



# UNITY IN DIVERSITY

## UNIVERSITY AT 93

### **Mapúa community unites to celebrate diversity**

For more than nine decades, Mapúa University has been known for its commitment in delivering topnotch engineering and technological education. Reaching another milestone in its rich history, the University celebrates as it expands its expertise while remaining true to its core of continuously building and innovating.



(L-R) Dr. Reynaldo B. Veja, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Ariel Kelly Balan, Dean of the School of Information Technology and Chair of the 93rd Foundation Week organizing committee

In 1925, the first Filipino registered architect Tomas Mapúa established Mapúa Institute of Technology, a breeding ground for professionals in the fields of engineering and architecture. Fast forward to 2018, Mapúa has innovated itself and progressed into becoming a university offering programs in diverse fields—engineering and sciences, architecture and design, media studies, social sciences, and business and management.

The University recently received recognitions such as the aforementioned university status from the Commission on Higher Education and a three-star rating from the world-renowned Quacquarelli Symonds. As it marks its 93rd founding anniversary, the entire Mapúa community unites to honor the efforts and the diverse groups of people behind these accolades.

"Many diverse actions came together towards the attainment of university status and 3-star QS rating. Diverse teams unified around the fulfillment of these objectives," said Dr. Reynaldo B. Veja, president and chief executive officer of Mapúa University.

This year's celebration, which will run from January 22 to 29, is themed "Unity in Diversity," adopted from the first University Week last July 2017.

"This founding anniversary is a special one because this will be our first foundation week celebration as a university, that's why we adopted the previous theme," said Ariel Kelly Balan, dean of the School of Information Technology (SOIT). SOIT serves as this year's organizing committee for the Foundation Week.

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# MAPÚA UNIVERSITY: Of laurels and challenges in the global and digital age

On its 93<sup>rd</sup> year, Mapúa University looks back at the achievements and accolades it reaped the past year—a proof that collective engagement will surely lead to reaching ever greater heights.

Founded in 1925, Mapúa started as a night school offering Civil Engineering and Architecture courses. The school was envisioned to be a training ground for future engineers and architects as the founder, Don Tomas Mapúa, saw that the country's manpower lacked the skills set and technical expertise to build a nation.

At the end of World War II, these engineers and architects trained under Don Tomas took on the responsibility to rebuild the Philippines from the ravages of war.

Today, as Mapúa celebrates its 93<sup>rd</sup> year as a well-renowned institution for engineering and technological education, the school is proudly counting the laurels and achievements it has received the past year.

"It took years of careful planning, determined and patient execution, teamwork, and top-level support to arrive at the 'banner year,'" said Mapúa president and chief executive officer Dr. Reynaldo B. Vea.

These achievements are concrete testaments to the University's commitment to quality assurance, high-caliber education, and research that offer well-suited solutions to problems of industries and communities globally.

"We are rightfully fulfilled and justifiably proud of these achievements," stated Dr. Vea. "We could have rested on past laurels, but we did not. We instead built upon the strengths of the past to fulfill the potentials of this great institution. We could have folded in the face of the challenges of the global and digital age, but we did not. We self-studied, experimented, defied the odds, and blazed a trail."

After more than nine decades and with the significant investments in quality enhancement after the takeover of the school by the Yuchengco Group of Companies (YGC) at the turn of the century, Mapúa continues to uphold the tradition of excellence it is known for, its clear manifestation is the number of professionals it has produced in the field of science, engineering, and technology.

With all these, Mapúa is now one step to realizing its vision—to become among the best universities in the world—when it was elevated to a University last year. The grant presented another challenging yet fulfilling mission: to operate over and contribute to a wider intellectual front.

awarded a rating from zero to five for each category, as well as an overall rating.

Mapúa received a five-star rating in the categories of employability, facilities, and social responsibility, and four stars in inclusiveness and teaching.



According to Mapúa University's executive vice president for academic affairs Dr. Bonifacio T. Doma, Jr., the QS Stars rating shows the strengths of the University and what qualities need to be improved.

"The rating clarifies to us what activities and improvements we need to implement in order to provide more quality education for our students," Dr. Doma said.

