

News

Invitation to join HKIRC as a member

Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited ("HKIRC") cordially invites you to enrol for its membership. HKIRC, a non-profit-making and non-statutory company established on 14 December 2001, is entrusted by the HKSAR Government to administer Internet domain names under ".hk". In addition, HKIRC represents Hong Kong in international Internet forums and plays a key role in facilitating Hong Kong's e-business development.

Interested members, you can enrol for membership online by clicking this link: <https://members.hkirc.net.hk/MRS/index.jsp>.

Please be reminded that you will be entitled to participate in the election of HKIRC's board of directors will be elected in HKIRC's first annual general meeting to be held in March 2003 if you register your membership with HKIRC **on or before 31 January 2003**.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact HKIRC at +852 2319 1313 or e-mail at membersenquiry@hkirc.net.hk

Pre-announcement for HUSITA7, August 25-28, 2003, Hong Kong

On August 25-28, 2003, HKITF will be a supporting organization for HUSITA7. HUSITA (Human Services Information Technology Applications: www.husita.org) is an international association of information technology innovators in human services (social services, health services, education etc) dedicated to

promoting the use of IT to better serve humanity. HUSITA7, to be held in Hong Kong, on August 25-28, 2003, will be co-organized by HUSITA with the Hong

Kong Council of Social Services (HKCSS). It will also be supported by the Information Technology Services Department (ITSD) of the HKSAR Government.

To IT companies, the human services sector represents tremendous opportunities in Hong Kong, China and the rest of the Asia region. Cooperating with HKCSS. HKITF will conduct business matching activities for IT vendors and service

providers in Hong Kong who have an interest to cooperate with overseas

technology companies targeting the human services sector, and bring business opportunities to Hong Kong IT companies. In order for us to provide the latest

updated information about the conference and the associated business matching activities to you, we would like to ask you to register your interest by informing

Rachel Wong at rachel.wong@hkitf.org.hk

New SME Funding Schemes proposals

SME Committee has submitted its report on the SME Fund, and the new proposals have been endorsed by the Chief Executive and will soon be officially implemented. The report can be found at:

http://www.tid.gov.hk/english/aboutus/publications/smes/review_smereport.html

http://www.tid.gov.hk/tc_chi/aboutus/publications/smes/review_smereport.html

The highlights of the new improvements for the SME Fund include:

Business Installation and Equipment Loan Guarantee Scheme

- Business installation and equipment loan guarantee -- \$2M (was \$1M)

- Conditional working capital loan guarantee (new) -- the lesser of \$1M or 50% of the guarantee for business installation and equipment loans approved
by approved lenders
- Accounts receivable loan guarantee (new) -- the lesser of \$1M or 50% of loans
approved by approved lenders

SME Export Marketing Fund

- Maximum grant per SME, on a cumulative basis -- \$40,000 (was \$10,000)
- Maximum grant per application: the lesser of \$20,000, or 50% of the total spent on fundable items

SME Training Fund

- Grant for employers and employees, on cumulative basis -- \$10,000 and \$20,000, respectively (was \$5,000 and \$10,000)

These proposals have taken into accounts from many industry organizations including HKITF. We are particularly supportive of the Accounts receivable

loan guarantee which we believe will be particularly beneficial to some IT SMEs which could not take advantage of the business installation and equipment loan guarantee.

However, HKITF would continue to lobby the Government to convert the loan guarantee scheme into a matching basis (with a proper ceiling), similar to

other regional government practices, so as to provide our user SMEs a better incentive to adopt IT and e-commerce.

For more information about the above schemes, please contact the Trade and Industry Dept at enquiry@tid.gov.hk or 2392 2922.

Preliminary Proposal to Facilitate HK Software Companies to Obtain SI Certification Mainland

Preliminary proposal of Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau on the application of SI Certification to facilitate Hong Kong Software Companies to obtain SI Certification in Mainland. Please click

here <http://www.hkitf.org/pdf/SIproposal219.pdf> to find the proposal for your information.

Should you need further details or interest in obtaining SI Certification in Mainland, please feel free to let us know by the end of January.

