



Public toilet in a coffeeshop owned by Koufu. PHOTO COURTESY RAS

## Look out for a star-rated loo

**SINGAPORE** – The Restroom Association of Singapore (RAS) is far from reaching the target it has set itself for public toilet cleanliness.

When it launched the Loo Campaign last year, it aimed to have 70 per cent of public toilets achieve a three-star rating by 2010.

However, a year later, RAS president Tan Puay Hoon said only 2 per cent of public loos have achieved the standard.

But Ms Tan is not at all disappointed.

“We still have a lot more to meet our targets but for the past one year we think it is very encouraging because a lot of toilet owners have recognised the importance to have clean public toilets and they have committed

to upgrade their toilets ... We believe by next year we can see the big increase in ‘happy toilet,’” she said at the inaugural Loo Awards yesterday.

The awards were given out to 15 individuals and organisations. They include a coffeeshop in Ang Mo Kio called Vari-Nice. It is part of a chain of coffeeshops by Koufu and the only one in the central region to have its loos certified “4-star” by RAS.

Koufu general manager Mark Leoi now has his sights on the “5-star” rating.

“I think this grading and clean toilet goes beyond just having clean toilets. It actually provides a safe environment for people to have food,” he said.

SAJEED SHEREENA