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| <b>Headline</b>    | 66% of Singaporeans say they speak better English now |                |                |
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## 66% of Singaporeans say they speak better English now

By Satish Cheney, Channel NewsAsia | Posted: 26 August 2008 22:03 hrs

SINGAPORE: Two thirds or 66 per cent of Singaporeans said their standard of spoken English has improved over the last two years, according to a recent survey conducted by the Singapore Polytechnic School of Business.

All the respondents also agreed that speaking the language properly gives Singapore a competitive edge. This was revealed at the launch of this year's Speak Good English Movement on Tuesday.

This year's focus group is the service and retail staff, whose spoken English was given the lowest rating in the survey.

Launched in 2000, the Speak Good English Movement will work with the Workforce Development Agency to encourage and help retail staff to speak better English.

This is especially important for Singapore as the country will host more international events such as the Formula One night race and the Youth Olympic Games.

- CNA/so



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