USITO Email Heads-up, Beijing Issues Draft Plan for Digital Olympics to Seek Public Comment

In accordance with issuing arrangement concerning Special Programme for Action Plan for Beijing (draft for seeking public comments) and the 29th Olympic Organizing Committee, a Special Programme for Construction of Digital Olympics (draft for soliciting public comments) has been issued with the Chinese and English versions available through Beijing Olympic Organizing Committee's Website (<http://www.Beijing-2008.org>). Companies and individuals are welcome to send in comments and suggestions in written form to Beijing Municipal Office of Informatization by mail, fax, and e-mail. Following is the detailed contact information:

To: General Department, Beijing Municipal Office of Informatization (The words 'Olympic Games' must be marked on your letter or fax)

Address: No. 3, Nanlishi Road Toutiao, Xicheng, Beijing Fax: (86-10) 86821092 E-mail box: bj2008@bnii.gov.cn Comments can also be made through the city's hotline: Daytime (Mon. to Friday):(86-10) 6805-9860, 6801-3106

(USITO members can also e-mail usito@usito.org for an English version of the plan)

HKITF feature on WITSA website

The World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA <http://www.witsa.org>) is a consortium of 46 information technology (IT) industry associations from economies around the world. WITSA members represent over 90 percent of the world IT market. As HKITF is the member of WITSA, HKITF has been featured on the website of WITSA. For the details, please visit: <http://www.witsa.org/profiles/hkitf.htm>

Survey on role of HKPC

As requested by Mr. Sin Chung Kai, Legislative Councillor (IT), we would like to invite you to respond to the online survey at http://sinchungkai.org.hk/special/ehkpc_sur.html on the role of Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC). The survey concerns whether the provision of IT services by HKPC competes with IT companies. For any enquires on the survey, please contact Ms. WONG Fung-chu, assistant to Mr. Sin, at 25093211 or via email fcwong@sinchungkai.org.hk

Survey on Software Development Commissioned in China by Hong Kong Firms

The Department of Computing, HKPU, is undertaking a research on the topic of "Software development in China commissioned by the Hong Kong firms".

There are different forms of "offshore outsourcing" for software development. In their research, they will concentrate their study for the following three major forms :-

- 1) Outsourcing: contracting with low-cost offshore suppliers to carry out all or part of a software project.
- 2) Insourcing: enterprises set up wholly owned facilities overseas for software development.
- 3) Strategic Alliance: formation of joint partnership with offshore suppliers.

Please click here [http://www.hkitf.org/pdf/ResearchSurveyForm\(HKPU\)219.pdf](http://www.hkitf.org/pdf/ResearchSurveyForm(HKPU)219.pdf) to retrieve the survey form. Please complete and return the form to Ms. Barbara Kwan by email: csshkwan@comp.polyu.edu.hk or fax: 2774-0842 or mail: Rm PQ811, Department of Computing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon You are also welcome to contact Ms. Barbara Kwan directly at 2766-7284 for sharing of information and ideas.

Invitation to join SME Centre Membership

You are cordially invited to join SME Centre of Hong Kong Productivity Council as their affiliate members. Once joined as their affiliate members, you can attend their seminars, use their advisory services and apply their training courses with discount. Please click here <http://www.hkitf.org/pdf/InvitationToJoinSMECentreMembersip.pdf> to retrieve invitation letter and application form for your information. For any enquiries, please feel free to contact SME Centre at 2778-1166.

Legal Assistance - a missing link in your supply chain? Legal Assistance Scheme at HK\$1,000 per Month

As we all know, although many IT SMEs acknowledge their dealings necessarily involve legal aspects, the high legal fees and the management time SMEs must take to explain the technical background of their dealings often deter them from seeking legal assistance.

Facing the demand for legal assistance mentioned above, HKPC has negotiated substantially discounted rates with Stevenson, Wong & Co. to provide legal services under the Legal Assistance Scheme for IT SMEs to you. For as little as HK\$1,000 per month (subject to the 3-month minimum subscription period), you can enjoy one hour of general IT/Commercial legal services of a non-litigious nature to be provided by the Commercial/IT Practice Group of Stevenson, Wong & Co. The said general IT/Commercial legal services will include attendances, telephone advice, documentation drafting and correspondence,

which may already address many of IT SMEs' daily legal requirements. For details of the Scheme, please click here <http://www.hkitf.org/pdf/LegalAssistant28Oct02am118.pdf> to retrieve the brochure.

For any further information, please feel free to contact Ms Cassie Pang of the Hong Kong Productivity Council at 2788-6124 or email cassie@hkpc.org

Events

Connecting Canada and Hong Kong Luncheon on 18 Feb 2003: Innovation and Partnering As An Engine For Prosperity

Guest Speaker: Dr Gaylen A. Duncan, President and CEO of The Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC)

After the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC, <http://www.itac.ca/>) and the Hong Kong Information Technology Federation (HKITF) at Softworld 2002 in September last year, HKITF, jointly with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and the Consulate General of Canada in Hong Kong, has invited Dr. Gaylen A. Duncan, ITAC's President & CEO, to be our guest of honor in a luncheon/speech on February 18, 2003.

