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Six ICT Associations Jointly Form Hong Kong Cloud Standards Alliance
In response to the rise of Cloud-based Services
Promote regional cooperation and standardization of cloud computing

April 12, 2012 HONG KONG -- Cloud-based services keep on growing in recent years. However, standardization of cloud computing, as well as relevant legal framework and government policies are yet to be established. In view of this, The Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS) and The Communications Association of Hong Kong (CAHK) as the initiating organizations, together with Information Systems Audit and Control Association China Hong Kong Chapter (ISACA China HK Chapter) , Hong Kong Software Industry Association (HKSiA), Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC), Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited (Cyberport) allied to form "**Hong Kong Cloud Standards Alliance**" to tackle the needs**.** An inauguration ceremony was held at Hong Kong Science Park today, followed by a Cloud Standards Forum.

The inauguration ceremony was officiated by Mr. Daniel Lai, BBS, JP, Government Chief Information Officer of the HKSAR Government, Mr. Chen Wei from Beijing, MIIT, Mr. Ye Yuan Ling, Chief Engineer of The Guangdong Provincial Economic and Informatization Commission and Mr. Cao Guo Ying, Deputy Director-General, Department of Educational, Scientific and Technological Affairs, Liaison Office of The Central People's Government in The Hong Kong S.A.R. at Charles K. Kao Auditorium, Hong Kong Science Park, Shatin, NT. Afterwards, The Hon.Samson Tam, JP, Legislative Councilor (Information Technology Functional Constituency), The Government of the HKSAR moderate the Cloud Computing Forum and discuss various aspects of the subject with Mr. Zhao Xiao Fan from China Software Industry Association, Beijing, Mr. Xie Xue-ning from Guangzhou Municipal Government, Ms. Liu Jin from Shenzhen Municipal Government, as well as representatives from the 6 founding members.

With joint forces from six local ICT associations, the key missions of the **Hong Kong Cloud Standards Alliance** are to support the various cloud standardization effort led by the Office of Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) of the HKSAR Government; to coordinate and facilitate local and regional collaboration on the research and development of cloud computing services standards; to promote and facilitate the adoption of the necessary legal framework and governance policies that are applicable to the operation of cloud computing services; as well as to participate in selected national

projects aiming at the development of various cloud standards under the leadership of the OGCIO of the HKSAR Government.

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Mr. Stephen Lau, JP, representative from the Hong Kong Cloud Standards Alliance as well as the President of HKCS, expressed: "the rapid expansion of cloud computing is a brand-new driving force to the Hong Kong's knowledge-based economy, where a healthy cloud industry development is highly important to local ICT sector. The establishment of Hong Kong Cloud Standards Alliance helps develop the best and most appropriate practices scheme, and promote cloud computing connectivity standard across different industry sectors and regions, which ultimately benefits both consumers and enterprise market, as well as Hong Kong economy."

Mr. Stephen Lau stated, before the birth of cloud computing, corporations need to allocate higher capital investment on software, hardware, and servers. For many SMEs, such I.T. setup is rather extravagant, because huge initial capital and maintenance cost are required while lacking flexibility in fulfilling business needs. In this ever-changing technology era, cloud computing has quickly become popular among corporations as it is much more portable, economical, and flexible.

"Cloud computing allows users to share resources, software or information thru the internet by accessing a remote server without geographic restrictions. As the popularity of cloud-based services increases, so does the numbers of cloud computing centers. Cloud computing centers nowadays offer flexible cloud-based service packages according to users' needs. As a result, companies' setup and operating costs can be significantly reduced, helping their businesses to grow like never before." explained Mr. Stephen Lau.

Mr. Stephen Lau furthered: "Nevertheless, many corporations still have doubts on using cloud-based services as standardization of cloud computing such as inter-operability, legal framework and governance policies are yet to be established. To further promote and widen the usage of cloud computing, The HKCS and CAHK as the initiating organisations, together with ISACA China HK Chapter, HKSiA, HKSTPC, Cyberport allied to form Hong Kong Cloud Standards Alliance. With a team of dedicated industry experts, our honorary and academic advisors, of which many of them are PRC professionals, will keep close contact with local and regional industry sectors and provide valuable comments and professional views on cloud computing

standardizations."

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About Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS)

The Hong Kong Computer Society 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, the HKCS is dedicated to promote the highest professional standards for the industry. The 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.

About Communications Association of Hong Kong (CAHK)

The Communications Association of Hong Kong (formerly known as Internet & Telecom Association of Hong Kong) is a non-profit making organisation incorporated on 27 May 1983 following the announcement of deregulation of the telecommunications products and services. CAHK is the association for Hong Kong's communications industries, with responsibilities across broadcasting, wireline and wireless communications, and other relevant business sectors in the domain of information communications technology (ICT). For further Information, please refer to http://www.cahk.hk/.

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