third Plant at WHA ESIE 1

MAX (Thailand) Co., Ltd., a Japanese manufacturer of top-quality office staplers, pneumatic nailing tools and other fastening devices, recently held a pilot piling ceremony for its third manufacturing facility at WHA Eastern Seaboard Industrial Estate 1 (WHA ESIE 1) in Chonburi province. This latest addition to its two other factories, also located in WHA ESIE 1, will scale up the firm's production capacity to deliver high-end office products and industrial tools in the region.



*In the picture:* Mr. Kunimitsu Takahashi, (2<sup>nd</sup> right), Managing Director of MAX (Thailand), presided in the pilot piling ceremony and received congratulatory flowers from Ms. Ladda Rojanavilaivudh (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Vice President, Industrial Land and Building Customer Development, WHA Industrial Development.

## WHA Group Welcomes VEGER to WHA Tower



Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul, Chairman and Group CEO, WHA Corporation PCL, recently paid a visit to the management team of VEGER Electronics (Thailand) Co., Ltd., a high-quality digital products manufacturer, at its new office at WHA Tower in Bangna-Trad KM. 7. This new building complex is equipped with the most advanced technologies and convenient transportation that will enable VEGER Electronics to expand its customer base in Thailand and the region, and accelerate its growth and expansion plans.

*In the picture: Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul (center), Chairman and Group CEO, WHA Corporation PCL, offers a bouquet of flowers to welcome Mr. Ding Yajun, Managing Director (3<sup>rd</sup> right), VEGER Electronics (Thailand) Co., Ltd., and his team to WHA Tower. Also present were Mr. Tan Chunliang (2<sup>nd</sup> right) and Mr. Payon Kansomjai (right), Sales Managers of VEGER Electronics (Thailand) Co., Ltd., and executives from WHA Group.*

## WHA Group Welcomes GIZTIX to WHA Tower



Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul, Chairman and Group CEO, WHA Corporation PCL, warmly welcomed Mr. Sittisak Wongsomnuk, CEO of GIZTIX Co., Ltd., and his new generation e-logistics services team to WHA Tower. The landmark building along Bangna-Trad KM. 7 offers easy access to the airport, Bangkok central business district, and commercial centers such as Mega Bangna. With WHA Tower's state-of-the-art facilities, GIZTIX will be able to enhance its operations and offer well-integrated solutions to its growing number of local and international customers.

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## Goertek Vina Receives IRC to Increase Investment Capital at WHA Industrial Zone 1 – Nghe An

Goertek Vina Company Limited, a leading manufacturer of electronic products, network equipment and multimedia sound products, recently received the Investment Registration Certificate (IRC) from the People's Committee of Nghe An province to increase its investment for its manufacturing plant located at WHA Industrial Zone 1 – Nghe An. Construction of Goertek Vina Phase 1, which started on 21 January 2021 just 3 months after the first IRC was issued, is now complete. Operations are expected to start in June 2022, creating 30,000 jobs.

Goertek's decision to increase its capital in the Nghe An plant from USD 100 to USD 500 million will enable it to introduce high-tech production lines to further boost its productivity. This foreign direct investment project represents the largest investment capital in Nghe An today. The Goertek manufacturing plant is expected to become a model that can attract other investors to the province and the region, and promote growth, job creation and economic restructuring.



**In the picture:** Mr. Nguyen Duc Trung (center right), Deputy Secretary of the Nghe An Provincial Party Committee, Chairman of the Provincial People's Committee, presented the Investment Registration Certificate to Mr. Jiang Hong Zhai (center left), Senior Vice President of Goertek Group, General Director of Goertek Vina Company. Also present were Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich Lien (2nd left), General Director of WHA Industrial Zone Nghe An Joint Stock Company, and other officials and executives.

## WHA Industrial Zone 1 – Nghe An Signs MoU with Huali Group to Invest in New Project

WHA Industrial Zone 1 – Nghe An and Huali Group (Taiwan) signed an MoU for a land sublease which took place at the headquarters of Nghe An PPC. The signing ceremony was held under the witness of Mr. Le Ngoc Hoa, Vice Chairman of Nghe An Provincial People's Committee, and leaders of various departments in Nghe An province.

Located at WHA Industrial Zone 1 – Nghe An, Huali Group's project of manufacturing and processing footwear for export has a total investment capital of USD 38 million, reaching the output of 13 million pairs of products per year. The construction project is expected to start in August 2022 and expected to be operational in June 2023, with a capacity to employ around 8,000 workers.