Details:

Date: 18 February 2003 (Tuesday)

Time: 12:00pm – 2:00pm

Venue: 8/F., Renaissance Harbour View Hotel, Concord Room II & III, 1 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Medium: English

	<u>Fee / HKD</u>
HKITF/The Canadian Chamber of Commerce/ The Consulate General of Canada / HKISPA /andI /SCC/WTIA Member	\$350
Non-HKITF Member	\$400
HKITF/The Canadian Chamber of Commerce/ The Consulate General of Canada / HKISPA /andI /SCC/WTIA Corporate Member (10 per table)	\$3,500
Non-HKITF Corporate Member (10 per table)	\$4,000

Invitation to HKII Expo & Conference, 19-22 February 2003

Hong Kong Trade Development Council will co-organize the Hong Kong Information Infrastructure Expo & Conference on 19-22 February 2003 at Hall 1, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre <http://www.hkiexpo.com/indexms.htm>.

The Hong Kong Information Infrastructure Expo is recognised as a premier ICT event in the region. It provides an ideal platform for industry players from around the world to showcase their latest ICT products and innovations. It is also the right place for players to establish business contacts and strike up strategic partnerships. For more information, please visit their website at <http://www.hkiexpo.com/indexms.htm> or contact Ms. May Wong at 2584-4218.

Introduction to Capability Maturity Model Integrated (CMMI) - Staged Representation

Hong Kong Productivity Council is pleased to inform you that "Introduction to Capability Maturity Model Integrated (CMMI) - Staged Representation" jointly organized by HKPC and QAI India will be held from 17-19 February 2003.

Details:

Date & Time: 17-19 Feb., 2003 / 9:30am – 5:30pm

Venue: Classroom, 1/F., HKPC Building, 78 Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon.

Medium of Instruction: English

Award of Certificate: Over 75% attendance will be awarded the Certificate of Participation from SEI.

Enquiry: Elsa Lee, Hong Kong Productivity Council, Tel: (852) 2788-5427, Fax: (852) 2190-9785, E-mail: yflee@hkpc.org

Fee: Member fee is offered to HKITF members

Please visit their web site at www.hkpc.org/itd/SQTS and click "Training Schedule" for leaflet and enrolment form (use Acrobat Reader 5.0 or above to read the leaflet).

ECAC Focus Group Session (IT solutions providers) on Feb 13, 2003

The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce (HKGCC) is embarking on an **e-Commerce Adoption Campaign** to raise the awareness of Hong Kong business, particularly the SMEs, on the effective deployment of e-commerce and IT to enhance their overall competitiveness in the global market. Before the launch of the campaign, a series of six focus group sessions with SMEs in different sectors (manufacturing, trading & wholesale, transport & logistics, travel & tourism, professional services and financial services) have been conducted between December 2002 and January 2003.

It is important that they understand the perspectives of SMEs regarding the usage of e-commerce, the adequacy of infrastructure and e-commerce environment and potential of moving into higher e-commerce adoption. Based on the comments and suggestions collected in the six focus groups, you are cordially invited to participate the focus group session with IT solutions providers to discuss the problems and concerns facing SMEs, brainstorm desirable e-commerce solutions and formulate appropriate themes and strategies for the upcoming promotion campaign to be launched in April 2003. The main topics for discussion are:

- overview of e-commerce adoption in Hong Kong
- findings on SMEs in using e-commerce, such as drivers, benefits, concerns, problems, difficulties, success factors
- desirable e-commerce solutions for SMEs
- Support from IT solution providers to facilitate e-Commerce development
- Strategies for promoting e-Commerce to SMEs in Hong Kong

Details:

Date: 13 February 2002 (Thursday)

Time: 3:30pm - 5:30pm

Venue: Conference room, HKGCC, 22/F United Centre, 95 Queensway, Hong Kong

Language: Cantonese

Enquiry: Ms. Anida Yuen at HKGCC on 2823 1269.

Joint Program between HK Productivity Council and Renmin University

Joint program organized by Hong Kong Productivity Council and Renmin University.

Details:

Program background: Joint program between HK Productivity Council & Renmin University

Topic: China Tax

Date: 15 Feb & 15 March, 2003 (All Saturday)

Time: 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Venue: The Joint Professional Centre, Central

Speaker: Professors from Renmin University

Language: Mandarin

Fee: 50% off for Hong Kong Information Technology Federation Members (\$100 each)

For any enquiry, please feel free to contact Ms. Yip at 2778-1166 / Mr. Tsang at 2788-6153.