He added that the rating will boost Mapúa's presence in the international scene and will serve as guidance on how the University can further bolster its efforts in internationalization.

**“**  
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**”**

"As significant as our advancements have been in internationalization, there is still a need to increase our inbound and outbound students and faculty. The University should also forge linkages with more universities abroad for actual researches and projects," he said. The QS evaluation said that there are already 17 active international collaborations that the University has.

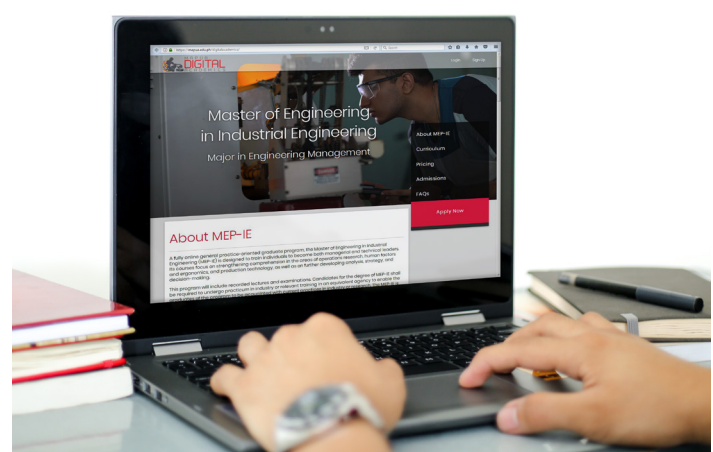
By adhering to the criteria set by QS for the star rating, the University already has a strategic plan for the further improvement of several aspects—research, internationalization, facilities, and others. These will then trickle down to the community and Mapúa's stakeholders.

"All these will redound to the continuous improvement of student services, quality of teaching, and learning facilities, thus further improving the delivery, as good as it already is, of quality education in Mapúa," Dr. Doma added.

Part of this improvement is having advanced technologies in place and using these to the full advantage of the Mapúan community.

#### Digital Domain

Late last year, Mapúa University has once again revolutionized engineering education by offering the first ever fully online engineering master's degree program in the Philippines.



Through its very own online education platform, the Mapúa Digital Academics, the University is now accepting the first batch of students who wish to take the Master of Engineering in Industrial Engineering (MEP-IE).

## Mapúa holds investiture for first University president



Mapúa University will hold the investiture of its first president, Dr. Reynaldo B. Vea, on January 29 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Dr. Vea is Mapúa's first president since it received the University status grant from the Commission on Higher Education last year.

Upon assumption of office at the turn of the century, Dr. Vea took up the challenge of globalization as the cornerstone of his presidency and enunciated a vision of Mapúa joining the ranks of the best universities in the world.

Dr. Vea graduated as magna cum laude from the University of the Philippines with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1978. He then pursued further studies abroad and obtained an MS degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He subsequently obtained his PhD in engineering from the University of California at Berkeley as a Fulbright-Hays scholar. ■

Dr. Vea said that the program was chosen for its wide range of applications in the field.

Because it is online, those who wish to undergo the program will have the convenience and flexibility to study at their own pace and time. MEP-IE is open to current professionals anywhere in the world seeking to upgrade their knowledge and technical skills and is designed for graduates of engineering, technology, or business.

Prior to this, Mapúa has started to opt for online classes to lessen the need for make-up classes during typhoons and other events that will hinder students and professors from coming to school. Dubbed as Digital Days, the university has proven its capacity to hold synchronous classes online in a given timeframe.

"Our recent experiences in offering specific courses not only in the blended instruction mode but also in the massive, simultaneous real-time delivery of lectures have given us the confidence to offer an entire program study in a fully online mode," said Dr. Vea.

These experiences have also allowed the university to come up with Digital Rush, a series of fully online undergraduate courses to avoid traffic woes when going to and from school.

As of date, four classes have been offered: Algebra, Linear Algebra, Differential Equation, and Probability and Statistics. These classes are offered in the morning and evening rush hours.

"In general, aside from improving the teaching-learning process, we are changing the way we communicate with our students and the way the administration transacts with them so that we are attuned to the digital times," Dr. Vea said.

