



NLB

COMFORTDELGRO



## Media Release

### **NLB Launches Special Delivery Service for the Physically Challenged**

*ComfortDelGro Cabbies Pledge Their Support With Free Delivery Rides*

**Singapore, 21 January 2009** – The National Library Board (NLB) today launched a special home delivery service for library members who are physically challenged. Named *Project Deliver Me*, the initiative engages NLB's community of volunteers in the selection and delivery of library materials to the doorsteps of homebound people who are unable to visit the library because of an illness or a disability. With this service, people with physical disabilities can now have access to the wide range of library materials from the comfort of their own homes.

#### **Positive Start to *Project Deliver Me***

Since the start of the trial in June 2007, a total of 53 recipient members have signed up for the service. 145 home visits were conducted with the support of 79 volunteers, who assisted in the selection, delivery and return of library materials on pre-determined dates scheduled for the year. The next three delivery dates scheduled for this year include 24 January, 4 April and 13 June 2009.

Beneficiaries of *Project Deliver Me* must be registered members of organisations that serve the physically-challenged, and are deemed to experience maneuverability difficulties or inconvenience accessing the libraries on their own.

Various community organisations such as Handicaps Welfare Association, Muscular Dystrophy Association Singapore, Singapore Cheshire Home, Society for the Physically Disabled, People's Association Youth Movement-Bishan North Youth Executive Committee and Nanyang Junior College have pledged their support for *Project Deliver Me*.

Dr N Varaprasad, Chief Executive, National Library Board (NLB) said, “Our Public Libraries have evolved over the years to stay relevant in meeting the learning needs of Singaporeans, including the underserved. We strongly believe that everyone has the right of access to library materials and we hope through *Project Deliver Me*, we can further integrate people with disabilities into mainstream community life by addressing their needs to read and learn.”

### **ComfortDelGro Cabbies Support Worthy Cause**

Since last year, CabbyCare Charity Group, a volunteer driver group made up of ComfortDelGro cabbies, has been conveying NLB volunteers to deliver and collect library materials for free.

53-year-old CabbyCare cabby Sim Soon Teck, who participated in the trial and is also a book lover, said: “I love reading, so when I first heard that I will be helping to deliver books to the doorsteps of the underprivileged, I was more than happy to help. Having the books delivered to the beneficiaries will definitely encourage them to read. I don’t mind sacrificing my time off the roads if I can spread the love of reading.”

Institutions or organisations interested to register their members for *Project Deliver Me* can email their request to NLB at [vms@nlb.gov.sg](mailto:vms@nlb.gov.sg).

### **About National Library Board**

The National Library Board's mission is to provide a trusted, accessible and globally-connected library and information service through the National Library and a comprehensive network of Public Libraries. Also under its management are 1 community children's library, and 17 libraries belonging to government agencies, schools and institutions. Through its innovative use of technology and collaboration with strategic partners, NLB ensures that library users have access to a rich array of information services and resources that are convenient, accessible and relevant. More information on NLB can be found on [www.nlb.gov.sg](http://www.nlb.gov.sg)

### **About Public Libraries Singapore**

The Public Libraries Singapore (PLS) provides a professional and engaging public library service to Singaporeans in their pursuit of lifelong learning and discovery through the network of 22 Public Libraries (including three regional libraries) located conveniently across Singapore. More information on PLS can be found on [www.pl.sg](http://www.pl.sg)

### **About ComfortDelGro Corporation Limited**

ComfortDelGro is the world's second largest land transport company with a total fleet size of more than 41,500 buses, taxis and rental vehicles. It operates in seven countries - Singapore, China, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, Vietnam and Malaysia – giving it the broadest footprint amongst its international peers. Currently, overseas ventures account for 42% of Group turnover. The Group aims to derive 70% of its total turnover from overseas within the next five to seven years. In Singapore, the Group operates a total of 15,000 taxis.

### **About CabbyCare Charity Group**

CabbyCare Charity Group was initiated and formed in February 2000 by eight cabbies who wanted to spend their time more productively by helping the less fortunate. It then grew to its current size of 100 members and is very active in various community projects. CabbyCare was given the Outstanding New Volunteerism Initiative Award by the National Volunteer Centre in November 2002 and the President's Service Social Award in August 2003.