

News

SARS Info-Line: (852) 3561-1111 (24-hour free SARS updates)

In view of the recent outbreak of SARS in Hong Kong, KanHan, HKBN and HKITF co-organize a “SARS Info-Line” to provide 24-hour free SARS updates to the general public via telephones. InfoTalk Corporation Limited will provide its text-to-speech technology, while the HKBN will provide hosted PC service and 16 free telephone lines for support. The Information Technology Services Department, the Hong Kong Productivity Council and Legislative Councilor, Mr. Sin Chung Kai also show a genuine support to the project. This project incorporates KanHan’s latest web-to-phone technology platform with InfoTalk’s text-to-speech engine to provide telephone access to the most updated SARS information in both Cantonese and Putonghua on a real time basis. Once it is set-up, the latest SARS information will automatically be updated 24 hours a day. The hotline also links up to other government hotlines in relation to the epidemic.

Outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)

The recent and continuing outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), or Atypical Pneumonia, in Hong Kong has affected our member companies and their employees and families. The Federation has received from the Trade and Industry Department a Health Advice for the Prevention of Severe Respiratory Syndrome (Atypical Pneumonia) for the Trade and Industry Sector, and has been requested to disseminate the information to you. For more information, please click here <http://ws.magically.com/GetPublicFile.jsp?objID=1931> to retrieve the file.

HKITF Councilors elected to HKIRC Board

Several of our councilors were elected to the new board of the Hong Kong Internet Registration Corp. (HKIRC) on May 2, 2003. They are Chester Soong, Daniel Ng (User Class) and Charles Mok (IT Industry Class).

Along with our friendly collaborators in the Service Provider Class, Mr York Mok and Mr Lento Yip, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Hong Kong Internet Service Providers Association, we will do our best to serve your interest in the HKIRC board -- to improve its corporate governance, service quality and technology innovation.

We encourage you to be more involved in the operation and direction setting of HKIRC, the .hk domain administrator in Hong Kong. You may register to become a member by visiting: <https://members.hkirc.net.hk/MRS/index.jsp> or, if you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact HKITF.

A HKTDC letter to overseas partners about SARS reality in Hong Kong

In order to help alleviate concerns about conducting business with Hong Kong during the SARS crisis, and to combat misconceptions about SARS reality in Hong Kong, HKTDC has come up with the following letter that may be helpful for you to share with your overseas partners and friends:

http://www.tdctrade.com/dm2/hkcompany_ewsletter/Letter%20from%20Hong%20Kong.doc

In addition, you may also refer to: <http://www.hktrader.net/200304/lead/lead-international-support200305.htm> for more evidence of the international trade community standing firmly with Hong Kong during this crisis that we are overcoming in Hong Kong.

Change Proposals on the HKSARG Interoperability Framework

On 21 November 2002, Interoperability Framework Co-ordination Group (IFCG) promulgated version 1.0 of the HKSARG Interoperability Framework (IF) for Government Bureaux and Departments (B/Ds) to adopt when they develop computer systems that will interface with other B/Ds or external systems. For more information on the IF, please visit the IF homepage at <http://www.itsd.gov.hk/itsd/english/infra/eif.htm>

To accommodate new business requirements and to keep pace with technological advancement, IFCG are committed to review the IF every 6 to 12 months. While IFCG are initiating a review and revision of the IF, they would like to solicit from HKITF suggestions of any update to the existing interoperability standards or the inclusion of additional open, matured and widely adopted standards to cater for interoperability requirements in e-government. You are cordially invited to submit your inputs to us via email info@hkitf.org.hk on or before 12 May 2003. HKITF will consolidate a response to ITSD of HKSARG. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Rachel Wong at rachel.wong@hkitf.org.hk

Regional Telecom Reports Available Through HKITF Website

The Hong Kong Information Technology Federation (HKITF) has established an agreement with the regional telecom research company, Telecom Research Asia-Pacific Ltd (TRAP), whereby TRAP's Country Telecom Reports can now be obtained through the HKITF Website at www.hkitf.org.hk

Companies looking for an in-depth and up-to-date account of the telecom industry in any of 12 Asia-Pacific countries can receive the 250-page reports virtually instantaneously over the Internet through the HKITF. There are 20 sections in each report which cover all the main telecom industry segments, including an industry overview, fixed line and mobile usage, the Internet, mobile data, broadband, e-commerce, trunked radio, pay-TV and the regulatory environment. Extensive information about the country's domestic and international telecom infrastructure is also included.

Historical data is presented for the past three years while forecasts are made up to 2005. Information is updated continuously and orders are fulfilled with the latest version of each report every time.

Priced at US\$175 per country, the reports represent a remarkably cost-effective means by which companies can obtain insights into the telecom industry in any major Asia-Pacific country.

Industry-specific Business Matching Meeting

HKITF has been invited by the HK Productivity Council to participate in a quarterly industry-specific business matching meeting that will be arranged between enterprise users from trade associations and IT/software vendors. The purpose of the meetings is to provide a discussion platform for the user sectors to voice their needs in software, and the latter to understand in more details the users' requirements.