Both implementations—the MDA and Digital Rush—allow Mapúa to compare how effective online classes are versus the traditional face-to-face interaction between teachers and learners. The comparison will allow the University to refine and fine-tune both in order to serve its full benefit to the students.

#### What lies ahead

For the years to come, Mapúa continues its commitment to deliver the quality of education that it has been known for years.

As it looks back on its laurels, the University patiently looks forward to more exciting years ahead.

"We shall continue steadily moving towards the realization of our vision of being among the best universities in the world. We will continue slogging through our institutional development plan in order to reach more exciting milestones," said Dr. Vea.

He says that these achievements would not have been possible if not for the constituents who embody both the tradition of and passion for excellence in teaching.

"Most, if not all, faculty members teach because they have a passion for it. To keep this fire going, there has to be support for faculty in terms of their being current in content and methodology and technology," he said. He added that support comes in the form of scholarships, advanced technologies, and centralized offices for the advancement of outcomes-based and digital education. ■

## Mapúa faculty to share best teaching-learning practices in 2018 OBE seminar

In line with Mapúa University's drive for excellence, various faculty will be convening at the University's Makati campus for this year's OBE Seminar on January 25.

OBE, or outcomes-based education, is a learner-centered approach requiring students to validate their knowledge through measurable outcomes. This system, formally implemented in the University in 2006, has contributed greatly to improvements in Mapúa's education. This includes being the first school in East Asia to get ABET accreditation, which ensures that program graduates will be fit to join the global workforce.

For this year, Mapúa faculty members will be sharing their OBE best practices, as well as exemplars from their experiences in the previous years. Dr. Carlo Magno, OBE Research Consultant, will be speaking as part of the program. These seminars allow for the continual improvement of the approach to OBE.



OBE Conference during the 91st Foundation Week

Dr. Arnold C. Paglinawan, director of the Center for Teaching and Learning – OBE, stated that the University's goal for 2018 is to continue and improve OBE through the use of innovative methods. Additionally, he believes that in the near future, Mapúa's application of the OBE system will yield better student learning and outcome achievements.

Mapúa's take on OBE has been praised by OBE pioneer Dr. William Spady, as the University has taken the concepts of OBE that best fit its goals in education and learning. In a lecture held at Mapúa in 2015, Dr. Spady said that the University is in a leadership role in implementing OBE in higher education.

"This is a unique circumstance in my experience with this concept in the world because higher education institutions are driving this reform rather than K-12 schools which is the emphasis in the United States," he said.

The OBE implementation has also set Mapúa apart in the Philippine education front through the University's continuous efforts to monitor and research the system and its application in their programs. ■

## Mapúa University invests in fully online sections for rush-hour classes



Mapúa University is investing in fully online undergraduate classes with its implementation of Digital Rush.

Digital Rush is a set of online courses offered to undergraduate students scheduled from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., enabling students to avoid the rush hours when going to and from school.

"In general, aside from improving the teaching-learning process, we are changing the way we communicate with our students and the way the administration transacts with them so that we are attuned to the digital times," Mapúa president and chief executive officer Dr. Reynaldo B. Vea said.

According to Mary Christine Tomas, head of the Center for Teaching and Learning - Digital, it is not compulsory to take the digital rush courses and that it is no different from the current schedule offered by the University.

"The student now will have the flexibility to choose between online and face-to-face sections," she said. In addition, video lectures are available online for students to view anytime be it for review or to catch up on the lessons. Final exams, however, will still be given on campus.

Students may choose to enroll in online sections for the following courses: Algebra, Linear Algebra, Differential Equation, and Probability and Statistics. The Digital Rush implementation enables Mapúa to refine and fine-tune its digital efforts in order to address some of the challenges of teaching and learning and at the same time provide the best quality of education for the students. ■

