

# Launch of a new Long Term Pass card

The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) and Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) issued a joint statement on 2nd July 2008, announcing the introduction of a new Long Term Pass (LTP) card to foreigners in Singapore.

The LTP card will be issued to holders of all Employment Pass\*, Dependant Pass, Long Term Visit Pass and Student Pass categories.

This initiative is intended to enhance national security and to bring it in line with the National Registration Identity Card (NRIC) held by Singapore citizens. It will also facilitate automated immigration clearance at major checkpoints in Singapore through faster verification of personal particulars.

Additional key features of the new LTP card are:

- It will incorporate the photo image and fingerprint of all cardholders aged 15 and above;
- It replaces the current dual system of a stamp endorsement in the holder's travel document and paper-laminated green FIN card;
- It will be credit card-sized and produced in a more durable format;
- Enhanced security features and personal biometrics are intended to deter forgery or fraudulent use of the card.



## Phased Implementation

The MOM plans to launch this scheme in the second quarter of 2009.

To facilitate this, it will open an Employment Pass Services Centre to carry out LTP card registration for new applicants for all Employment Pass\* and related family pass categories.

Following the launch, existing holders of the above passes will transition to the new LTP card only when their passes are due for renewal.

The ICA plans to roll out the scheme later in 2008 in relation to new Student Passes and ICA issued long term visit passes, although a precise date remains to be confirmed. For existing holders of these passes, conversion will take place either in phases or when renewal of the current pass becomes due, whichever is earlier.

Further details relating to the LTP card and its registration process are to be released in due course. We will monitor this closely and provide updates on any development.

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\* This will include the Personalised Employment Pass, EntrePass, Training Employment Pass, and Work Holiday Pass.

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