



**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

Hong Kong Computer Society Announces Opinion Poll Result on Policy Address

*Nearly 80% Respondents Support the Establishment of IT Bureau
90% dissatisfy with the Development of Technology and the Six Industry*

7th November 2011 · Hong Kong —Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS) recently conducted a member survey on Policy Address 2011. The result reveals that nearly 80% respondents agree that Hong Kong government should establish Innovation and Technology Bureau (IT Bureau) to handle the overall planning and management of IT industry. Over 90% respondents think the 2011-2012 Policy Address for Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is not adequate, and not satisfy with the management and strategy of technology development as well as the progress of developing the six industries in Hong Kong.

On calculating overall satisfaction, the respondents gave an average rating of 3.67 on Policy Address, with 1 as satisfy while 5 as dissatisfy, showing a relatively low satisfaction to the Policy Address among IT people in Hong Kong.

HKCS conducts a member opinion poll each year after the announcement of Policy Address, focusing on related content regarding the strategy and development of ICT. Ir. Stephen Lau, JP, President, Hong Kong Computer Society, said: “This year, the IT industry in general consider the Policy Address for ICT development in Hong Kong is not adequate, and support the establishment of the IT Bureau to handle the overall planning and management of the ICT industry.”

Ir. Lau furthered: “HKCS, being the most well established and the largest scale organization in the ICT industry in Hong Kong, will consult its members on the Policy Address every year. By conducting such survey, we hope to convey the industry voice to the government after collecting their opinions, and bring forward more practical and effective ideas and plans with collective wisdom to promote the development of ICT in Hong Kong at the same time.”

The opinion poll on Policy Address 2011 was to collect opinions from the IT sector on three areas, including local ICT development, the progress of the Six Industries development and Hong Kong’s Participation in the 12th National Five Year Plan.

Regarding local ICT development, 92% respondents think the Policy Address on ICT is not adequate, and 36% even consider there is no benefit for ICT industry delivered by the Policy Address. Over 90% dissatisfy with the strategy and management of ICT

development in Hong Kong. And nearly 80% respondents agree that Hong Kong should establish an IT Bureau to handle the overall planning and management for the IT industry.

Furthermore, nearly 90% respondents dissatisfied with the progress of the Six Industries development; 67% think Hong Kong's participation in National Twelve Five Year Plan is not adequate, while nearly 70% think that the suggested policies of Chief Executive on participating in National Five Year Plan are not adequate.

Ir. Lau explained: "There are open-ended questions in the Poll as well, aiming to collect more constructive ideas and thoughts. Respondents generally thought that the policy address was lacking of visions, long term targets and specific strategies regarding ICT development in Hong Kong, even though two hectares of land had been reserved by government for data center use, which was definitely insufficient.

HKCS has consolidated those opinions from the ICT sector and listed out the following recommendations in three dimensions, namely planning and management, ICT education, and funding and resources utilization:

- **Planning and Management:** Government should establish an IT Bureau, to enhance communications between government and businesses, set up standards and guidelines, and strengthen exchange and relationship with the Mainland counterpart. Meanwhile, the government should encourage ICT application in all industries and reposition ICT as the pillar of the pillars, which could support the Six Industries and even social economic development.
- **ICT Education:** ICT education is vital. The government should promote ICT as a career among the youth and allocate more resources in talent cultivation. Consecutive talent supply is a must to ensure the long term development of ICT as well as satisfy the ICT human resources demand for all industries.
- **Funding and Resources Utilization:** It was suggested to provide funding and privileges in taxation for SMEs to encourage them to effectively use of innovative technology to improve efficiency and productivity. Government should also support local ICT companies in conducting research and development. Some members proposed to take full advantage of Cyberport and Hong Kong Science Park and develop Hong Kong into an innovation center like Silicon Valley.

Ir. Lau welcomes all feasible and forward-looking recommendations from the IT sector, and commits that HKCS will continue listening to voices from members and other social sectors in order to further develop the ICT industry in Hong Kong.

“HKCS has always been striving to cultivate more young talents for the industry. And this happens to coincide with the survey result.” Stressed Ir. Lau.

About Hong Kong Computer Society

The Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS) is a non-profit professional organisation established in 1970, which strives to improve and develop Hong Kong's Information Technology (IT) industry. Being the most well-established and the largest professional association in Hong Kong, HKCS is dedicated to promote the highest professional standards for the industry. HKCS members are from a broad spectrum of Hong Kong's IT industry, from corporate users to individual talents, all working together for the benefit of the industry.

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Issued by: Hong Kong Computer Society

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