

News

Notice of the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Hong Kong Information Technology Federation Limited

Please be informed that the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Hong Kong Information Technology Federation Limited will be held on 28th March 2003 (Friday) commencing at 4.00 p.m. at Room P303, Level 3, Department of Computing, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hunghom, Kowloon. We hope that you will be able to attend.

For more information, please click here <http://ws.magically.com/GetPublicFile.jsp?objID=1646> to download the notice. Please click here <http://ws.magically.com/GetPublicFile.jsp?objID=1647> to download the Proxy form for members not attending the meeting. The nominated proxy will be given a Voting Card for each organisation for whom they are entitled to vote at the meeting.

HKITF - President for 2002/2004 and New Council for 2002/2003

President Mr. Charles Mok - CEO, Halo Marketing Limited

Vice Presidents

Ms Cindy Cheng - Director of Sales & Marketing, Octopus Cards Limited

Ms Judy Leung - VP - Strategy & Solutions, Arcotect Limited

Treasurer

Mr Alan Lung - General Manager, Time/System (HK) Ltd

Secretary

Mr Daniel Ng - CEO & Chief Architect, Arcotect Limited

Ex-Officio

Mr Tony Au - Managing Director, abcSoftware Limited

Council Member:

Mr Mukesh Balani - Co-founder, Tech-Ware Information Technology Limited

Mr Dominic Cheng - Managing Director, Onflo Computer Company Limited

Mr Lee Kheng Joo - Director, GC Vest

Mr Chester Soong - Managing Director, Security Consulting Services limited

Mr Frankie Sum - Managing Director, CISCO Systems (HK) Limited

Mr Stephen Tang - Managing Director, Financial Telecom Limited

Mr Francis Fong - CTO & Senior VP, Synergy Technologies (Asia) Limited

Mr Fuk Hing Tong - Principle, Universal Supplies Company

Mr K T Yung - General Manager, Hong Kong Productivity Council

Mr CH Cheng - Director- Business Development, TechCreations Co Ltd

Mr Erwin Huang - President & CTO, Magically Asia Ltd

IT Solution Directory

HKITF has received support from the SME Development Fund administered by the Trade and Industry Department (TID), HKSAR Government to launch an IT Solution Directory project in November 2002. The Hong Kong Productivity Council will be responsible for project implementation. This Directory will capture solutions from all IT solution providers in Hong Kong. We are accepting registration from IT Solution Providers. Please visit <http://www.itsolutiondirectory.org.hk> or

<http://www.itsolution.org.hk> sign up or fax back the attached form to 2788-5959.

Enquiry, please contact Ms. Rachel Wong (Tel: 2287-8016, Fax: 2287-8038 or email: Rachel.wong@hkitf.org.hk) Mr. Sam Lin (Tel: 2788-5839, Fax: 2788-5959 or email: samlin@hkpc.org)

CMM Assessment Grant - Govt Support for Local IT industry

The Innovation and Technology Fund has approved funding support of \$5 million for a CMM Assessment Grant project. The project aims to assist local Independent Software Vendors in adopting CMM, with the objectives to improve their software development process and enhance their competitiveness in the global market. The Grant will provide funding support to each successful applicant company at 50% of the external consultancy and assessment costs but capped by a maximum of HK\$0.3 million. The application has been started on March 4 and ended on April 4. For further information on this Govt support for our local IT industry, please visit the website <http://www.hkpc.org/cmmgrant>

Cyber 2005

A bi-weekly newsletter (please click here <http://www.hkitf.org/email/Cyber2005.htm> to retrieve) released by Sin Chung Kai, Legislative Councillor (IT on March 5, 2003

Launching of “.idv.hk” domain name

A new domain name category ".idv.hk" is available since 21 February 2003. Any individual with a Hong Kong ID card and age 11 or above may apply for a personal email address and website ending with ".idv.hk". Each individual may register one or more domain names at HK\$150 per name per year. All domain names are transferable. There is a two-week "sun-rise" period from 12 noon 21 February to 6 March. During the period, domain names are allocated by random selection if two or more exactly identical names are registered. After the "sun-rise" period, names will be awarded on a first-come-first-served basis. A set of rules on domain names are applied to the registration eligibility. Please click to www.hkirc.net.hk for details.

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>.

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

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/InvitationToJoinSMCEntreMembersip.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

COMPSAC 2003 Call For Contributions (Sept 30 - Oct 3 2003)

<http://salmosa.kaist.ac.kr/compsac2003>

COMPSAC is the major international forum for researchers, practitioners, managers, and policy makers interested in computer software and applications. It was first held in Chicago in 1977, and since then it has been one of the major forums for researchers, practitioners, and managers in academia, industry, and government to advance the state of art in software technologies and practices. The technical program includes research papers, industrial case studies, workshops, keynote presentations, and panel discussions. _For enquiries, please contact the Operations Chair at:

F.T. Chan, The University of Hong Kong

Email: ftchan@hkuspace.hku.hk <<mailto:ftchan@hkuspace.hku.hk>>

FURTHER INFORMATION

Please refer to COMPSAC 2003 web site (<http://salmosa.kaist.ac.kr/compsac2003>).

