

Media Release

For immediate release

### **Underwater World Singapore brings marine ecology closer to visitors with MAGIC-T**

*Singapore, 13 November 2007* – As part of its continuing efforts to foster closer connections between people and aquatic life in the ever-changing global landscape, Underwater World Singapore (UWS) once again fuses aquatic science and technology! This time however, the aquarium dabbles with some mystique as well!

The Mystical Anti Gravity Interactive Concept Tank or MAGIC-T is the latest avant-garde attraction at UWS. Visitors will now be able to feed the fishes enclosed in the MAGIC-T, through openings in the side and not have any water splashing out of the tank. Sounds like a tall order?

Under normal circumstances and the laws of physics, water would flow out through any hole in the middle of a water-filled tank. The MAGIC-T however, defies gravity with its specially designed mechanism that creates a vacuum at the top of the tank and maintains low pressure such that water does not come gushing out of the outlets.

This unique exhibit which comes with 2 tanks features a myriad of freshwater and marine fish respectively. The freshwater species include the Corydoras (*Corydoras sp*), Ram Cichlid (*Mikrogeophagus ramirezi*), Black Tetra (*Gymnocorymbus ternetzi*), Emperor Tetras (*Nematobrycon palmeri*), Rummy-nose Tetras (*Hemigrammus rhodostomus*), Mono Fish *Monodactylus argenteus* and Columbian Tetras (*Hyphessobrycon columbianus*). Marine fish enthusiasts on the other hand can come up close with varieties such as the Yellow Tang (*Zebrasoma flavescens*), Brown Tang (*Zebrasoma scopes*), Sailfin Tang (*Zebrasoma desjardini*), Tomini Tang (*Ctenochaetus tominiensis*), Damselfish (*Pomacentridae sp*), Wrasses (*Labridae*) and the Moorish Idol (*Zanclus cornutus*).

Dr Jeffrey Mahon, Curatorial Director of UWS commenting on the rationale behind the Mystical Anti Gravity Interactive Concept Tank, "As part of our ongoing quest to bring in new interactive displays, we found that the MAGIC-T is truly unique and amazing. The construction is totally different than standard fish tanks, so it took considerable effort to produce this effect. I'm confident that our guests will find it awe-inspiring."

Mr Kwek Meng Tiam, General Manager of Underwater World Singapore commenting on the launch of the MAGIC-T, "At UWS, we constantly introduce new and unique exhibits to enhance the experience of every visitor. This time around, we want to take it a step further by encouraging creativity, imagination and appreciation for aquatic life for everyone who comes through the oceanarium. The ocean is faced with serious threats such as global warming, and we hope that the MAGIC-T will also bring about a closer connection and deeper appreciation of the importance of marine conservation".



### **About Underwater World Singapore**

Underwater World Singapore is a wholly owned subsidiary of Haw Par Corporation. Situated on Sentosa Island, this leisure and educational attraction showcases the rich variety of marine life to be found around the region, with educational and recreational activities available here.

The Dolphin Lagoon, an attraction of Underwater World Singapore houses the Indo-Pacific Humpbacked Dolphins, commonly known as pink dolphins for its coat of "bubbly" pink in contrast to the usual grey appearance of dolphins. At the "Meet-the-Dolphin" sessions, visitors can enjoy a close encounter with these adorable pink creatures.

At Underwater World Singapore, our mission goes beyond making our guests aware of the fascinating marine life. Our commitment to marine conservation and environmental awareness is demonstrated through our work in public education, breeding, rescue and rehabilitation, and research. Underwater World Singapore reinforces its environmental efforts through educational exhibits and a variety of education programmes to children and other guests. School visits are actively supported, and a number of new educational programmes are planned. Underwater World Singapore has also been very active in providing special programmes and assistance to the physically and mentally disabled.

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