## Continued from University at 93...

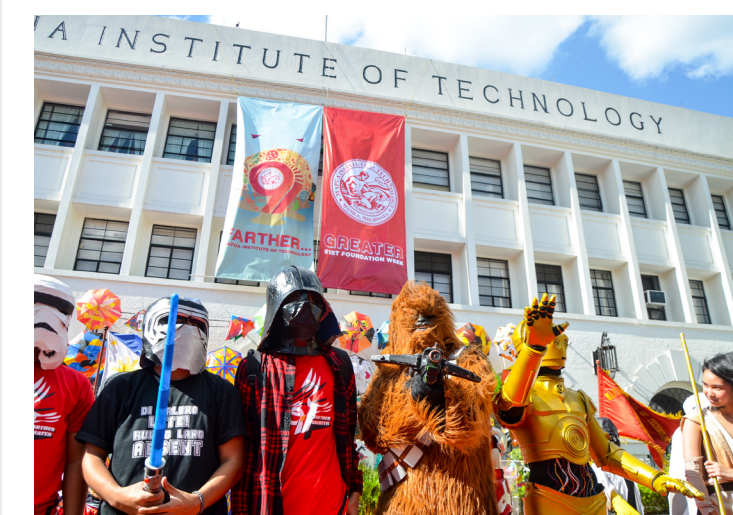
#### Wide range of activities

The week-long festivities will formally commence on January 22 with the annual Parade of Excellence and the opening ceremonies of the Don Tomas Mapúa Cup, the annual basketball and volleyball tournaments for different departments.

The second day of the celebration will feature the inaugural CHM-MA-PHY Junior Triwizard Tournament, organized by the Mapúa Senior High School Department. The competition aims to showcase junior and senior high school students' prowess in chemistry, math, and physics.

Exemplar Mapúans will be recognized during The Cardinal Excellence Awards on the third day of celebration. Also set are the annual Math Wizard, a Videoke Challenge, and the red carpet ceremony for the candidates of Mr. and Ms. Cardinals.

Events for the fourth day of celebration include the annual Foundation of Outstanding Mapúans, Inc. Lecture Series and Outcomes-Based Education Best Practices Presentation. Papers from different schools will be featured in Open Mind, an event pushing for unity among faculty members towards advancements in research and innovation. "We will highlight research collaboration among faculty members. This presentation will entice collaborations among faculty in various schools," shared Balan.



Mapúans in costume during the 91st Foundation Week Parade.

Physics Olympics will serve as the opening salvo of the fifth day of celebration. A display of beauty, wit, and grace will also be witnessed by Mapúans on the Mr. and Ms. Cardinals Pageant Night.

On the sixth day of the celebration, an open campus event will be held to help prospective students learn more about the University and give them a glimpse of the student life as a Mapúan. The National Association of Mapúan Alumni, Inc. (NAMA) will also be holding an exhibition game and the Alumni Night.

Dr. Reynaldo B. Vea will take oath as the first Mapúa University president in Investiture Rites on January 29 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC), concluding the Foundation Week. ■

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## MCL set to hold 12th Foundation Week

Malayan Colleges Laguna (MCL) will be celebrating its 12th Foundation Week with the theme "MCL@12: At the Frontlines, Malayan!" on January 20 to 27, 2018.

"This year's theme was taken from the Malayan Hymn that was written by our dear President, Dr. Reynaldo B. Veja. It is quite prophetic since we are now at a time when important changes are happening in the Philippine educational system. As MCL turns 12 this year, it bravely stands at the frontlines and is directly involved in asserting quality education to be at par with international standards," shared Dean Maria Rhodora R. Austria of the E.T. Yuchengco College of Business, who is spearheading this year's week-long celebration.

"This year's Foundation Week is jam-packed with events for students and employees alike and is focused on building a stronger community spirit. These include a mix of activities that will challenge and encourage the mind, body and spirit," Dean Austria continued.

The institutional event will kick off with Run Malayan 2018 at Greenfield, Sta. Rosa City, Laguna. Proceeds will go to the Center for Service-Learning and Community Engagement's HAND & HEART Project. A motorcade from Southwoods to Calamba via National Highway will follow.

January 23 will start with a mass and prayer service, to be followed by the commencing ceremonies, the MCL Sports Wizards Cup parade, and Cheerdance Competition. A Financial Stewardship seminar will be held in the afternoon, along with Mr. and Ms. MCL 2018.

The 24th will start with groove in Zumba Malayan, to be followed by Palarong Pinoy. MCL will also be recognizing the loyalty of employees in the MCL Service Awards. Talents will be explored in MCL Got Talent and through Cinemalayan, where short films by PILAK, MCL's film organization, will be showcased outdoors.