Telecoms InfoTechnology Forum - Mergers & Acquisitions: a telecoms policy for Hong Kong

Telecoms InfoTechnology Forum (TIF) is organizing a meeting that will be held on 24 February 2003 on the topic of Mergers and Acquisitions.

Details:

Date: 24 February 2003 (Monday)

Time: 2:00-5:30pm

Venue: Bloomberg Auditorium, 27/F Cheung Kong Centre, 2 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong

Fees: Academics (\$100) / TIF supporting organizations (\$300) / Regular fee (\$350)

Enquiry: Ms. Jenny Wan (Tel: 2859-1919)

HKPC Software Quality Training Series in Feb & Mar 2003

Hong Kong Productivity Council is pleased to inform you that a training series on Software Quality jointly organized by HKPC and QAI will be held in February and March 2003.

Coming Software Quality Training Series

1. Boot Camp for Testers (24-26 February, 2003) <http://www.hkpc.org/itd/sqts/training/courses/030224.htm>
2. Preparation Course for CSTE (27-28 February, 2003) <http://www.hkpc.org/itd/sqts/training/courses/030227.htm>
3. Boot Camp for Quality (24-26 March, 2003) <http://www.hkpc.org/itd/sqts/training/courses/030324.htm>
4. Preparation Course for CSQA (27-28 March, 2003) <http://www.hkpc.org/itd/sqts/training/courses/030327.htm>

Enquiry: Elsa Lee, Hong Kong Productivity Council Tel: (852) 2788-5427 Fax: (852) 2190-9785 E-mail: yflee@hkpc.org

Please visit their web site at www.hkpc.org/itd/SQTS and click "Training Schedule" for leaflet and enrolment form.

Exclusive Offers to HKITF Members for Participating in "Wireless Biz Asia 2003"

Reed Exhibitions is pleased to present a corporate technology event -- Wireless Biz Asia 2003, to be held on 2-3 April 2003 at the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre.

The upcoming 2nd presentation is covering the most advanced mobile commerce technologies and business solutions, which designed to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of business development within the wireless communication industry.

Numerous professionals are expected to build business connections, meet new business partners, as well as share the insights and information of the industrial trend through the exhibition and conference.

For more information, please visit : <http://www.wirelessbizasia.com/>

The organizer will offer the followings to HKITF Members

I) Special Participation Rate

- Size: 9 sqm HK\$25,000 --> HK\$22,950
- Size: 6 sqm HK\$16,800 --> HK\$15,000
- Size: 3 sqm HK\$12,000 --> HK\$10,850

II) 5% discount for any sponsorship items (Please click here [http://www.hkitf.org/pdf/WBA2003\(Sponsorship\).pdf](http://www.hkitf.org/pdf/WBA2003(Sponsorship).pdf) to retrieve the document)

To enjoy the above special offers, please contact us **before 17 February 2003.**

RESPOND NOW BY CONTACT Ms. Angel Fu at Tel :(852)2965 1608, Fax: (852) 2824 0178 or Email :
angel.fu@reedexpo.com.hk.

Welcome for new members

Corporate members:

Smartsur Technologies Limited
Sony Corporation of Hong Kong Ltd
Champion Technology Ltd
RICC Limited
SUNDAY Communications Limited
VR Secure Limited
Octopus Cards Limited
Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation
Legend Group Limited
Sun Wah-Pearl Linux Limited
Hong Kong Education City Limited
South China House of Technology Consultants Ltd
Sino-Gate Technology Limited
Dynamic Software Development Limited
Hongkong Post
Microsoft Hong Kong Ltd
GC Vest
TechCreations Company Limited
Information Technology Training and Development Centre of Vocational Training Council

Associate member:

I.I.R. Limited
Arculli and Associates
Programme Office, Dept of Computer Science & Information System, University of Hong Kong

Affiliate members:

Mr. Andrew Law
Mr. Patricia Woo
Mr. Ricky Chau
Ms. Angela To
Mr. Alfred Wu
Mr. Gary Sum
Ms. Lau Suk Yin
Mr. Terry O'Neill
Mr. Yu King Ho
Mr. Stanley Suen

Suggestions on how to improve this newsletter are welcome.

Suggestion:

Please add to the following within the HKITF member to the mailing list:

Name:

Title: Email:

Data Privacy

You have the right to make a data access, correction or cancellation request concerning your personal data. If you do not want to receive this newsletter anymore, please reply to this mail and put "Remove" in the subject field.