

Press Release

Corals at *Resorts World at Sentosa* moves to new home

Singapore, 4 July 2007 – Resorts World at Sentosa (RWS) today shared details about the relocation of corals and marine life before reclamation works take place on parts of Sentosa's northern coastline.

This is an initiative undertaken by RWS to save hard and soft corals and other marine creatures in the area. Marine biologists from RWS's appointed consultancy firm, DHI Water & Environment Singapore, commenced the relocation of these corals and creatures from their home at Sentosa to the Southern Islands last week. The relocation is expected to be completed by beginning of August before reclamation works start.

Four-step relocation guide for corals

RWS's Deputy Director, Projects, Mr Patrick Too explained why RWS is undertaking the coral relocation exercise: "Although none of these corals along the Resort's shoreline are rare or endangered, RWS made a decision to **move** them. They are after all, still precious marine creatures and part of Sentosa and Singapore's natural marine heritage. And they are much loved by nature lovers. RWS wants to give these corals the best chance to survive in a new environment." Experienced marine biologists and divers from DHI Singapore are carrying out the relocation.

DHI adds that coral relocation can be a successful method to compensate for some of the direct loss in habitat caused by reclamation works as proven for other projects in Singapore. DHI's experienced marine biologists and divers, together with a careful selection of the "new home", will ensure the success of the relocation.

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DHI has adopted a phased approach to the coral relocation programme.

After some study, it first identified a site at the Southern Islands for the corals' new home. The new environment is comparable to the corals' original home at Sentosa. The site is then cleaned and prepared to receive the corals.

In the second phase, the corals are harvested using hand tools and temporarily "stored" underwater close to the harvesting location.

The corals are then put into a cage and moved by a boat to their new location. To minimise stress, the corals are submerged at all times, limiting their exposure to air.

Finally in the last phase, the corals will be attached to their new home, on solid substrate (granite rocks), using underwater cement.

Giving corals and marine life a chance of survival

The relocated corals are being tagged and labelled, and their health and status will be monitored over the next 12 months as part of the relocation programme. Based on DHI's experience in its previous projects, the survival rate of relocated corals in Singapore waters is between 80 and 90 per cent.

Sentosa's Environmental Management Director Mr Tan Kok Yeang said Sentosa is pleased to collaborate on this initiative. "We are heartened that our partner Resorts World at Sentosa is taking this measured and responsible approach to the environment, even as it undertakes the actual construction of this mammoth project."

Mr Too continued, "With some tender loving care, we hope the corals and marine creatures will thrive in their new home."

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About Resorts World at Sentosa

Resorts World at Sentosa will be a world-class premier integrated resort to take pride of place on a 49-ha site on Singapore's Sentosa Island. Slated for opening in 2010, the Resort will encompass the region's first Universal Studios theme park, DreamWorks Digital Animation Studios, the world's largest oceanarium Marine Life Park, the exciting Equarius Water Park and the region's first fully integrated wellness spa.

The \$5.2 billion resort looks to welcome 15 million visitors in 2010, and its array of family-friendly attractions will be a place that Singaporeans can call their own. There will be six world-class hotels providing more 1,800 rooms, with full meeting and conference amenities.

Beyond the gated attractions, the Resort will offer public entertainment and attractions like the Crane Ballet, a showcase of multi-media moving art and cleverly choreographed animatronics crane dances at the waterfront.

The 1,700-seat Imagineering Theatre will feature a magical dreamlike show with water, light and visual effects. There will also be an unparalleled array of retail and dining options at the FestiveWalk with roving acts and street performances at the Bull Ring.

About DHI

DHI Water & Environment's experience in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines dates back to the 1970's.

DHI Water & Environment Singapore was established in 2003 following several large projects in Singapore. Our core services are within coastal, port engineering; reclamation works and associated hydrographic and marine habitat surveys; water resources management; environmental impact and monitoring management.

DHI Singapore aims to provide its customers with reliable results and recommendations based on a combination of expert knowledge, field data investigation and analysis, as well as physical and numerical modelling.

DHI Singapore is an accredited National Environment Agency (NEA) consultant for site assessment studies in Singapore.

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