



can keep an eye on their vachts. Some 2,600 homes are set to be completed by 2008 (land parcels are currently up for tender and auction) and are expected to cost several million dollars each. That such exclusive, world-class accommodations are now being built to cater to local and international tastes is evidence of the rising standards of living in Singapore.

Opening Wide

Singapore's willingness to seek high-tech solutions in its search for progress has led to one of the best medical services in the world, equal to many of its Western counterparts. Its high standing has a double advantage for locals: the medical system benefits them directly and it also draws tourist dollars from overseas "health tourists" wishing to take advantage of Singapore's facilities.

One practitioner to benefit from both the local and overseas dollar is cosmetic dental surgeon Dr Ernest Rex Tan, who set up Smile Inc with his wife and business partner, Grace Chong-Tan, in 1996 with ambitious plans to make Singapore "the dental hub of the region." Chong-Tan says that providing state-of-the art facilities "has been a paramount aspect of our practices from the start. We are continuously upgrading our technologies and facilities (machines for dental treatment and for sterilisation procedures, etc.), as well as techniques and skill sets of our surgeons to not only keep up with the latest trends and developments, but also to be on par with, if not surpassing, the best surgeons in the same field on the global map."

She says that the practice, which has a team of seven dental surgeons, treats an equal number of local and expatriate patients

and adds that affluent "health tourists" come not only from the region, but from as far as, the Middle East, Europe and America.



Boon Yoon Chiang. chairman and managing director of Jardine Matheson (Singapore) Ltd

Extending Our Borders

Chairman and managing director of Jardine Matheson (Singapore) Ltd, Boon Yoon Chiang, believes, "This part of the world, particularly now, is very exciting with China and India emerging as economic powerhouses. The economic landscape of Asia is changing fast. Singapore, with effective government world-class infrastructure, is well