Events

Capability Maturity Model (CMM) Training Series (March - April 2003)

In 1986, the Software Engineering Institute (SEI) started an initiative to start the construction of a process maturity framework that would help stabilize the processes and environment in which software development takes place. This framework is the Capability Maturity Model (CMM).

The CMM describes the principles and practices underlying software process maturity. It is intended to help software organizations improve the maturity of their software processes in terms of an evolutionary path from ad hoc, chaotic processes to mature, disciplined software processes.

The CMM provides a framework for organizing these steps into five maturity levels (Initial, Repeatable, Defined, Managed and Optimizing) that become successive foundations for continuous process improvement. These five maturity levels define a scale for measuring the maturity of the software process of an organization and for evaluating its software process capability. The levels also help prioritize process improvement efforts.

You are cordially invited to attend the CMM Training Series which will be held during March to April 2003 organized by HKITF, HKCS, HKQAA, HKPC and ISIA.

For more information, please click here <http://ws.magically.com/GetPublicFile.jsp?objID=1644> to download the file. Interested members, please complete the enrolment form and send it together with the appropriate fee to Ms. Rachel Wong at 21/F., The Center, 99 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong. The cheque should be crossed and made payable to

"Hong Kong Information Technology Federation Limited".

For "CMM Executive Briefing Seminar" registration, please fax the completed enrolment form to Ms. Rachel Wong at 2287-8038 to reserve the seats.

Invitation to Visit the Intelligent Home & Technology Showroom and HKITF March 2003 Networking Hours at the Department of Computing of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University on Friday, 28 March, 2003

The Department of Computing of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University aims at developing the most usable and applicable technologies. The Intelligent Home Project of which you might have already heard is one obvious example. They have set up an Intelligent Home and Technology Showcase demonstrating some of the 14 innovating technologies and projects.

On Friday, 28th March 2003, HKITF and its member will have the honour to be invited by Dr. Keith Chan, Head of computing, Hong Kong Polytechnic University to tour all these demos in the Technology Showcase Laboratory (Rm PQ703), and to network with one another, seeing old friends and exploring possibilities of new cooperation during our HKITF March Networking Hour afterwards.

Agenda:

Guest of Honour: Dr. Keith Chan, Head of Computing, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Date: 28th March 2003 (Friday)

Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm (Demo Tour)

7:00pm – 8:00pm (HKITF Networking Hours)

Venue: Rm PQ703, Level 7, Department of Computing, Hong Kong Polytechnic, University, Hunghom, Kowloon

Admission Fee: FREE for all HKITF members and supporting organizations; HK\$80 for other attendants

If you like to know more about the Intelligent Home and Technology Showcase, the Department's Deputy Director of Industrial and External Liaison, Miss Patricia Woo would be more than happy to tell you more beforehand – she can be reached at cswswoo@comp.polyu.edu.hk or 27667334.

If you are interested in joining this event, please click here <http://ws.magically.com/GetPublicFile.jsp?objID=1645> to download the reply slip and fill in and send it to info@hkitf.org or fax to 2287-8038 by 15th March 2003.

For all paying attendees, please send the cheque of HK\$80 made payable to "Hong Kong Information Technology Federation Ltd" with reply slip to 21/F, The Center, 99 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong by 22nd March 2003. No refund will be made after 26th March 2003. For payment enquiries, please contact Ms. Rachel Wong at info@hkitf.org or at 2287-8016.

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 March, 2003 (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.

Seminar "Tapping the Mainland Market with IT"

You are cordially invited to the Seminar "Tapping the Mainland Market with IT".

This FREE seminar is organised by the Commerce, Industry & Technology Bureau (CITB) of the HKSAR Government, the Information Technology Services Department (ITSD) of the HKSAR Government, the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong (CMA) and the Hong Kong Information Technology Federation with an aim to assist local SMEs in exploring the Mainland's market with information technology.

Details:

Date: 24 March 2003 (Monday)

Time: 2:00pm to 5:00pm

Venue: TDC SME Training Centre, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Fee: FREE

For more information, please click here URL: <http://ws.magically.com/GetPublicFile.jsp?objID=1552> to download the file.

Interested members, please complete the attached reply slip and fax it to 2815-4836 for registration.

HKPC Software Quality Training Series in 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 Quality (24-26 March, 2003) <http://www.hkpc.org/itd/sqts/training/courses/030324.htm>

2. 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.

Welcome for new members

Affiliate members:

Mr. Jefferson Wat

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:

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