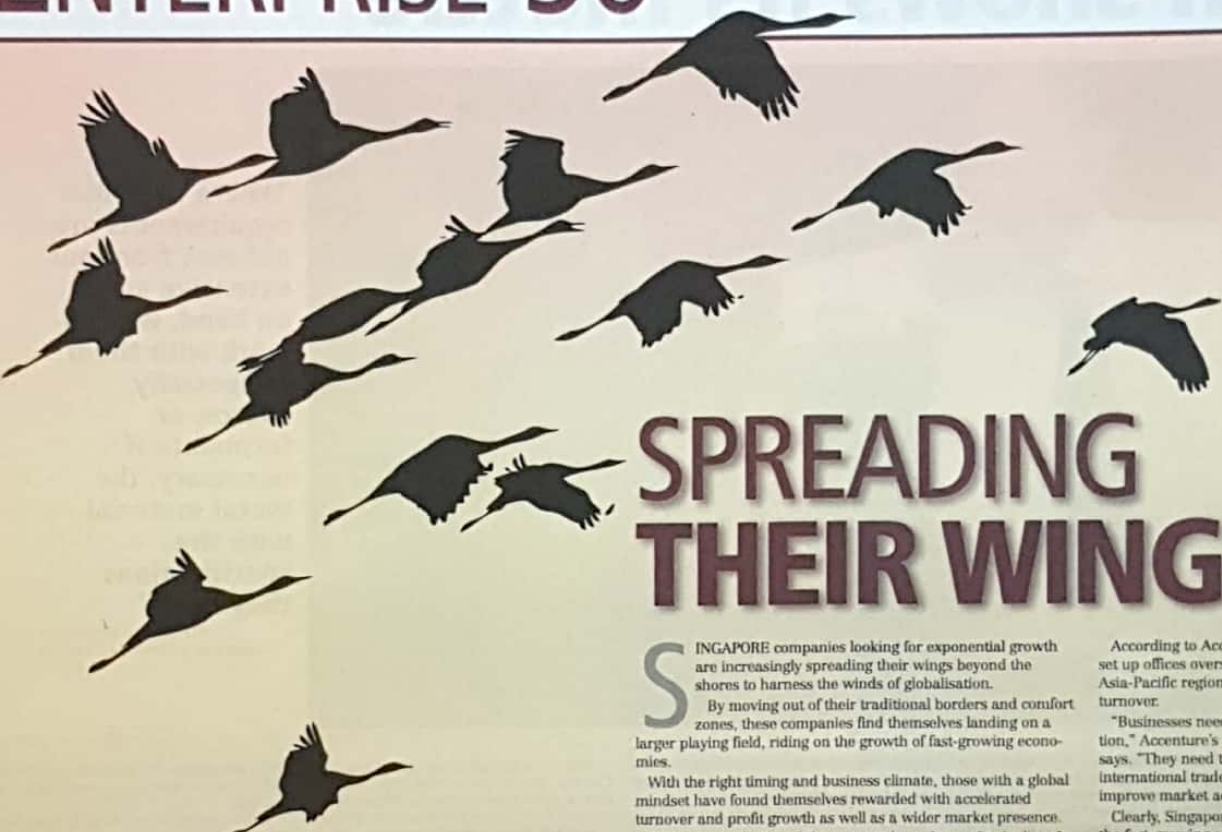


THE BUSINESS TIMES ENTERPRISE 50

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SPREADING THEIR WINGS

SINGAPORE companies looking for exponential growth are increasingly spreading their wings beyond the shores to harness the winds of globalisation.

By moving out of their traditional borders and comfort zones, these companies find themselves landing on a larger playing field, riding on the growth of fast-growing economies.

With the right timing and business climate, those with a global mindset have found themselves rewarded with accelerated turnover and profit growth as well as a wider market presence.

These have also placed them in good stead to make the list of Enterprise 50.

Besides the dollar aspect, Enterprise 50 (E50) companies are local private firms that excel in knowledge management, management philosophy and innovation.

In its 13th year running, the E50 award is jointly organised by Accenture and *The Business Times* with the support of IDA, IE Singapore and Spring Singapore, and sponsored by OCBC.

According to Accenture, 74 per cent of this year's winners have set up offices overseas – in the United States, Europe and the Asia-Pacific region – contributing to about 58 per cent of their turnover.

"Businesses need to continue to harness the forces of globalisation," Accenture's country managing director Seah Chin Siang says. "They need to maintain openness to foreign investment and international trade while continuing to develop networks to improve market access."

Clearly, Singapore's continual drive to forge stronger links with the fast-growing economies of South-east Asia have enabled companies to tap into new sources of capital, talent, resources, consumers and innovation, he adds.

Alongside the E50 award, this year, five companies also make the list of e50 startups, which recognises some of Singapore's most innovative and enterprising start-ups that may not have the track record to make it to the main E50 list.

Lee Hee Khoo

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