**In the picture:** Mr. David Nardone (top right), Group Executive - Industrial and International, and Ms. Anchalee Prasertchand (top left), Director of WHA Industrial Development PLC witness the MoU signing ceremony from Thailand

# Groundbreaking Ceremony for Nakano Apparel at WHA Industrial Zone 1 – Nghe An



*In the picture:* Mr. Kampol Noramat (far right), Assistant Director of WHA Industrial Zone Nghe An JSC, Mr. Eiji Asano (far left), Authorized Representative of Nakano Apparel Vietnam Co., Ltd., and other executives attend the ceremony

Nakano Apparel Vietnam Co., Ltd. recently held the groundbreaking ceremony for its new manufacturing facility featuring an innovative research and development center at WHA Industrial Zone 1 – Nghe An. The plant will manufacture high-quality garments to keep pace with worldwide demand, while adapting green energy concepts in line with the company's sustainable development goals.



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# CSR NEWS

## WHA Provides COVID-19 Vaccination Site at WHA RIL to Keep Community Safe



WHA Industrial Development PLC (WHAID) provided a vaccination site in WHA Rayong Industrial Land (WHA RIL) for customers and employees to receive their COVID-19 booster shots. This initiative to distribute a total of 1,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine at the WHA RIL site was spearheaded by Mr. Daranai Yiphu (3rd right), District Chief of Ban Khai, with the cooperation of Rayong Provincial Public Health Office, Ban Khai District Public Health Office, and Ban Khai Hospital.

WHAID values the health and safety of its community members and continues to support efforts to build immunity against COVID-19.

## WHA RAYONG 36 INDUSTRIAL ESTATE THE LATEST INDUSTRIAL ESTATE IN THE EEC

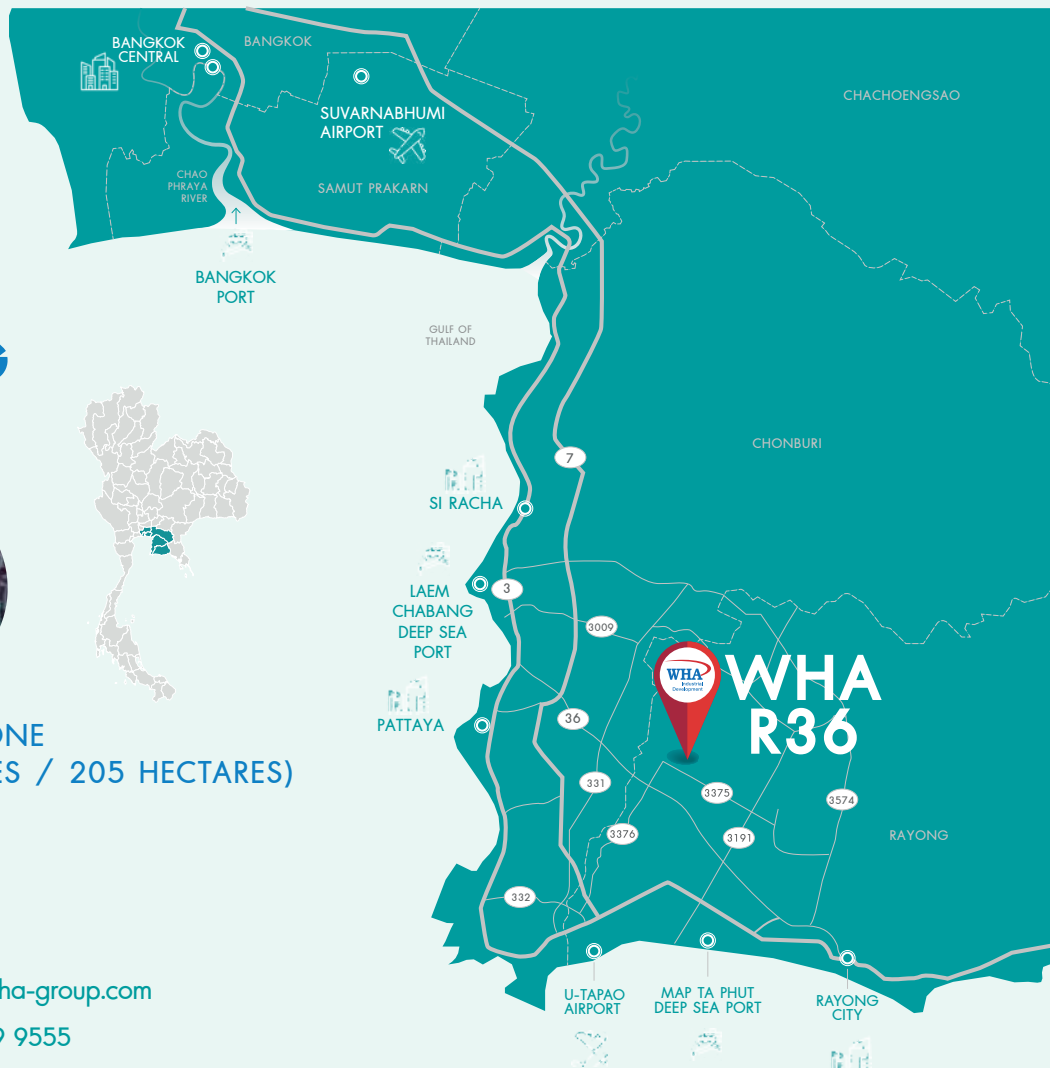


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# CSR ARTICLE

## WHA GROUP FOSTERS SUSTAINABLE GROWTH THROUGH Wecycle PROJECT TARGETING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

