



【Press Release】

Hong Kong ICT Awards 2018: Smart Business Award Recognises Outstanding Talents for their Creative ICT Solutions

(Hong Kong – 28 March 2018) – The Hong Kong ICT (HKICT) Awards 2018: Smart Business Award presentation ceremony was successfully held at Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks today, with 10 outstanding winners being recognised for developing innovative and cost-effective solutions that serve the needs of private and public enterprises. Fano Labs Ltd., the winner of Smart Business (Solution for Business and Public Sector Enterprise) Gold Award, was conferred the Grand Award of this award category for its “Multilingual Artificial Intelligence Customer Service System”.

This marks the 12 consecutive year since Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS) has been appointed by OGCIO as the leading organiser of the Smart Business Award (previously known as Best Business Award and “Best Business Award”). As the leading organiser of this award category, HKCS has played a pivotal role in appraising award entrants for their ability to deploy information technologies for day-to-day “smart” business application.

Ir. Ted SUEN, President of the Hong Kong Computer Society remarked in his welcome speech, “It is worth pointing out that this year the name of this award category has changed from Best Business Solution Award to Smart Business Award. Based on the recent Policy and Budget Addresses, it is clear that the government has strong ambitions in developing Hong Kong into a world-class smart city, and I believe the name Smart Business Award aptly reflects that.”

The 10 winners in the Smart Business Award category came from four different streams: Solution for Business and Public Sector Enterprise, Solution for SME, Business Open Data/Big Data, and Information Security, with one Grand Award winner being selected among them. This year’s Grand Award and Smart Business (Solution for Business and Public Sector) Gold Award went to Fano Labs Ltd., a Hong Kong based start-up whose Multilingual Artificial Intelligence Customer Service (AICS) System employs speech recognition technologies to record and analyse customer calls 24/7, then translates the data into valuable business insights to enhance service quality. eRun Systems Ltd. was named Gold winner of the Smart Business (Solution of SME) Award for its cloud-based inventory and cost control system, which enables SME restaurant owners to access real-time business data anywhere using their mobile devices.

Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Ltd. (ASTRI) and its partner Smart Secure ID Hong Kong Limited received the Smart Business (Information Security)

Gold Award with their contactless biometric sensing device that captures palmprint patterns to prevent identity fraud and theft.

Ms. Kylie FUNG, Chairperson of the Organising Committee of HKICT Awards 2018: Smart Business Award said, “The Hong Kong ICT Awards has been running for over 10 years, backed by enthusiastic support from the government, industry associations, professional bodies and the academia. It is wonderful to see the award going from strength to strength over the years, as can be witnessed from the high caliber of entries we have received this year.”

Prof. Way KUO, Chairperson of the Judging Panel of HKICT Awards 2018: Smart Business Award said, “This year we are extremely pleased to see such enthusiastic participation in the Awards, especially in the Smart Business Award category. After careful assessment of numerous entries we have received, 14 entries were shortlisted for further screening. Finally, 10 winners were selected based on their success in meeting five judging criteria, including creativity, functionality, market potential, impact and quality.”

Winners in this year’s Hong Kong ICT Awards will undergo further assessment by HKCS for nomination into the Asia Pacific Information and Communication Technology Alliances (APICTA) Awards, and represent Hong Kong in competing against other Asian economies.

As leading organiser of the HKICT Awards for over a decade, HKCS President Ir. SUEN believes that the HKICT Awards play an important role in encouraging local ICT innovations that enhance business efficiency and productivity, ultimately boosting the city’s competitiveness. However, he emphasises that achieving these objectives will require the continued collaborative efforts of industry, academia and government. “Looking ahead, I believe that our joint efforts will continue to be crucial for encouraging participation on a territory-wide level, and to provide more opportunities for Hong Kong ICT talents to showcase their prowess on the international stage.”

For the product summaries of Grand Award and Gold Award winners, please refer to the accompanying Appendix.

About Hong Kong ICT Awards: Smart Business Award

The Hong Kong ICT Awards were established in 2006 with the collaborative efforts of the industry, academia and Government. Steered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO), and organised by selected local industry associations and professional bodies, the Awards aims at building a locally espoused and internationally acclaimed brand of ICT awards.



The Hong Kong ICT Awards: Smart Business Award (formerly known as IT Excellence Awards) was first established in 1998 by Hong Kong Computer Society. This annual event has become a platform for encouraging the use of ICT, to stimulate innovation and competitiveness in the ICT industry and to raise public awareness of ICT application development.

For more details about the Award, please visit <http://www.hkcs.org.hk/ictawards>

About the Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS)

Founded in 1970, the Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS) is a recognised non-profit professional organisation focused on developing Hong Kong's Information Technology (IT) profession and industry. Their members come from a broad spectrum of Hong Kong's IT community, from corporations to like-minded individuals, all coming together to raise the profile and standards of the IT profession and industry. As a well-established IT professional body, the Society is committed to professional and industry development as well as community services to ensure the IT sector continues to make a positive impact on peoples' lives with three main goals, namely, 1) talent cultivation and professional development, 2) industry development and collaboration, and 3) the effective use of IT in our community.

For more information, please visit <http://www.hkcs.org.hk>.

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Appendix

Hong Kong ICT Awards 2018 – Smart Business Award

Category	Award	Name of Applicant	Title of Entry
Smart Business	Grand	Fano Labs Ltd.	Multilingual Artificial Intelligence Customer Service System
Solution for Business and Public Sector Enterprise	Gold	Fano Labs Ltd.	Multilingual Artificial Intelligence Customer Service System
	Silver	International Compliance Workshop Ltd.	Platform for Product Testing, Inspection and Certification
	Merit	Hong Kong Observatory	Intelligent Meteorological Monitoring Assistant (IMMA)
	Merit	Independent Checking Unit (ICU), Office of the Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)	Housing Electronic Plan Submission System (HePlan)
Solution for SME	Gold	eRun Systems Ltd.	eRun Inventory and Cost Control System for Catering Industry
	Silver	Wee Creation Company Ltd./ Recipio Ltd.	AutoPoints for Mobile.Cards
	Bronze	Winbright Corp. Ltd.	Fax852 – Hong Kong people's Fax Machine
	Merit	Infotronic Technology Ltd.	Building Visual Inspection (BVI) System
Business Open Data/Big Data	Silver	Energenz Consulting Ltd.	Energenz Analytics™
Information Security	Gold	Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Ltd. / Smart Secure ID Hong Kong Limited	Biometric Access Control System

Photo captions:

Photo 1:

Group photo of officiating guests at the Hong Kong ICT Awards 2018 Presentation Ceremony: Ir. Ted Suen, President of Hong Kong Computer Society; Ms. Kylie Fung, Chairperson of the Organising Committee of HKICT Awards 2018: Smart Business Award; Prof. Way Kuo, Chairperson of the Judging Panel of HKICT Awards 2018: Smart Business Award, members of the organising committee and judging panel, and all of the award winners



Photo 2:

Fano Labs Ltd. was named the winner of both “Hong Kong ICT Awards 2018: Smart Business Grand Award” and “Smart Business (Solution for Business and Public Sector Enterprise) Gold Award” for its “Multilingual Artificial Intelligence Customer Service System”