The fifth day will feature the Math Quiz Bee, Science Quiz Bee, and Brainmaster. Eleven singers will perform original songs at Musikamalayan, MCL's annual songwriting competition. Farmers from MCL's adopted community, Majayjay, will also be holding a Farmers Market Day.

On the 26th, faculty members will present at the MCL Faculty Research Colloquium, while game geeks battle in the League of Legends Tournament. The best of the bests will go head-to-head in the MCL Sports Wizards Cup finals, after which the MCL Night will be held.

A Career Fair is set for the last day of the Foundation Week, along with My Future, My Choice 2018, an open campus event where students under Grades 10 to 12 can experience their potential career through various workshops. A Friendship Baseball Game between the MCL Senior High School Mages and the Canlubang Baseball Team will be held in the afternoon.

The Mapúa-PTC College of Maritime Education and Training will also conduct a medical mission in Caingin, Sta. Rosa City for Laguna Lake fishermen.

At the heart of each event is the cause to promote the core values of MCL: Excellence, Loyalty, Teamwork, Urgency, and Discipline. ■

## Reaping the fruits of labor

### Malayan Science celebrates 12th year, seizes more opportunities

From quality and holistic education to advanced teaching and learning technologies and student achievements and accolades, Malayan High School of Science (MHSS) has proven its caliber as one of the leading science high schools in the country. Through the years, MHSS has inculcated the values of discipline, excellence, commitment, integrity, and responsibility in the youth while continuously fulfilling its vision and mission of being a global center of excellence in secondary education especially in the area of science and technology.

MHSS recently marked its 12th founding anniversary, celebrating its past, present, and upcoming bountiful years. Held last January 15-19, the foundation week celebration was themed "A Dozen of Fruitful Years... A Plethora of Opportunities."

"In this year's foundation week, we are celebrating the 12-year existence of MHSS, a dozen of successful years and the abundant opportunities that lie ahead of us," said MHSS Principal Emmillie Joy B. Mejia.

Malayans showcased their prowess in mathematics, science and technology, music and arts, and sports through different activities lined up for MHSS's 12th Foundation Week.

Among the activities are math and science quiz bees, singing and dancing contests, battle of the bands, and a digital poster making competition. The foundation week served as an avenue for Malayans to display what they learn inside the classroom through the robotics competition. Ample family time was also given to students and their parents through a parenting seminar and Family Day. MHSS's 12th Foundation Week wrapped up with the Alumni Night and the annual Malayan Idol, where exceptional and talented candidates vied for the title.

#### Winning tradition

Since its establishment in 2006, MHSS has proven its competence in providing students with holistic learning. The past year was no exception, with Malayans reaping accolades both in the local and international scenes.

To cite a few, Grade 10 student Audrey Tan took home a silver medal in the 13th International Mathematics Competition held last August 2017 in Singapore.

Malayans also continue to showcase their robotics knowledge and skills as two groups of Malayans emerged victorious in the Power Robotics Skills Competition last September 2017, one winning second runner-up and the other fourth place.

Student gymnast Akhira Alonto displayed her athletic prowess, winning a gold and two bronze medals in three events and placing as second overall champion in the Milo Little Olympics last year.

With this winning tradition, MHSS vows to continue sending students to local and international competitions in different fields such as science, mathematics, English, and sports.

"We want to produce more competitive students both in academics and sports through sending them to more competitions," said Mejia.

#### Continuous innovation

Though relatively young as an educational institution, MHSS has primed itself as a trailblazer in Philippine education, from being one of the few Philippine high schools offering robotics, multimedia, and technology courses, to using technology as an advanced teaching tool.

"The curriculum of MHSS layers upon the Department of Education (DepEd)-mandated curriculum. It is thus a science-enhanced curriculum. With its distinctive approach, it joins the ranks of government science high schools and a few other private science high schools in feeding the tertiary and graduate education levels, which in turn supply the high-level professionals needed by the Philippine economy," said Dr. Reynaldo B. Veja, president of MHSS.