*Water hyacinth from WHA Group's Clean Water for Planet Initiative and recycled PET bottles are used to create school backpacks and hampers using the circular economy concept*

In a move to further underscore its commitment to sustainability, WHA Group initiated a WeCYCLE project using water hyacinth from WHA Group's constructed wetland systems and upcycled PET bottles, to produce backpacks to distribute to students in schools around WHA industrial estates. In partnership with PTT Global Chemical Public Company Ltd. (also known as PTTGC), this project also produced hampers and laptop bags. The WeCYCLE project also helps educate children and people in the community on sorting, recycling and reducing plastic waste.

Under the WeCYCLE project, employees and customers of WHA Group are invited to deposit their PET bottles and all other plastic containers, including plastic food wrappers and plastic bags, in one of the YOUTURN drop points. The project received very good feedback. YOUTURN is a plastic waste management platform of PTTGC that joins hands with many partners to campaign on sorting, recycling and reducing plastic waste. YOUTURN drop points are located at the corporate headquarters at WHA Tower in Bangna, and 8 other WHA locations:

1. ESIE PLAZA 1
2. ESIE PLAZA 2
3. WHA PLAZA 3
4. WHA CITY PARK
5. ESIE OFFICE
6. WHA ESIE 4 OFFICE
7. WHA EIE OFFICE (MAP TA PHUT)
8. WHA RIL OFFICE



WeCYCLE, under Clean Water for Planet WHA Group CSR program, is an upcycle project using PET bottles and water hyacinth fiber from Constructed Wetlands of WHA industrial estates, turning materials into backpacks for students.

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**WeCYCLE**  
by  
**WHA GROUP x GC**

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For the upcycling process, WHA Group collected water hyacinth which grows abundantly in constructed wetland projects. Fresh stems of water hyacinth are split and dried until it becomes fiber. It is then blended with recycled polyester fiber from upcycled PET bottles. Threads from the process are woven into a durable polyester fabric for manufacturing heavy-duty school bags, beautifully-designed hampers, practical laptop bags and other useful products.



## Clean Water, Clean Planet

In 2016, WHA Group launched the Clean Water for Planet project to raise awareness on the importance of water, to create a better understanding and to teach community members to take care of this precious natural resource. WHA Group has successfully constructed and delivered wastewater management and treatment facility to various communities in order to improve water quality in canals. This environment-friendly constructed wetland was inspired by the efforts and projects of H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great to treat wastewater biologically. WHA Group has delivered the wastewater management and treatment facility to the Pluak Daeng Subdistrict Administrative Organization, Rayong, and has participated in a project to develop a wastewater treatment system in Nong Khla Subdistrict Municipality, Chanthaburi. Moreover, WHA Group has also signed an MoU with Chulalongkorn University to exchange knowledge and collaborate on a wastewater management and wastewater treatment engineering project. To support their development and training, engineering students are able to convert theoretical knowledge into practical skills at industrial estates and nearby communities.

## WHA Group Circular Economy

WHA Group believes in utilizing resources effectively, so it has adopted the circular economy concept, which consists in taking used objects or waste materials to add more value through the upcycling process. For example, the water hyacinth stalks collected in the wastewater ponds of WHA industrial estates, and PET bottles deposited by WHA employees and customers for upcycling, are processed into different items such as schoolbags for children in the community and corporate gift baskets. In addition, people from nearby communities also have the opportunity to participate in the production of water hyacinth fiber which helps generate revenue and raise awareness on the effective use of valuable resources and the preservation of a healthy and sustainable ecosystem.

"I am grateful to our strategic partner, PTTGC, for their support to make the WeCYCLE project a success. We hope that this initiative will inspire others on the circular economy concept and encourage more people to use resources wisely," said Ms. Jareeporn Jarukornsakul, Chairman and Group CEO, WHA Corporation PCL. "We aim to continuously run our business under the circular economy concept until it becomes part of the company's culture of sustainability. I am proud of the enthusiasm shown by the WHA community to support our green initiatives that will not only benefit the environment, but also empower the community and the society around us."

WHA Group is ready to participate in more green projects as a responsible corporate citizen and underscore its commitment as an official communications partner of APEC 2022 to be held in Thailand from 14–19 November in 2022. The company is fully engaged in Thailand's efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations, in order to leave a better planet for future generations.



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