

GIS' STRONGHOLD DIAGNOSTICS LAB WINS THE GOLD FIREFLY AWARD 2021



The annual Firefly Awards celebrate the best of ideas, and recognise teams and individuals within the MTI Family who have exemplified strengths in the respective Award categories. This year, A*STAR GIS received a team award in recognition for our hard work in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In April 2020, the Ministry of Health approached A*STAR and partners for assistance in setting up a large-scale COVID-19 testing facility, as an integral component of an overall national strategy to boost the nation's testing capacity for COVID. In response to this urgent request, A*STAR tasked GIS to lead Operation Stronghold, an all-of-A*STAR effort to build the Stronghold Diagnostics Laboratories (SDLs).

More than 300 A*STAR researchers and staff went above and beyond their duties by volunteering to setup a centralised COVID testing facility to support national efforts to ramp up testing capacity. This was achieved swiftly through leveraging existing facilities and expertise, including forging key partnerships.