SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS & INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SISIR)

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• The institute is the national standards authority and undertakes work in industrial R&D, design and development technical consultancy, technology transfer testing and evaluation, failure analysis and diagnosis. The areas where such work is handled are in Materials technology, Product and Process technology, Electronic and Computer Application.

SISIR's R&D efforts are mainly client-sponsored. They have undertaken R&D projects for various local and foreign companies in the above fields. However as well as undertaking contract R&D and consultancy work, SISIR has also been involve in developing its own line of industrial products some of which like the SISIR orchid, algae-resistant paint and waste oil treatment have already been commercially available or could be customized to meet clients requirements. Currently the areas of expertise are in microelectronics, surface technology, computer simulation for mechanical devises and structures and chemical-electro plating.

SISIR plans to open a food biotechnology centre in June, an EMC (Electro-Magnetic Compatibility) research centre in the third quarter, and begin a threeyear program to bring in a panel of international advisers.

The food biotechnology centre will concentrate on food taste enhancement and "basic" food research rather than on automation and packaging. The EMC centre will "...test electronic products which emit electro-magnetic signals to check the extent of disruption caused to neighbouring electronic equipment." The centre will have the capability to determine if products comply with specific international standards. The panel of international advisers stands currently at six, a strengthening of the overseas network established over the years.

With possible funding from the European Community (EC), SISIR may set up a National Institute of Environmental Technology. The proposed institute "...will focus on the treatment of industrial waste, industrial pollution and other related environmental matters such as waste recycling." The Institute will be a training