

# In the making: Region's coolest mega theme park

**Local firms Etha Engineering Pte Ltd and PRIMA Research & Technologies Pte Ltd have joined hands with Resorts World at Sentosa (RWS) to up the island's cool factor.**

Singapore's hot and humid climate will not deter visitors from enjoying outdoor rides at the upcoming Universal Studios nor dining alfresco at the outdoor areas within the whopping 49-hectare RWS.

Everyone who visits RWS when it opens in early 2010 will enjoy a cool and dry climate, round-the-clock, all year round — all thanks to a solar-powered eco-cooling system designed

to continually keep outdoor temperatures at a comfortable 25°C.

In addition to tapping solar power, the system leverages on evaporative technology to remove latent heat from the air, a secondary process to extract moisture from the damp and cool air, as well as a three-layer canopy to control the amount of sunlight entering outdoor areas.



**PRIMA (front), Etha Engineering (middle) and RWS have teamed up to develop a solar-powered eco-cooling system that can keep visitors at Resorts World at Sentosa cool and comfortable throughout their stay.**

Mr Michael Chin, RWS' Executive Vice President of Projects, is pleased to partner dynamic local firms to make RWS the coolest leisure destination of its kind in South-east Asia.

"We want our visitors to enjoy themselves in comfort," he said.

"The eco-cooling system is the only such outdoor cooling system in the world. No other theme park has such a device in place."

Going green also makes business sense, he pointed out. The system is expected to be 40% cheaper to operate and maintain compared to using air-conditioners for all the outdoor areas.

This environmental indus-

try collaboration is supported by SPRING Singapore's Enviro-Tech Capability Development Programme.

The system took six months to develop and is now undergoing testing.

To validate the test results, the companies turned to the Environmental and Water Technology Centre of Innovation (EWT COI) at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

Excited about the long term prospects of the eco-cooling system, Mr Chin said, "It's a great breakthrough for Singapore. Once it is marketed, it can put Singapore on the world map. We would revolutionise the way outdoor areas are cooled, and do it economically."