

JAPAN FOODS HOLDING LTD

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Japan Foods clinches twin accolades at Singapore Corporate Awards 2018

- *Named Best Managed Board (Gold) 2018 for companies with less than S\$300 million in market capitalisation.*
- *Chief Financial Officer, Mr Kenneth Liew, named Best CFO 2018 for companies with less than S\$300 million in market capitalisation.*

SINGAPORE, 19 July 2018 – Leading Japanese restaurant chain, **Japan Foods Holding Ltd.** ("**Japan Foods**" and together with its subsidiaries, the "**Group**"), has clinched twin honours at the Singapore Corporate Awards 2018.

For the category of companies with less than S\$300 million in market capitalisation, the Group was awarded "Best Managed Board (Gold)" and its Chief Financial Officer, Mr Kenneth Liew, was also named "Best CFO".

The Best Managed Board Award recognises company boards for adopting best practices in transparency, accountability, performance orientation, good processes and practices, providing a multi-dimensional view of board effectiveness, and underscoring the importance of human capital practices at the board level.

The Best CFO Award recognises the role of the CFO in supporting, advocating and promoting good corporate governance, disclosure and transparency as well as being a role model for corporate financial disclosure by going beyond the regulatory financial reporting requirements, helping the organisation to create long-term sustainable shareholder value, helping the business navigate change and advise on strategic direction, and being an effective leader for the finance and accounting function.

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Mr Takahashi Kenichi, Executive Chairman and CEO of Japan Foods, said: *“As a Board that has taken great strides to improve corporate governance over the years, we are extremely proud and delighted that our efforts have been recognised at the prestigious Singapore Corporate Awards. This is our third award in three years and we are very encouraged to know that we are growing from strength to strength in the area of corporate governance.”*

The Group was named “Most Transparent Company (Overall Winner for Catalyst)” at the 17th SIAS Investors’ Choice Awards 2016 and “Transparency Award - SMEs” at the 18th SIAS Investors’ Choice Awards 2017 for commendable standards in disclosure and transparency.

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About Japan Foods

Established in Singapore in 1997 and listed on the Catalyst Board of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited in February 2009, Japan Foods is one of the leading Japanese restaurant chains in Singapore. As at 31 March 2018, the Group operates 50 restaurants in Singapore under various brands, such as “Ajisen Ramen”, “Osaka Ohsho” and “Menya Musashi”.

Over the years, Japan Foods has successfully expanded its restaurant network of the “Ajisen Ramen” brand and has also created its own “Dutch Baby Cafe”, “Fruit Paradise”, “Ginza Kushi Katsu” and “Japanese Gourmet Town” brands. The Group is focused on innovation and aims to continuously refresh the dining experience of its customers.

The Group has expanded beyond Singapore. As at 31 March 2018, there are 2 restaurants in Malaysia and 2 restaurants in Vietnam operated by the Group’s sub-franchisees under the “Ajisen Ramen” brand. The Group also has interests in 8 restaurants in Hong Kong and 10 restaurants in China operated by its associated companies under the “Menya Musashi” brand.

Japan Foods was named the Most Transparent Company (Catalist) at the 17th SIAS Investors’ Choice Awards in 2016 and also awarded the Transparency Award – SMEs at the 18th SIAS Investors’ Choice Awards 2017.

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This news release has been reviewed by the Company's sponsor, CIMB Bank Berhad, Singapore Branch (the "Sponsor") for compliance with the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited ("SGX-ST") Listing Manual Section B: Rules of Catalyst. The Sponsor has not independently verified the contents of this news release. This news release has not been examined or approved by the SGX-ST. The Sponsor and the SGX-ST assume no responsibility for the contents of this news release, including the correctness of any of the statements or opinions made or reports contained in this news release. The contact person for the Sponsor is Ms Tan Cher Ting, Director, Investment Banking, CIMB Bank Berhad, Singapore Branch, at 50 Raffles Place, #09-01 Singapore Land Tower, Singapore 048623, Telephone: +65 6337 5115.