The first meeting will be held on Thursday, May 22 morning. During the meeting, HK Logistics Association will give an overview of their IT needs on three specific areas:

- customs declaration
- inventory management
- mobile application for fleet management

We invite our members with relevant products/services in the above areas to provide us with details of your solutions, so that we can finalize a presentation on behalf of the Federation in response to the above topical discussions. The presentation by the Federation will not be a "product presentation" per se but may refer to specific example implementations or available technologies/products from our members. The final selection of presentation content and involvement from our members will rest entirely with the decision of the Council of the Federation.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Rachel Wong at rachel.wong@hkitf.org.hk

A Growth Plan for Hong Kong's Economy: Increasing Information Technology

Spending as a Portion of Hong Kong's GDP

Please be informed that HKITF has submitted a Paper to Government Leadership and Industry Participation for the captioned growth plan. Please click <http://ws.magically.com/GetPublicFile.jsp?objID=2219> to retrieve the HKITF's paper.

Using Password in Online Filing and Telefiling of Tax Returns

A news to you, not an ITPSA matter. The Inland Revenue Department (IRD) will introduce new electronic filing service to provide taxpayers with greater convenience in filing their tax returns. With effect from this year of assessment, taxpayers can use a password (commonly known as PIN) to file their tax returns for individuals and property tax returns through a telephone or the Internet under the ESD Scheme. In order to register a password for using the new electronic filing service, taxpayers need first to register with the IRD as a TeleTax user. For more information, please refer to:

http://www.info.gov.hk/ird/eng/ese/ind_tel.htm (English)

http://www.info.gov.hk/ird/chi/ese/ind_tel.htm (Chinese)

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)

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)

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

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

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

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. It 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.

HKITF, HKCS, HKQAA, HKPC and ISIA are organizing the CMM Training Series which will be held in June 2003 and onwards. You are cordially invited to attend the CMM Training Series. For the further information and schedules, we will inform you the details as soon as possible. In the meantime, please feel free to contact Ms. Rachel Wong at 2287-8016 or

Ms. Elsa Lee of HKPC at 2788-5427 if you have any questions.

Enterprise Portal & Web Services Conference 2003/Hong Kong

IDG teams up with World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), one of the major standards-setting bodies for the Internet, Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS) and other reputable industry associations and academies to give critical insights of the evolution of the enterprise web at Enterprise Portal & Web Services Conference 2003/Hong Kong.

Details: 18 June 2003 (Wednesday), Room 401, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Should you have any problem, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Janice Wong at 2233 9360.

Enterprise Portal & Web Services Conference 2003/ Hong Kong

The Enterprise Portal & Web Services Conference brings together key industry participants around the issues of enterprise portal and corporate web deployment and optimization. The conference also examines the role of web services in enterprise integration framework and focuses on the key role corporate portals can play as the nexus of content management and distribution, application and web services integration, and communication between corporation and their employees, customers and business partners.

Details:

Date: June 18, 2003 (Wednesday)

Venue: Room 401, Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Center, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Distinguish speaker: Hugo HASS, Web Services Activity Lead, Web Services Architecture Working Group, W3C Team Contact, World Wide Web Consortium

For more information, please visit <http://www.enterpriseportal.com.hk/> or contact Ms. Janice Wong at janice_wong@idgexpo.com.hk

e-Government Summit Hong Kong 2003

The e-Government Summit Hong Kong 2003 is the first of its kind event being held in Hong Kong. It aims to serve as a medium to publicize government's IT initiatives and demonstrate the progress of its achievements. The framework and approach creates a platform for e-Government practitioners and IT professionals in Asia Pacific to exchange valuable experience and update latest e-Government technology.

Conference details:

Date: July 15-16, 2003

Venue: HKCEC Level 6, Old Wing

Organizer: IDG World Expo (Asia) Ltd

Enquiry: Ms. Vanessa Lai (Tel: 2233-9348 Email: Vanessa_lai@idgexpo.com.hk)

Officiating Guest:

Henry TANG, GBS, JP, Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology, Hong Kong Special Administration Region

For more details, please visit <http://www.egov-summit.com.hk/>

Information Technology Internship Program (ITIP)

We have pleasure to inform you that CUHK has organized the Information Technology Internship Program (ITIP) for the Faculty of Engineering, CUHK. ITIP was designed to expose their young I.T. talents to help the local industry a year prior to their graduation. You are cordially invited to actively participate in it. According to your schedule and resources, you

could select from one or more of the ITIP schemes: 1-Year Placement, Summer Placement and Part-time Mentorship. For more details, please refer to attached flyer or visit <http://www.cintec.cuhk.edu.hk/itip/itip.pdf> Interested members, please fill out the registration form and send it back to Mr. Keith Tang at Room 601, Ho Sin Hang Engineering Bldg, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin. or fax to 2603-7327. For any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Keith Tang at 2609-8218 or keith@cintec.cuhk.edu.hk

China-focus Seminar for SMEs

Hong Kong Productivity Council and Renmin University of China will jointly organise a series of China-focus seminars for SMEs.

Date & Time: April 26, May 17, June 21 (Sat) - 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Place: HK Productivity Council, Kln Tong

Speaker: Professors from Renmin University of China

Fee: \$100 for member / \$200 for non-member (HKITF's members are offered the member fee)

Language: Cantonese

Enquiry: Ms. Ip of HK Productivity Council (Tel: 2778 1166 / 2788 5331)

For more information, please click here <http://ws.magicallly.com/GetPublicFile.jsp?objID=1930> to retrieve the file. Interested members, please return the completed application form to HKPC at 2784-1888.

Welcome for new members

Affiliate members:

Mr. Sokela Mika

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

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