

## ***HKCS invites applications for Hong Kong ICT Awards 2008: Best Business Award***

*Award streams reclassified to encourage SMEs participation*

(Hong Kong, 31 July 2008) -- The Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS) announced that the Hong Kong ICT Awards 2008: Best Business Award (previously known as IT Excellence Awards) is now open for applications. The deadline is 30 September 2008 (Tuesday) at 12:00 noon. The application form can be downloaded at [www.hkcs.org.hk/ictawards](http://www.hkcs.org.hk/ictawards).

Mr. Sunny Lee, President of the HKCS said, "This award scheme has received strong industry support over the years and reflected the achievements of the ICT industry in Hong Kong. I would like to call on yet more entrants to participate to help to raise Hong Kong's image, particularly as a place known for its innovativeness and a genuine understanding of market trends."

According to Mr. Duncan Chiu, Chairperson of the Organising Committee of "Hong Kong ICT Awards 2008: Best Business Award, there are two main award streams in this category: Best Business (Application) Award and Best Business (Product) Award.

"To encourage the participation of the SMEs, we have further classified the application stream into Hong Kong ICT Awards 2008: Best Business (Application) Award and Hong Kong ICT Awards: Best Business (Application-SME) Award," Mr Chiu said.

*(Note: Manufacturing companies with less than 100 employees or servicing companies with less than 50 employees are regarded as SMEs.)*

"We welcome entries for application and product awards from different business areas, including financial services, logistics, trading services, tourism services, retail, learning, SME support, information security, open source solution and industrial support, etc." Mr. Chiu added.

Gold, silver and bronze award will be granted in each of the three streams. One of the gold award winners will be selected winner of the "Hong Kong ICT Awards 2008: Best Business Award" and nominated to compete for the ultimate accolade of the "Hong Kong ICT Award of the Year".

The Panel of Judges is composed of well-respected industry experts and chaired by Professor John Leong, President of The Open University of Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong ICT Awards ((the Awards) is supported by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer of the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. It aims at building a large scale and internationally recognised branding of ICT Awards of Hong Kong under a collaborative effort amongst the industry, the academia and the Government. The Awards recognise, promote and commend the excellent achievements to which Hong Kong ICT professionals and organisations contribute. The Awards also encourage local practitioners to develop innovative and creative ICT solutions, which will uplift the image of Hong Kong ICT sectors, both locally and internationally.

There are eight award categories and HKCS is the organiser of “Hong Kong ICT Awards 2008: Best Business Award”.

Winners of “Hong Kong ICT Awards 2008” will have the opportunity to be nominated for the Asia Pacific Information and Communication Technology Awards (APICTA), an ICT award scheme participated by countries/cities in the Asia Pacific region.

The commercial sponsor of “Hong Kong ICT Awards 2008: Best Business Award” is Far East Holdings Internationals Limited and the supporting organisations include:

GS1 Hong Kong (HKANA)

Hong Kong Chamber of Small and Medium Business Limited

Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited

Hong Kong Information Technology Federation

Hong Kong Institution of Engineers – Information Technology Division

Hong Kong Logistics Association

Hong Kong Professionals and Senior Executives Association

Hong Kong Retail Technology Industry Association

Hong Kong Society of Medical Informatics

Hong Kong Trade Development Council

Hong Kong Wireless Technology Industry Association

Information and Software Industry Association

Information Systems Audit and Control Association, Hong Kong Chapter

Internet Professional Association

Innovation and Technology Association

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

#### **About HKCS** ([www.hkcs.org.hk](http://www.hkcs.org.hk))

The Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS) is a well-established non-profit organisation that has been striving to improve and develop Hong Kong’s Information Technology (IT) industry since its founding in 1970.

HKCS is the first officially recognised professional association for the IT industry in Hong Kong, dedicated to the promotion of the highest professional standards for the industry. Members hail from a broad spectrum of Hong Kong’s IT industry, from corporations to like-minded individuals, all coming together to raise the profile of the industry.

During its over 30 year' history, HKCS members have come to form the core of a wide and influential network throughout the whole spectrum of Hong Kong services and other industries. The Society offers a chance for Hong Kong's communities to exchange ideas and carry out a dialogue with the Government regarding IT and its impact to the society.

Being a highly active association, HKCS is regularly organising many activities to help promote IT in Hong Kong, including lectures, discussions, seminars, and open forums on subjects related to IT.

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