

Press Release

**Asia Pacific Information and Communications Technology Alliance Awards
2023 (APICTA 2023) returns to the Hong Kong stage this December**

25 August 2023, Hong Kong – Jointly organised by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) of the HKSAR Government and Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS), the prestigious Asia Pacific Information and Communications Technology Alliance Awards 2023 (APICTA 2023) will once again be hosted in Hong Kong on 5-8 December this year.

The announcement was made at a media briefing held today at Cyberport after an APICTA Executive Committee Meeting, which was joined by executives of the organisers and representatives of the APICTA programme, including Ir Tony Wong, JP, Government Chief Information Officer of the HKSAR Government; Dr. Rocky Cheng, President of HKCS; Mr. Peter Yan, JP, CEO of Cyberport and Chairperson of the APICTA 2023 Organising Committee, as well as Mr. Fulvio Inserra, APICTA Chairman.

The APICTA Awards, hailed as the ‘Oscars of Tech Industry’, is an acclaimed international awards programme organised annually by APICTA. Through the concerted efforts of the 16 member economies, the APICTA Awards has always been highly regarded by the regional ICT industry. By providing networking and product benchmarking opportunities to ICT innovators and entrepreneurs in the region, the programme is designed to stimulate ICT innovation and creativity, promote economic and trade relations, facilitate technology transfer, and offer business matching opportunities via exposure to venture capitalists and investors.

“Hong Kong is back on the international stage and the timing cannot be better for us to be the host economy for APICTA this year,” said Ir Tony Wong, JP, Government Chief Information Officer. “We are committed to make this event a successful edition and carry on its overall impact to the ICT industry of the region and leave a lasting legacy, and in addition, Hong Kong, with our unique edges, will tell good stories about the incredible talent and achievements of our local ICT community and endeavours, and showcase to the world our determination to develop Hong Kong into an international I&T centre with the staunch support from the motherland.”

With winners to be announced during the event on 5-8 December, APICTA 2023 will feature an opening ceremony, welcome reception, awards judging, students networking session, start-ups networking session, “Hello Hong Kong” outing, Hong Kong showcasing night and an awards presentation ceremony. The APICTA will provide valuable networking

opportunities for the competing entries, judges and Executive Committee and facilitate collaboration to advance ICT development in their respective communities.

Dr. Rocky Cheng, President of HKCS said, “Hong Kong had the privilege to host APICTA, in 2004, and again in 2013. We are excited to host APICTA once more in Hong Kong and look forward to welcoming business and ICT leaders and competing entries from across the region. For over 20 years, HKCS has been responsible for the nominations and co-ordinating the delegation of Hong Kong awards winning enterprises and student teams, mainly from the well-recognised Hong Kong ICT Awards steered by OGCIO, to compete in the annual APICTA competition. With over 100 awards in past APICTAs in a diverse range of categories, Hong Kong has the honour of being the most awarded economy.”

Dr. Cheng continued, “APICTA 2023 will be co-organised by Cyberport, which will be a core venue for APICTA activities including the judging processes and networking events. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Hong Kong Trade Development Council and Hong Kong Tourism Board for their support to APICTA 2023.”

Past APICTA winners from Hong Kong, including Animoca Brands, a spin-off of Outblaze, Fano Labs Limited and Belun Technology Company Limited, shared that the recognition gained from winning the APICTA honours had facilitated their market expansion to the regional market. The APICTA event had also been the ideal platform to enhance exposure of their innovations to esteemed ICT leaders and top-notch innovators in the Asia Pacific, as well as to promote insightful exchange with regional industry icons.

Hosted in Hong Kong, APICTA 2023 will attract hundreds of overseas and Mainland delegates from the other 15 Asia-Pacific economies, including Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, China, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Japan, Macao SAR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Entry to the awards programme is open to winners of similar awards programmes in each member economy. Companies are nominated by their economy and travel to the awards to present their solution to a panel of judges. The judging panels comprise ICT elites from member economies, which ensures a fair and impartial assessment and enhances the credibility of the results.

About the Asia Pacific Information and Communication Technology Alliance (APICTA) Awards

APICTA Awards is an annual flagship event of the ICT industry in the Asia Pacific region. Founded in 2001 by Malaysia, it has become a renowned international award today. APICTA aims to recognise organisations and individuals in the Asia Pacific region who have made a significant contribution to the ICT industry; increase ICT awareness in the community; stimulate ICT innovation; provide opportunities for business matching between IT innovators and investors; and facilitate technology transfer and application.

APICTA is represented by 16 economies across the Asia Pacific region, including: Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, China, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Japan, Hong Kong SAR, Macao SAR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. These member economies take turns hosting the annual awards each year, which is won through a bidding process.

For more information, please visit www.apicta.org.

Since APICTA was established in 2001, the Hong Kong Computer Society, as a well-established ICT professional association of its kind with an in-depth understanding of local ICT industry development, has been responsible, as a founding Executive Committee Member, for nominating Hong Kong's ICT talents to participate in the event.

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 details, please visit <http://www.hkcs.org.hk>.

About the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer of the Government of the HKSAR

Headed by the Government Chief Information Officer (GCIO), the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) is responsible for formulating information technology (IT) strategies, programmes and measures, in addition to providing IT services and support within the Government to help sustain Hong Kong's position as Asia's leading digital city.

The OGCIO ensures that the Government provides the public with information and services they need in an efficient and convenient manner by using IT appropriately, and supports bureaux/departments to make best use of IT to achieve their policy objectives.

The OGCIO supports the development of community-wide information technology infrastructure and setting of technical and professional standards so as to strengthen Hong Kong's position as a world digital city and make Hong Kong a well-known smart city.

For more details, please visit <https://www.ogcio.gov.hk/>.



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