



SM PRIME HOLDINGS, INC.

IN 2025, the SM MOA Arena hosted more than 200 shows and welcomed over 1.1 million attendees, reflecting steady demand from both international and domestic organizers.

SM Prime expands arena business amid strong demand for live events

SM PRIME Holdings, Inc. is expanding its arena business with the planned opening of the SM Seaside Cebu Arena in the second quarter of 2026, as demand for large-scale live events continues to grow.

The company said its SM Mall of Asia (MOA) Arena hosted more than 200 events in 2025, drawing over 1.1 million attendees, up 10% from the previous year, reflecting sustained demand from both international and domestic promoters.

“These events reflect the strength of demand for large-scale, professionally managed venues in the Philippines,” SM Prime President Jeffrey C. Lim said in a statement on Wednesday.

Since opening in 2012, the 15,000-seat MOA Arena has staged more than 2,400 shows, including global concert tours, major sporting events, and international pageants, the company said.

SM Prime said it continues to invest in upgrades to maintain competitiveness.

In 2025, the venue completed a \$2.1-million installation of a new center-hung LED system to enhance production capabilities and viewing experience, it said.

The upcoming SM Seaside Cebu Arena, located within the SM Seaside City Cebu complex, is expected to expand access to large-scale entertainment in the Visayas and support tourism and regional economic activity, according to the company.

Beyond its flagship arena, SM Prime supports live events through medium-format and outdoor venues across its portfolio, with a combined capacity of about 110,000.

These include the SMDC Festival Grounds, SM Mall of Asia Concert Grounds, and SM Cebu Concert Grounds, which host concerts and large gatherings.

On Wednesday, Shares in SM Prime closed unchanged at P20.00 — **Juliana Chloe A. Gonzales**

Megaworld to start development of P12-B Batangas township

PROPERTY DEVELOPER Megaworld Corp. said it will begin land development for its P12-billion San Benito Private Estate in Lipa City, Batangas as part of its push to expand township projects outside Metro Manila.

In a statement on Tuesday, the listed company said it will start constructing roads, infrastructure, and other key components of the 25-hectare integrated wellness township in the coming months.

The project is being developed in partnership with CG Hospi-

tality, the operator of The Farm at San Benito, a wellness resort under Marriott International's Autograph Collection brand.

Megaworld said the township will feature residential lots, private villas, commercial developments, and leisure and wellness amenities, with future residents given access to The Farm's facilities.

The company earlier disclosed it is investing about P12 billion in the project, one of its three township developments in Batangas, as it expands its foot-

print in growth areas outside the capital.

“The Philippines remains a premier global destination for medical and wellness tourism,” Alliance Global Group, Inc. President and Chief Executive Officer Kevin L. Tan said, noting that the development aims to tap demand for wellness-oriented communities.

Megaworld is ramping up township expansion nationwide, with its capital expenditure program reaching P65 billion this year, driven largely by projects outside Metro Manila.

The Batangas project is expected to support the company's strategy of integrating residential, commercial, and hospitality components within large-scale developments while tapping tourism-driven demand.

Megaworld has been expanding its township portfolio across key regional growth centers, positioning integrated developments as a major driver of recurring income and long-term value creation. — **Juliana Chloe A. Gonzales**

Top Line taps Uncle John's as anchor tenant to boost nonfuel revenues

TOP LINE Business Development Corp. (TOP), operator of Light Fuels service stations, has partnered with Robinsons Retail Holdings, Inc. (RRHI) to make Uncle John's its anchor tenant across all Tier 1 Light Fuels stations.

Under the partnership, Uncle John's stores will be integrated into TOP's full-service Tier 1 Light Fuels stations, which are designed with dedicated commercial spaces for convenience stores, food operators, and other retail tenants.

“Having Uncle John's as our anchor tenant strengthens customer traffic across our stations while allowing us to diversify revenue through nonfuel sales and leasing income. This supports our strategy of building service-oriented stations that generate multiple income streams,” TOP Chairman, President, and CEO Eugene Erik C. Lapasaran Lim said in a statement on Wednesday.

For Robinsons Retail, the partnership supports Uncle John's expansion into high-traffic corridors and community hubs, particularly in provincial areas, allowing the



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Tier 1 Light Fuels stations are positioned along key transport routes and high-traffic areas, enabling both fuel and nonfuel businesses to benefit from steady customer flow. Uncle John's outlets will be rolled out alongside the opening of new stations.

“The opening of Uncle John's outlets would depend on the opening of our stations as well. Currently, the stations under construction are in various stages of development and so we cannot provide the exact number of Uncle John's outlets as well,” Mr. Lim said.

TOP currently operates 18 service stations, with 32 more undergoing construction or renovation. These are expected to be completed in phases by the end of 2026.

Top Line is a Cebu-based firm engaged in commercial fuel trading, depot operations, and retail fuel in the Visayas. It has two subsidiaries: Topline Logistics and Development Corp. and Light Fuels Corp.

Shares in the company rose by 1.42% or 2 centavos to close at P1.43 each. — **Juliana Chloe A. Gonzales**

brand to bring its ready-to-eat meals and everyday essentials closer to more consumers. “Many of our stations are located in underserved areas in the provinces. Through this collaboration, we are making everyday essentials, both fuel and convenience retail, more accessible to consumers across Visayas,” Mr. Lim said.

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Strengthening Resilience Amid Geopolitical and Climate Pressures

PANEL DISCUSSION 1

Benchmarking the Philippines' Competitiveness: Lessons from the Region's Best

PANEL DISCUSSION 2

Beyond Adoption: Tapping AI's Potential through Regulation and Capacity-Building

PANEL DISCUSSION 3

Philippine Energy: Powering National Competence and Regional Integration

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