But with the known Mapúan trait of innovation in its DNA, MHSS never stays stagnant but always regenerates itself to give its students a world-class education.

Aside from the recent development in its science and technology-centric curriculum in the past year, MHSS has also made improvements in its mode of instruction to further elevate its students' learning experience.

MHSS will be the first Philippine high school to use MATLAB (matrix laboratory) as a learning tool for its students. MATLAB, a numerical computing software, will provide students with the same tools used by science and engineering professionals. Blackboard Learn, the school's current learning management system, will also be upgraded to Ultra Experience that will improve user interface and workflows among students and faculty.

Showing the quality of education it provides, MHSS was recently tapped by DepEd in its Educational Service Contracting program, a government financial assistance. Through this, MHSS will be a home for deserving elementary graduates pursuing secondary education.

With these additional entries to the long list of achievements in its continuing run, MHSS aims to achieve more in the coming years, including accreditation from Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities Commission on Accreditation.

"We envision MHSS to be a high school of choice among elementary school graduates and their parents because of the quality of its academic program. We hope to continuously improve academically and in other respects over the years," said Dr. Veja. ■



Mapúa University recognizes the power of uniqueness among individuals, and the potential of bringing these differences together for the nation's progress. This, alongside the University's holistic approach to learning, is what keeps Mapúa University at the forefront of Philippine education. Together with Mapúa's subsidiary schools, Malayan Colleges Laguna and Malayan High School of Science, the drive for excellence is kept alive. We salute these institutions for supporting unity in diversity, forwarding innovation and creativity in our society.



**Helen Y. Dee**  
Chairman  
Mapúa University



The past year was a banner year for Mapúa: it was granted university status by CHED; it was given 3 stars by the QS world university ranking organization; it had the most number of engineering programs awarded the seal of Center of Excellence by CHED; it rolled out its first fully online degree program; and it successfully completed DOST-supported, multi-year, multi-million peso, multi-disciplinary research projects. These are definitive steps towards our strategic objective of turning Mapúa into a Digital, Research-driven, Outcomes-based, International Domain. In this pursuit we are driven by our desire to offer the Filipino youth the very best education possible and to serve our country well.



**Reynaldo B. Veja, Ph.D. Berkeley**  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Mapúa University  
Malayan Colleges Laguna  
Malayan Colleges Mindanao  
Malayan High School of Science



As Mapúa enters its 93rd year, we stay on track to realize our vision of becoming among the best universities in the world. Through the hard work of the administration, faculty members, and our students, we have seen a productive year evidenced by the achievements and recognitions the University has garnered. But these come with responsibilities and greater challenges. With courage, determination, and a sense of purpose, I believe there are brighter days ahead for Mapúa University.



**Bonifacio T. Dorra Jr., Ph.D.**  
Executive Vice President for  
Academic Affairs  
Mapúa University



"Unity in Diversity" is indeed a fitting theme for Mapúa University's 93rd Foundation Anniversary. The Mapúa brand of education was brought to the South through Malayan Colleges Laguna 12 years ago, and as we celebrate another year of accomplishments that have ranked both Mapúa and MCL as among the country's top higher educational institutions, we also unite in bringing the same level of excellence to Malayan Colleges Mindanao.



**Engr. Dodjie S. Maestrecampo**  
Executive Vice President and Chief  
Operating Officer  
Malayan Colleges Mindanao



Reflecting on her 93rd Foundation Anniversary theme "Unity in Diversity," I am amazed at how this fundamental life principle has been a key to Mapúa University's steady growth and transformation through the years.



By God's grace, remain steadfast in working together as a united body in transcending the limits driven by diversity towards the University's further achievement of its loftier goals.



**Engr. Dennis H. Tablante**  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Operating Officer  
Malayan Colleges Laguna



Martin Luther King Jr. once said that "we must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools." True enough, in this world where everyone is different, we should strive to make sure that a balance is present to attain harmonious relationships. Ever since, Mapúa University and Malayan High School of Science have been very faithful to its promise in providing high-quality education for learners. Despite multiplicity, unity can be achieved through education. Congratulations Mapúa! Happy Foundation Week!



**Emmillie Joy B. Mejia**  
Principal  
Malayan High School of Science



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