



GDS
Global Limited

GDS GLOBAL LIMITED

(Company Registration No.: 201217895H)
(Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore on 19 July 2012)

PRESS RELEASE

GDS positions for growth with first foray into the US and commercial roll-out of 4th-generation products

- *Inks exclusive distributorship with BRG, becoming the US market's only supplier of Gliderol blast-mitigating and blast-resistant roller shutters*
- *Visit by BRG top executives to the Group's manufacturing facility marks significant partnership development*
- *Well-positioned for the next phase of growth with its new market entry and innovative products*



From Right: (Mr Aaron Westover, President & CEO of BRG; Ms Gina Lee, Executive Director of GDS)

Singapore, 7 October 2024: Singapore-listed GDS Global Limited (“GDS” or the “Company”, and together with its subsidiaries, the “Group”), a leading specialist provider of commercial and industrial door and shutter solutions in Southeast Asia, operating under the brand name of “Gliderol”, has made strides towards business growth with positive advancements under the new leadership team that took the helm in late 2023.



The Group has made its first foray into the United States (“**US**”) with the appointment of Blast Resource Group, LLC (“**BRG**”) as its exclusive distributor to market and distribute Gliderol’s blast-mitigating and blast-resistant shutters in the US. BRG is a leading supplier of metal building systems and offers speciality engineering and design services in support of clients with hazardous risks. Its in-house expertise provides turnkey built solutions for industrial operations challenged with mitigating fire and blast concerns.

The appointment paves the way for the Group to become the US market’s only provider of Gliderol blast-mitigating and blast-resistant roller shutters. The partnership addresses a critical gap in the US market, where there are currently no similar products that are specifically designed and tested to withstand explosions.

Affirming the strong commitment on both sides, BRG’s top executives made a visit to the Group’s Singapore headquarters and manufacturing facility.

Ms Gina Lee, Executive Director of GDS said, “The Group today is a renewed and evolved force in the doors and shutters industry following our leadership transformation. Alongside our ongoing product innovation and cost management strategies, we made a pivot to pursue growth more aggressively in our markets. We believe our latest achievements, namely the partnership with BRG in the US for our blast shutters and innovative product developments, puts us in a strong position to pursue revenue opportunities and propel us to greater heights.”

“BRG is very excited to bring Gliderol’s incredible products to the US,” said Aaron Westover, BRG’s President & CEO. “Gliderol’s blast-mitigating and blast-resistant roller shutters help fill a big void in the industry, providing an effective solution to protect life and property from blast wave infiltration through roller doors. This partnership allows BRG to offer our clients a tailor-made solution to this problem that perfectly complements our longstanding capabilities as a building supplier.”

Meanwhile in Southeast Asia, the Group partners with AJA Enterprises Pte Ltd (“**AJA**”) for the sale of Gliderol blast-mitigating and blast-resistant shutters. Headquartered in Singapore, AJA is a pioneer blast mitigation specialist with a fast-expanding presence in the region. The Group and AJA have deployed Gliderol’s blast shutters to safeguard critical infrastructures in the region that include power plants and water-treatment plants.

Conventional roller shutters can become hazardous debris during a blast, a risk common in facilities handling flammable materials where accidental vapour cloud explosions may occur. To mitigate this hazard, the Group, in consultation with ABSG Consulting Inc. (US), developed a blast-resistant roller shutter. The design allows the shutter curtain to undergo plastic deformation under blast pressure, progressively arresting the movement of its components. This prevents component failure and the generation of debris.



Other Developments

The Group has passed vital fire tests for its patented fourth generation Gliderol® Insulated Fire Roller Shutter (“**IFS-4G**”) in Malaysia and Singapore respectively, setting the stage for its commercial roll-out in these two markets. In May 2024, the product was fire-tested in Malaysia and successfully passed and achieved 120 minutes of fire insulation and fire integrity for its single-layer IFS-4G-120 model, making it the only roller shutter in the country. This was followed by the single-layer IFS-4G-240 model fire test in Singapore in July 2024 and delivered an impressive 240 minutes of fire insulation and fire integrity.

IFS-4G is an all-steel, single-layer roller shutter capable of withstanding intense flames without overheating and igniting combustible materials on the other side, thus halting the spread of fire. Its single-layer design offers enhanced cost and production efficiency and is more maintenance-friendly. Equally important, it also offers great space savings which is well received by architects. These advantages, along with its excellent fire insulation and fire integrity, make IFS-4G an ideal fire barrier solution for industrial factories, warehouse, data centres, shopping malls, hospitals and large-scale government projects.

Infrastructure developments both in Malaysia and Singapore are expected to provide opportunities for the Group’s products. Malaysia’s construction sector is expected to continue to grow in the second half of 2024, supported by infrastructure projects like the Penang Light Rail Transit and Mass Rapid Transit 3 in the Klang Valley and strong demand for industrial buildings such as warehouses, data centres and semiconductor plants.¹ Similarly, construction demand is expected to improve steadily in Singapore reaching between S\$31 billion and S\$38 billion per year from 2025 to 2028², where the Group will continue to focus on commercial and industrial sectors, which represent approximately 30% of the overall construction demand in 2024³.

¹ <https://www.thestar.com.my/business/business-news/2024/05/02/bullish-outlook-for-construction-sector-on-job-flows> (2 May 2024)

² <https://www1.bca.gov.sg/about-us/news-and-publications/media-releases/2024/01/15/steady-demand-for-the-construction-sector-projected-for-2024> (15 January 2024)

³ https://www1.bca.gov.sg/docs/default-source/docs-corp-form/free_stats.pdf?sfvrsn=4d68f8be4_131 (12 September 2024)



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About GDS Global Limited

Established in 1982 and listed on the Catalist Board of Singapore Exchange since 2013, the Group is a leading specialist provider of commercial and industrial door and shutter solutions in Southeast Asia, operating under the brand name of “Gliderol”. With a strong commitment to innovation and customer satisfaction, the Group operates one of the largest door and shutter manufacturing facilities at its headquarters in Singapore. Please visit www.gdsglobal.com.sg for more information.

About Blast Resource Group, LLC

Blast Resource Group, LLC is a leading supplier of metal building systems and offers specialty engineering and design services in support of clients with hazardous risks. Its in-house experts provide turnkey built solutions for industrial operations challenged with mitigating fire and blast concerns.

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