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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Food Empire opens state-of-the-art instant coffee manufacturing facility in India

- Adopts the latest instant coffee technology to produce 10 different types and qualities of spray dried instant coffee and granulated coffee
- Fully automated, the production of instant coffee is in accordance with customized specifications and internationally recognized standards
- Allows Company to move up the value chain and expands its coffee product offering

**Singapore, 16 May 2017** – Food Empire Holdings Limited ("Food Empire", together with its subsidiaries, the "Group"), an international food and beverages company headquartered in Singapore, officially opened its wholly-owned subsidiary, Indus Coffee Pvt Ltd's, ("Indus Coffee") state-of-the-art instant coffee manufacturing facility ("instant coffee plant") in Mambattu, Andhra Pradesh, India, today. The celebration was graced by Mr S. Iswaran, Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry, and Mr. N. Amarnath Reddy, Andhra Pradesh Minister for Industries.



Indus Coffee's Coffee Plant in Mambattu, Andhra Pradesh, India

The instant coffee plant, which is fully automated, adopts the latest coffee technology throughout its production process and ensures high quality from roasting, extraction, aroma recovery, concentration, spray drying to agglomeration. The plant is currently producing 10 different types and qualities of spray dried instant coffee and granulated coffee. Each product is manufactured in accordance with customised specifications and also internationally recognised standards.

Driven by increased sophistication of consumers' taste and more innovative ideas by manufacturers to enhance the quality, aroma and flavour of instant coffee<sup>1</sup>, consumers are

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Global Instant Coffee Market", A2A Market Research, April 5, 2017



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searching for a wider variety of coffee products. The Group's instant coffee plant allows it to expand its current coffee product offering as well as provide the Group with greater control over the supply and production of raw materials.

The Group's Executive Chairman, Mr. Tan Wang Cheow, said, "We are aware of the evolving trends in the instant coffee industry and believe that our new coffee plant puts us in a strong position to capitalise on these growth opportunities. As consumers are increasingly willing to pay a premium for high-quality coffee, our coffee plant will allow us to drive sustainable growth. In addition, this is also in line with our upstream expansion along the Food & Beverage value-chain which will enable us to better stabilise and maintain our high-quality standards.

Despite only being operational for slightly more than a year, the plant is currently profitable which also reflects on the potential of this investment. Moving forward, we will ramp up production scale as well as continue to invest efforts in expanding our product portfolio to deliver greater value to our shareholders."

End –

## **About Food Empire Holdings Limited (Bloomberg Code: FEH SP)**

SGX Mainboard-listed Food Empire Holdings ("the Group") is a global branding and manufacturing company specialising in the food and beverage industry. The Group's products portfolio includes instant beverages, frozen convenience food, confectionery and snacks.

Food Empire produces a wide variety of instant beverages such as regular and flavoured coffee mixes and cappuccinos, chocolate drinks and flavoured fruit teas. The Group also markets instant breakfast cereal, assorted easy-to-prepare frozen foods, and snack items such as potato crisps and corn sticks. In addition to consumer retail products, the Group also sells raw ingredients like instant coffee and non-dairy creamer to other food manufacturers under its B2B arm. In 2015, the Group set up a joint venture, Cap Empire S.r.I (Cap Empire), in Italy to produce and market capsules for coffee and other beverages.

Food Empire's products are sold to over 50 countries, in markets such as Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Central Asia, China, Indochina, the Middle East, Africa, Mongolia, Europe and the US. The Group has 24 offices (representative and liaison) worldwide. The Group operates six manufacturing facilities (two in Malaysia, Myanmar, Russia, Ukraine and Vietnam) and three production facilities (two in Malaysia and one in India).

Food Empire's strength lies in its proprietary brands – including MacCoffee, Petrovskaya Sloboda, Klassno, Café Pho, CafeRite, NutriRite, Hillway, Hyson, OrienBites and Kracks. MacCoffee - the Group's flagship brand - has been consistently ranked as the leading 3-in-1 instant coffee brand in the Group's core market of Russia, Ukraine and Central Asia. The Group employs sophisticated brand building activities, localised to match the demographics and consumer trends of the local markets in which its products are sold.



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Since its public listing in 2000, Food Empire has won numerous accolades and awards including being recognized as one of the "Most Valuable Singapore Brands" by IE Singapore, while MacCoffee has been ranked as one of "The Strongest Singapore Brands". Forbes Magazine has twice named Food Empire as one of the "Best under a Billion" companies in Asia and the company has also been awarded one of Asia's "Top Brand" by Influential Brands.

For more information, please refer to: http://www.foodempire.com

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